

## Editorial Note

On 17–19 August 2005, the Donner Institute and the Finnish Society for the Study of Religion organised an European Association for the Study of Religion (EASR) Conference in Turku, Finland with the theme Exercising Power: The Role of Religions in Concord and Conflict. The topic was a well-chosen one; however, it must be admitted that quite a few conferences on similar subjects were organised during the last few years before the Donner conference, not least the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR) Conference in Tokyo 24–30 March 2005 on the theme Religion: Conflict and Peace.

Nevertheless we, as organisers, are very pleased with the outcome of our conference. A majority of the papers presented are included in the present volume of *Scripta Instituti Donneriani Aboensis*. The readers themselves can thus decide whether they share our satisfaction with the results or not.

On the whole, our impression is that the participants found each others' company as well as our arrangements pleasant. I would like to present the hardly falsifiable hypothesis that good organisers and stimulating conference arrangements contribute to making papers better than they would be in other circumstances.

*The Editor*