



NEWSLETTER

CHURCH LAW SOCIETY

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We announce that the first issue of the Church Law Review in year 2016 was distributed among members and supporters of the Church Law Society in the Czech Republic as well as abroad on Monday 7th March 2016.

Notification of Interesting Scientific Symposia

In order to extend the *Upcoming Law and Religion Conferences* section published in the previous issue of the Newsletter, we would like to draw attention of our readers to following scientific conferences taking place in various European countries:

Pontifical Gregorian University, Faculty of Canon Law, Rome

Presentation of the book

FANTAPPIÈ, Carlo, *Ecclesiologia e canonistica*, Marcianum Press, 2015

takes place on 16th March 2016 from 4.30 pm till 6.30 pm in the Aula Magna Hall. The meeting will be chaired by Prof. Yuji Sugawara SJ, Dean of the Faculty of Canon Law. It will be attended by Prof. Gianfranco Ghirlanda SJ, Faculty of Canon Law, Prof. Dario Vitali, Director of the Department of Dogmatic Theology, and the author of the presented book.

Trnava University, Slovakia

Scientific colloquium attended by local as well as foreign scholars on the topic *Legal Status of Clerics* takes place on Friday 18th March 2016. The conference is held in the conference room Collegium Novum of the Faculty of Law, Trnava University, and is organized by the Institute for Legal Questions of Freedom of Religion based at the Faculty of Law, director ThLic. Mgr. Michaela Moravčíková Th. D., tel. +421 335 939 640, E-mail: moravcikova@gmail.com.

Church Law Society, Prague

On Tuesday 5th April 2016 from 5 pm the following meeting of members and supporters of the Church Law Society under the series *Influence of Law in Society and in Church* takes place at baroque refectory of the Dominican priory of St. Giles in the Old Town of Prague.

Lecture on the topic *Importance of Religion Law* will be presented by R. D. Associate Professor JUDr. Stanislav Přibyl, Ph.D., IC.D.

In the end, a new monograph *Religion Law*, Leges Publishing House Prague, will be presented, written by P. Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera, OP, and Associate Professor Záboj Horák. Both authors will be present.

From This Year's Essener Gespräche in Mülheim a. d. Ruhr

The 51st annual religion law conference *Essener Gespräche zum Thema Staat und Kirche*, organised by the Bishopric of Essen, this time on the topic *Human Dignity as Basis of Constitutionality*, took place at the Catholic Academy Wolfsburg in Mülheim an der Ruhr (North Rhine – Westphalia) from 29th February till 1st March 2016. The conference was attended by approximately 90 religion law science delegates from universities, protestant and catholic ecclesiastical authorities, governmental and judicial institutions from the entire Federal Republic of Germany. Organisation of the conference was provided as usual by Dr. iur. Burkhard Kämper from Essen, symposium was conferred by Prof. Dr. iur. Paul Kirchhof from Heidelberg.

Lectures were held by five leading German experts. Wide-ranging discussion followed after each lecture, which was recorded for usual printed publication of outcomes of the conference.

Professor Dr. theol. Wilhelm Rees from Innsbruck (Austria), P. Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP, and Associate Professor Záboj Horák from Prague (Czech Republic) were present among foreign participants.



Essener Gespräche 2016: from the left Prof. Dr. theol. Magnus Striet, Freiburg, Prof. Dr. iur. Paul Kirchhof, Heidelberg, Prof. Dr. iur. Hans Michael Heinig, Göttingen.

Congratulations to Members of the Church Law Society

R. D. Lic. iur. can. Valdas Kužulis from Vilnius (Lithuania) got a doctorate in Canon Law (Dr. iur. can.) at the Faculty of Catholic Theology of the Munich University on 2nd February 2016.

R. D. JCDr. PaedDr. Jozef Marčín, PhD. from Kapušany (Slovakia) got a degree Dr hab. in the field of Canon Law at the Faculty of Canon Law of the The Cardinal Wyszyński University in Warsaw on 12th May 2015. His thesis was *Sytuacja ekonomiczna Kościoła Rzymskokatolickiego na Słowacji w świetle prawa kanoniznego i prawnego porządku Republiki Słowacji* (Economic Situation of the Roman Catholic Church in Slovakia in the Light of Canon Law and Legal Order of the Slovak Republic).

Chapel Opened in the Chamber of Deputies of the Czech Republic

Members of the Chamber of Deputies of Czech Parliament can finally use a new chapel opened on 19th February 2016. The prayer room is not linked to any religion. “It is Christian chapel with Jewish elements,” said Helena Langšádlová, member of the Chamber, deputy chairman of the civic party TOP 09 and instigator of the idea. She would also like to include a reference to Christian, Jewish and Ancient roots in the Constitution of the Czech Republic.

The Chamber gets finally a new dimension, as number of restaurants has been the most discussed topic concerning facilities of the Parliament up to now. The chapel should provide members of Parliament with lacked spiritual space.

“It is a room intended for contemplation and meditation if needed,” said Marek Benda, member of Parliament and member of the Civic Democratic Party (ODS). “We have been organizing Christian meetings in the Chamber of Deputies for many years, we will move them to the new chapel. Ten to twenty-five people gather usually, about fifteen members of the Chamber, occasionally a senator or a cabinet minister comes. It is a tradition established in 1991,” Mr. Benda said. According to him, meetings are attended by members of all political parties except for the Communist Party.

The chapel was built on the place of former cloakroom in one of palaces in the Lesser Town of Prague. Inscription “peace to you” welcomes visitors of the prayer room behind a glass door. A mezuzah, which is typical for Jewish households or shops and contains scrolls inscribed with specified verses from the Torah, was provided by delegates of the Jewish Community and is located in an entering hallway.

The chapel itself is equipped with a round table and a baroque carving of the body of Jesus Christ from 18th century lent by the National Gallery. The carving hangs on the wall, not on the cross. Hebrew numerals from one to ten symbolising the Ten Commandments are placed in two windows.

“Today, it would be right to claim allegiance to roots of our culture. When we speak about them, we mean Jewish-Christian tradition. We should not be ashamed of our roots. Sometimes even forcible secularization in the past was pointless,” said Jiří Mihola, representative of members of the Christian and Democratic Union – Czechoslovak People’s Party (KDU-ČSL), who supports the idea of his colleague to include a reference to Christianity and Judaism in the Constitution. Jiří Mihola also initiated and successfully pushed through a proposal to include Good Friday into the list of public holidays.

Religious members of the Chamber are convinced the chapel will be occasionally visited also by people who do not pray to God. “When a member of Parliament from the Social Democratic Party came across the prayer room, although she does not believe in God, she liked it and she plans to meditate there,” Ms. Langšádlová said.

The chapel will be ceremonially opened and blessed with the participation of Cardinal Dominik Duka, Archbishop of Prague, representatives of the Ecumenical Council of Churches in the Czech Republic and the Jewish Community on 29th March 2016.

From New Publications

DYJAKOWSKA, Marzena, *CRIMEN LAESAE MAIESTATIS*, A study of Roman law influences in old Poland, Wydawnictwo KUL, Lublin, 2013, 274 p., ISBN 978-83-7702-784-4.

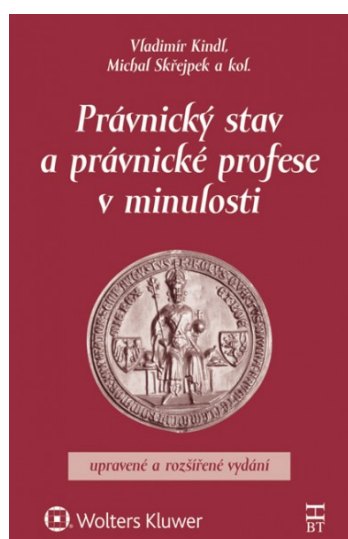
SITARZ, Mirosław (ed.), *Kodeks Prawa Kanonicznego w badaniach młodych naukowców I*. [Code of Canon Law in Research of Young Scholars], Towarzystwo Naukowe Katolickiego Uniwersytetu Lubelskiego Jana Pawła II, Lublin, 2014, 346 p., ISBN 978-83-7306-653-3.

KINDL, Vladimír, SKŘEJPEK, Michal (eds.), *Právníký stav a právníké profese v minulosti* [Legal State and Legal Professions in the Past], Wolters Kluwer, Praha, 2016, 280 p., ISBN 978-80-7552-030-2,

including:

SELTENREICH, Radim, *Právníký stav v kontinentální Evropě od 12. století do počátku novověku* [Legal State in Continental Europe from 12th Century to Beginning of the Modern Era], pp. 48–59,

TRETERA, Jiří Rajmund, HORÁK, Záboj, *Církevní úřady a právníci v katolické církvi* [Ecclesiastical Offices and Lawyers in the Catholic Church], pp. 60–77.



Monograph written by the team of authors of the Department of Legal History, Faculty of Law, Charles University in Prague, focuses on history of legal state and legal professions in Europe and the USA from ancient Rome till the 20th century.

SCHELLE, Karel, TAUCHEN, Jaromír (eds.), *Encyklopedie českých právních dějin*, I. svazek: A–Č [Encyclopedia of Czech Legal History, Volume I, A–Č], Aleš Čeněk, Plzeň, 2015, 969 p., ISBN 978-80-7380-562-3,

including:

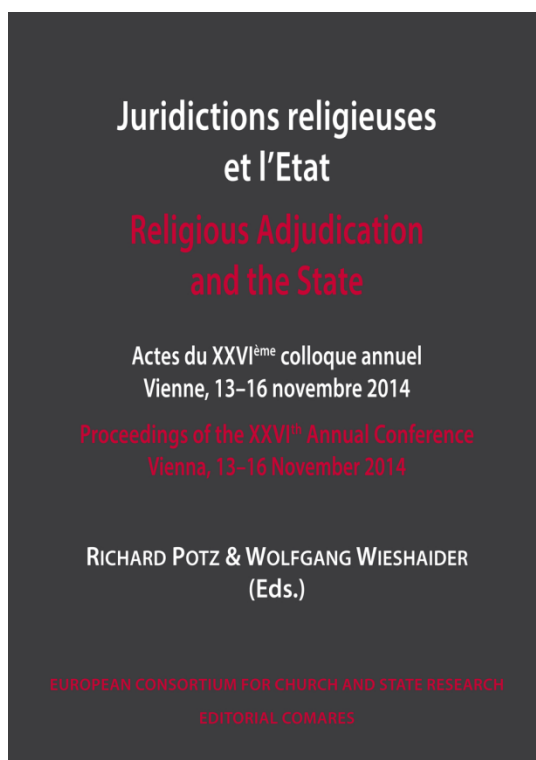
PARMA, Tomáš, JONOVÁ, Jitka, NĚMEC, Damián, *Církev a stát* [Church and State], pp. 504–526,

TRETERA, Jiří Rajmund, HORÁK, Záboj, *Česká kanonistika* [Czech Canon Law Science], pp. 552–566.

POTZ, Richard, WIESHAIDER, Wolfgang (eds.), *Juridictions religieuses et l'Etat – Religious Adjudication and the State*, Actes du XXVI^{ème} colloque annuel, Vienne, 13–16 November 2014 – Proceedings of the XXVIth Annual Conference, Vienna, 13–16 November 2014, Comares Editorial, Granada, 2015, on behalf of the European Consortium for Church and State Research, 261 p., ISBN 978-84-9045-354-4,

including:

TRETERA, Jiří Rajmund, HORÁK, Záboj, *Religious Jurisdictions in the Czech Republic*, pp. 195–202.



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