## Annotation

The dissertation is a comprehensive study of the history of the Church and the state, relations between the churches of the state, the theoretical generalization and the solution of the scientific problem, which consists in analyzing and providing characteristics of the process of forming and developing the right to freedom of conscience, the functioning of this institution under the conditions of the pro-Christian policy of the Soviet governments and the clarification of the peculiarities of the religious policy of the Soviet state in 1917-1939. Based on an analysis of scientific legal, historical and other sources, the author shows that freedom of conscience is not limited to the sphere of relations between the state and its numerous and multilevel structures and religious associations, but also has a significant impact on the individual.

After examining the stages of building and developing the institutions of freedom of conscience and religion (tolerance in certain historical stages of world history), the genesis of opinions on freedom of conscience, the author analyzes the influence of anti-Christian legislation on civil society in the USSR and the republics of the Union and on the fate of individual personalities or groups, priests, believers, their family members through repressive methods.

The work introduces a number of new archival records stored in the Archive of the State Archives of the Odessa Region and the Archives of the Office of the Security Service of Ukraine in Odessa (Ukraine).