

PHILOSOPHY

Anastasia V. Matetskaya, Igor M. Grekov

(Southern federal university. Rostov-on-Don, Russian Federation; Ryazan state university of S.A. Esenin. Ryazan, Russian Federation)

Religion and risk

It is analyzed the contemporary religious situation in the light of the concepts of the risk society and the post-secular society. In secular societies of late modernity, threats to physical survival have been minimized, but new risks arise, including existential risks. In the concepts of the risk society of W. Beck and E. Giddens, great attention is paid to the instability of the individual existence in the societies of late modernism, but the subject of religion is practically not addressed. In this article, the strengthening of existential risks is considered as a factor contributing to the preservation of religion in secular societies. Thanks to secularization, separation of religion from the mechanisms of exercising power and pushing religion into the private sphere, religion ability to generate risks is reduced, it becomes an individual means of solving existential problems. However, in recent decades, the situation has changed. The presence of religion is more and more noticeable in public space and politics; religion becomes an important component of international relations, ideological disputes and military conflicts. The activation of religion is accompanied by the emergence of new threats and the awareness of the risks associated with these threats.

Key words: risk society, ontological security, post-secular society, religion, risk, secularization.

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