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THE DEFINITION OF PHILOSOPHIY – THE CHRISTIAN PAIDEIA OF CONSTANTINE THE PHILOSOPHER AND THE IDEA OF EDUCATION IN MEDIEVAL BULGARIA

(Summary)

The definition of philosophy in the extensive biography of Cyril is a topic that has attracted scholarly attention for a long time. It has been discussed in the writings of many historians, historians of philosophy, literary historians, linguists, etc., but almost no attention has been paid to its connection with the history of education. In this response Constantine provides a very concise definition of Christian paideia. This purpose of education has never been expressed in a better way, even in the writings of the Christian Fathers and theologians. The definition of philosophy by Constantine the Philosopher is probably one of the first definitions of that type in the medieval Bulgarian literature. This definition also penetrates through the translation of Dialectic by John of Damascus. This was the beginning of a long series of borrowings and reinterpretations of Christian paideia in different contexts. Through this process it becomes the educational philosophy of generations of Bulgarians from the adoption of Christianity to the Renaissance and the Modern Times.