

THE MILITARY PROFESSION AND CHRISTIAN ETHICS

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Generation after generation, man has sought to base his life on certainties and to express confidence in commitment to those institutions providing stability and safety. Thus, not accidentally, at least in contemporary Romania, the Church and the Army enjoy great trust and are considered two fundamental institutions of our society.

Since ancient times, the Church and the Army have shown mutual understanding, respect and even support for each other. The history of the Romanian people testifies of these lands' countless children, ready to defend their faith and family, land and country they had given their lives for, as well as sincere and living sacrifice for these noble ideals. Therefore, there are countless heroes and even saints among the military, who enjoy great honour, both national and religious, and among the best known we should mention Saint Great Martyr George, Holy Great Martyr Demetrios or Prince Steven the Great.

The church is an institution that promotes peace, as a gift of God, harmony, understanding and reconciliation, constantly giving hope, confidence and stability¹. Complementary to this view, we could say the military support and preserve a fundamental axiology of life, dignity and Romanian human civilization, giving us the belief that earthly life, everything we create and love in our country, and not only, will not be lost so easily, and neither could it be destroyed.

The military and religious worlds are certainly two separate realities and thus they should remain: each with its own purpose and fundamental values and

¹ Cf. I. ICĂ, jr., G. MARANI, *Gândirea Socială a Bisericii*, Deisis, Sibiu, 2002, p. 223.