



NEWSLETTER

CHURCH LAW SOCIETY

PRAGUE – BRNO – OLOMOUC

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Let Us Introduce Ourselves:

The Church Law Society, Czech Republic

The Church Law Society in Prague is a scientific society, founded in 1994, whose aim is to support the study and work in Canon Law and Religion Law. The Society is a place of integration of students and scholars and general public, who are interested in these subjects. The Society is founded on friendly relations with religions.

The Society has 457 members from various parts of the Czech Republic (400), and from abroad (Slovakia 41, other countries 16). It consists of three local groups based in university cities Prague, Brno and Olomouc.

The Church Law Society publishes

- *The Church Law Review*, a double-blind peer-reviewed scientific journal in Czech and Slovak, with English, German and Italian summaries, three times a year, in the extent of 100–140 pages per issue (63 issues have been already published),
- *Aktuality* (Newsletter) – online bulletin in Czech (twice a month),
- *Newsletter* in English (monthly),
- *Church Law Review Series*, in Czech or Slovak (two volumes per year).

The Church Law Society organizes:

- annually, usually in September, an international scientific conference in Brno *Church and State*, in cooperation with the Department of Constitutional Law and Political Science of the Faculty of Law of Masaryk University (21 conferences have already taken place),
- in Prague, approximately four times a year, an evening lecture and debate series called *The Influence of Law in Society and in Church* (72 meetings have already taken place),
- in Prague, an international conference lasting several days called *Prague Dialogues on the Relationship between State and Church*, attended by foreign lecturers (took place in years 1996, 1998 and 2000), planned to continue soon.

The Church Law Society formed its own specialized library and operates the website in Czech and English: <http://spcp.prf.cuni.cz>.



From the European Consortium for Church and State Research

27th annual meeting of the European Consortium for Church and State Research took place at the University in Alcalá de Henares (Spain) from 12th till 15th November 2015. The topic of the conference was *Law and Religion in the Workplace*. The next conference will take place in the city of Jūrmala, Latvia, in October 2016.

The building of the University of Alcalá de Henares in Spain, 14th November 2015. From the left Prof. Wolfgang Wieshaider, Dr Lina Papadopoulou and Assoc. Prof. Zábój Horák waiting for their election as members of the Consortium before the entry to the assembly hall, where the meeting of the European Consortium for Church and State Research took place.

Photo Emanuel Távalä

Upcoming Law and Religion Conferences

Essener Gespräche zum Thema Staat und Kirche

51st annual scientific conference organized under the above mentioned title by the Bishopric of Essen will take place in Mülheim an der Ruhr (North Rhine-Westphalia) from 29th February till 1st March 2016, this time on the topic *Human Dignity as Constitutional Basis*.

LARSN Conference at Cardiff University

The 2016 Law and Religion Scholars Network (LARSN) Conference will be held on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th May 2016 at the School of Law and Politics at Cardiff University and will be organized by Dr Russell Sandberg and Caroline Roberts.

To submit a paper for consideration, you can complete the abstract submission form providing an abstract of up to 200 words to Dr Russell Sandberg (SandbergR@cf.ac.uk) by Monday 29th February 2016. The form is available on the website of Cardiff's Centre for Law and Religion: <http://www.law.cf.ac.uk/clr/>

The 2016 LARSN Conference will form part of the Cardiff Festival of Law and Religion. The Festival will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the LLM in Canon Law at Cardiff University, the first degree of its type in a British University since the Reformation.

The festival will include the launch of F. Cranmer, M. Hill, C. Kenny and R. Sandberg (eds.) *The Confluence of Law and Religion: Interdisciplinary Reflections on the Work of Norman Doe* (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

ICLARS Conference in Oxford

After three conferences in Milano, Santiago de Chile, Richmond/Virginia, International Consortium of Law and Religion Studies (ICLARS) organizes the fourth conference, this time in Oxford, United Kingdom, from 8th till 11th September 2016. It focuses on the topic *Freedom offor/from/within Religion: Differing Dimensions of a Common Right?* For more information visit <http://www.iclars.org/event.php?event=13>

Church Law Review No. 63–1/2016 is at the Printers

The preparation of the first issue of The Church Law Review in year 2016 was completed last week. It is supposed to be distributed among members of the Society at the end of February. The awaited issue contains these articles:

- A. I. Hrdina: On Selected Aspects of the New Canon Law on Marital Procedural Rules,
- S. Přibyl: The Canon Law Aspects of Seminary Education,
- J. Kašný: Contracts and Property in the Hebrew Bible,
- R. Seltenreich: Francisco de Vitoria – A Theologian and Lawyer at the Turn of the Ages,
- J. Dvořáček: The Apostolic Exarchate in the Czech Republic and Its Legal Status.

From the Czech Republic:

Good Friday Included into the List of Public Holidays

The Act No. 359/2015 of 2nd December 2015 changed the Act No. 245/2000 on Public Holidays. Good Friday was thereby included into the list of public holidays, which are days of rest. A historical injustice committed by the Communist regime, which crossed out Good Friday from the list of public holidays as of 1st January 1952, was finally repaired.

Inclusion of Good Friday into the list of public holidays is a significant expression of return of the Czech Republic back to its cultural traditions and historical roots. Concurrently, it is an expression of realization of religious freedom for the majority of believers. Christian Churches, celebrating Good Friday as the anniversary of the Passion of Jesus Christ, will be able to renew their worships and Good Friday ceremonies in traditional hours during the day and believers will be able to spend the whole day in appropriate collected atmosphere.

From New Publications

BERLINGÒ, Salvatore, *Nel silenzio del diritto*, Risonanze canonistiche, Società Editrice il Mulino, Bologna, 2015, 424 p., ISBN 978-88-15-26024-6.

SKONIECZNY, Piotr (ed.), *Praktyczny komentarz do Listu apostolskiego motu proprio Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus papieża Franciszka* [The Practical Commentary to the Apostolic Letter Motu Proprio Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus of the Pope Francis], Uniwersytet Papieski Jana Pawła II w Krakowie, Wydział Prawa Kanonicznego, Tarnów/Poland, 2015, 270 p., ISBN 978-83-7793-365-7.

Reviews, Periodicals

Ecclesiastical Law Journal, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, ISSN 0956-618X, Vol 18 No 1, January 2016,

including:

AVIS, Paul, *Polity and Polemics: The Function of Ecclesiastical Polity in Theology and Practice*, p. 2–13,

DOMINGO, Rafael, *The Constitutional Justification of Religion*, p. 14–35,

SMITH, Peter, *The Problem of the Non-justiciability of Religious Defamations*, p. 36–52.

Law Briefs, Office of the General Counsel of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC, 2016, January/February 2016,

including:

USCCB Files Amicus Brief in Supreme Court in Support of Religious Organizations Challenging HHS Contraceptive Mandate and “Accommodation”, p. 2–3,

USCCB and Texas Catholic Conference File Amicus Brief in Supreme Court Defending Texas Law Regulating Doctors and Clinics that Perform Abortions, p. 3–4,

USCCB and Washington State Catholic Conference File Amicus Brief in Supreme Court Defending Right of Pharmacies Not to Stock and Dispense Abortifacient Drugs, p. 4–5.

Revue de Droit Canonique, Université de Strasbourg, Strasbourg, 2015, ISSN 0556–7378, Tome 65/1 (2015),

including:

BAMBERG, Anne, *Les vœux religieux dans le Code de droit canonique de 1983*, p. 165–184,

CARBALLO, José Rodríguez, *Les vœux religieux aujourd’hui, réalité et enjeux*, p. 231–238,

RAJEH, Antoine, *Les vœux religieux dans le Code des canons des Églises orientales de 1990*, p. 185–197,

Tome 65/2 (2015)

including:

LE BOT, Loïc-Marie, *Étude canonique sur l'appartenance du Pontife romain à un institut religieux*, p. 363–376,

RUSCAZIO, Maria Chiara, *Quelques réflexions canoniques à propos de l'objection de conscience du fonctionnaire public*, p. 409–439.

The Jurist, Studies in Church Law and Ministry, The Catholic University of America, The School of Canon Law, Washington, D. C., 2015, ISSN 0022-6858,

75 (2015): 2,

including:

BEAL, John B., *Mitis Iudex Canons 1671–1682, 1688–1691: A Commentary*, p. 467–538,

BURKE, Raymond Leo, *Canonical Questions Regarding the Proposed Pastoral Care of the Faithful Who are Divorced and Have Attempted Marriage*, p. 273–295,

DANIEL, William L., *An Analysis of Pope Francis' 2015 Reform of the General Legislation Governing Cases of Nullity of Marriage*, p. 429–466,

DANIEL, William L., *The Abbreviated Matrimonial Process before the Bishop in Cases of “Manifest Nullity” of Marriage*, p. 539–591.

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Available online at <http://spcp.prf.cuni.cz/aktuality>.