



NEWSLETTER

FOR THE ENGLISH SPEAKING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS
OF THE CHURCH LAW SOCIETY
PRAGUE – BRNO – OLOMOUC

No. 2/2018

Volume 3

26th February 2018

Invitation to Exhibition IBI PATRIA MEA in Rome

Mgr. et Mgr. Adéla Hončová, the curator of the Postal Museum in Prague, cordially invites you to an exhibition named IBI PATRIA MEA, which was organized in cooperation with the Postal Museum in Prague (Czech Republic) and the Postal Museum in Banská Bystrica (Slovak Republic) as well as the Embassy of the Czech Republic and the Embassy of the Slovak Republic to the Holy See.

The exhibition takes place **from 11th April to 30th April 2018** at the *Palazzo della Cancelleria* in Rome, where the highest courts of the Catholic Church are located. It was prepared to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia, which took place on 28th October 1918.

Displayed post stamps and other exhibits that symbolize the Czechoslovak statehood introduce significant milestones of the history and cultural and spiritual heritage of the Czechoslovak state for more than 74 years of its existence until its division on 31st December 1992 to the visitors of the exhibition.

Ball of Lawyers 2018 in Prague

The Municipal House at Náměstí republiky in Prague – Old Town is a jewel of Art Nouveau architectural mastery, a memorial of Czech political and scientific life from the beginning of the 20th century and a picture gallery of leading Czech painters of the time. Particularly outstanding are pictures and frescoes by Alfons Mucha (1860–1939), leading Art Nouveau painter, who, during his staying in Paris, made Czech painting famous around the world. The Municipal House in Prague is the place where the independence of Czechoslovakia was proclaimed on 28th October 1918.

And this building exactly is annually a venue for major social events, including lawyers' balls. This year's traditional ball of lawyers was held on Saturday 10th February 2018, in the Municipal House, with the participation of more than one thousand Czech and foreign lawyers, students and teachers of law schools and their friends, including many members of the Church Law Society.

The ball was organized, as in previous years, by the *Všehrd Association of Czech Lawyers* in cooperation with the *School of Law of Charles University in Prague*.

The ball was held in all the halls of the Municipal House. The Smetana Hall, named after the famous Czech composer Bedřich Smetana (1824–1884), headed by a large space for the main orchestra and the dance floor underneath, this time designed for classical dances, was the central point of the ball. In the hall, on the balconies and in the galleries, there were tables for guests.

In two halls, named after 19th century Czech leading lawyers, *Julius Grégr* (1831–1896) and *Karel Sladkovský* (1823–1880), autonomous orchestras played modern dances.

The Mayor's Hall became the meeting place of leading personalities of the Czech legal life. The adjoining halls named after the father of modern Czech historiography *František Palacký* (1798–1876) and his son-in-law, leading political figure and lawyer *František Ladislav Rieger* (1818–1903) were designed for rich entertainment.



Municipal House in Prague, venue of the Ball of Lawyers 2018. In the lower right corner there is the emblem of the Všehrd Association of Czech Lawyers.

The opening ceremony was as always started by selection of arias from the world's most famous operas. This year's arias were picked from the opera *The Bartered Bride* (Bedřich Smetana), *Rigoletto* (Giuseppe Verdi), and *The Barber of Seville* (Gioacchino Rossini). The singing was accompanied by the *West Bohemian Symphony Orchestra* from Mariánské Lázně (Marienbad Spa), which was the main musical ensemble of the evening.

Re-elected Dean of the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, Professor Jan Kuklík, reminded guests of important building modifications of the school made since the last ball and announced that the school leadership has decided to finish some of its external modifications, which had not been completed during construction in 1930 due to lack of time or money.

Recently elected mayor of the Association of Czech Lawyers, Mr. Martin Matoušek, a law student of the School of Law, talked about the plans of the association in this and the future academic years and handed out a financial donation to the dean of the school on the school's external modifications.



Opening of the Ball of Lawyers 2018 at the Smetana Hall of the Municipal House in Prague. From the left: Martin Matoušek, Mayor of the Všehrd Association, and Professor Jan Kuklík, Dean of the School of Law of Charles University in Prague.

In conclusion, a few words about the organizer. The Všehrd Association of Czech Lawyers is the second oldest Czech lawyers' association in the Czech Republic and belongs to the oldest associations in our country at all. The first general meeting took place in a tavern in Prague on 6th May 1868. The association chose Czech Renaissance nobleman *Viktorin Kornel Všehrd*

(1460–1520), author of Czech written treatise *Nine Books on Laws, Judiciary and Land Books of Czech Kingdom* (1499), as its patron.

The association professes all patriotic and humanistic heritage of the Czech nation. The association played an important part in professional and national conscious formation of students of law at the Czech university in Prague. It became evident during establishing and construction of democratic Czechoslovak state since 1918. The association was banned during the Nazi occupation.

The Všehrd Association played an important role in the process of defence of democratic values in the renewed democracy in Czechoslovakia between 1945 and 1948. The association was banned again after the Communist coup d'état in 1948 and its members were prosecuted. It was restored in 1990 and fought for restoration of democracy in Czechoslovakia as well as in the Czech Republic.

The Všehrd Association of Czech Lawyers is active in organizing of lectures, publishing legal literature and arranging meetings of teachers, students and intellectual public. The management of the association consists exclusively of law students.

The Association celebrates its 150th anniversary this year. The first ceremony takes place on 8th March 2018 in Karolinum, the oldest building of Charles University in Prague. An exhibition of documents from the history of the association will be opened in the gothic cloister of this building. But we will bring more news in the next issue of the Newsletter...

78th Church Law Society Evening Event

The 78th Evening Event of the Church Law Society took place at the ceremonial hall of the School of Law of Charles University in Prague on 20th February 2018, No. 38.

The event was presented by the chairman of the Church Law Society, Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP from the School of Law of Charles University in Prague. In his introductory speech, he reported on a large number of publications in the fields of church law and religion law that have been published in the Czech lands and Slovakia since the last meeting of the Prague Group of the Society six months ago. He recalled three books:

- *Počátky hierarchického uspořádání v rané církvi* [The Beginnings of the Hierarchical Arrangement in the Early Church], by Associate Professor Stanislav Příbyl from the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice (Budweis),
- *Dejiny cirkevného práva* [History of Church Law] by Associate Professor Vojtech Vladár from the University of Trnava (Slovakia), in Slovak, published by the Leges publishing house in Prague, and
- *Církev a stát 2017, Sborník z konference* [Church and State 2017, Conference Collection] edited by Dr. Jaroslav Benák from the Masaryk University in Brno, containing papers presented at the School of Law of the same university in September 2017 focusing on relationship of religion and health service, published [online](#).

Then, he introduced the main point of the program, which was the presentation of the book *Autonomie církví* [Autonomy of Churches] published at the end of 2017 by Dr. Jakub

Kříž, a well-known Prague barrister, former Deputy Chief of Department of Churches of the Ministry of Culture and religion law lecturer at the CEVRO Institute in Prague.

The author of the book approached the speaker's desk and presented the main ideas contained in the publication in the following hour. He repeatedly interrupted his speech by reading the text of the high passages. A crowded auditorium (more than 40 participants present) listened to breath-taking narrative. A discussion followed, more than a half an hour long, then there was an opportunity for informal discussion with a glass of wine. The whole event took place in friendly atmosphere and scientific fervour. It ended at about 8 pm.

In the following photographic documentation, we would like to show the readers the entrance to the premises in which the evening was held as well as the atmosphere.



Atrium of the School of Law of Charles University in Prague in the day of the 78th Evening Event of the Church Law Society on 20th February 2018.

Photo Antonín Krč



Entrance to the lecture room No. 38. Statue of Devotion by Josef Václav Myslbek.

Photo Antonín Krč



From of the 78th Evening Event of the Church Law Society: Dr. Jakub Kříž introduces his book Autonomie církví [Autonomy of Churches].

Photo Antonín Krč



From of the 78th Evening Event of the Church Law Society: From the left students Otakar Duchek and Jan Pivoda, and the Secretary of Church Law Society Adam Csukás. At the front of the hall there is a relief with portrait of JUDr. Milada Horáková (1901–1950), lawyer, brave advocate of democracy, deputy of the Czechoslovak Parliament, executed by the Communist regime on 27th June 1950.

Photo Antonín Krč

Invitation to the Scientific Conference in Innsbruck (Austria)

Sehr geehrte Vertreter der Kirchen und Religionsgemeinschaften, Kolleginnen und Kollegen, sehr geehrte Damen und Herren, an der Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck planen o. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Rees vom Fachbereich Kirchenrecht des Instituts für Praktische Theologie der Katholisch-Theologischen Fakultät der Universität Innsbruck und Ass.-Prof. Dr. Johann Bair vom Fachbereich Rechtsgeschichte des Instituts für Römisches Recht und Rechtsgeschichte der Rechtswissenschaftlichen Fakultät dieser Universität die Fortsetzung der Tagungsreihe unter dem Generalthema **Religion und Staat im Brennpunkt**.

Es haben ja bereits drei Tagungen unter dem Titel *Anerkannte Religionsgemeinschaften in Österreich und ihre Erwartungen an das Staat-Kirche-Verhältnis, Religionsunterricht in der öffentlichen Schule im ökumenischen und interreligiösen Dialog* und *Fundamentalismus: Bedeutung, Rolle und Umgang* stattgefunden.

Das Thema der diesjährigen Tagung, die vom **11.06.2018 bis 12.06.2018** in den Räumen der Katholisch-Theologischen Fakultät stattfinden wird, wird sein: **Leistungen der Kirchen und Religionsgemeinschaften für Staat und Gesellschaft**. Dieses Thema soll unter den gesetzlich anerkannten Kirchen in Österreich sowie den staatlich eingetragenen religiösen Bekenntnisgemeinschaften in Österreich angesprochen und im Dialog diskutiert werden. Schon heute ergeht die herzliche Einladung.

Freundliche Grüße

Wilhelm Rees und Johann Bair

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Congratulations

Associate Professor Dr. Jiří Kašný, Th.D., former lecturer at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A., now lecturer at the Anglo-American University, School of Law, in Prague, celebrated his 60th birthday on 18th January 2018.

Prof. Michal Tomášek, Vice-Dean of the School of Law of Charles University in Prague and Head of the Department of European Law, a regular participant of Church Law Society events, received the Silver Medal of Charles University from the rector of the University these days, awarded to him on the occasion of his life anniversary and in appreciation of his pedagogical activities in the field of European law.

Prof. Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP from the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, Chairman of the Church Law Society, was appointed a member of the Scientific

Council of the School of Catholic Theology of Charles University in Prague as of 1st March 2018.

Prof. Antonín Ignác Hrdina OPraem from the School of Catholic Theology of Charles University in Prague and the School of Law of the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen celebrates his 65th birthday on 6th March 2018.

From New Publications

VLADÁR, Vojtech, *Dejiny cirkevného práva* [History of Church Law], Leges, Praha, 2017, 608 pp., ISBN 978-80-7502-238-7.

Journals

Historia et ius, Rivista di storia giuridica dell'età medievale e moderna, prof. Paolo Alvazzi del Frate, Roma, ISSN 2279-7416,

No. 12/2017,

including:

ČERNÝ, Miroslav, [*Recenti contributi per la storia del diritto canonico medievale nella Repubblica Ceca*](#), paper 19, pp. 1–9.

L'année canonique, La Société Internationale de Droit Canonique et de Législations religieuses comparées, publié avec la collaboration de la Faculté de Droit Canonique de Paris, Paris, ISSN 0570–1953,

Tome LVII – 2016,

including:

DURAND, Jean-Paul, *Chronique de droit français des religions: Le régime local en Guyane est constitutionnel*, pp. 435–442.

Oxford Journal of Law and Religion, Oxford University Press, Oxford, ISSN 2047-0770, Volume 6, Number 3, October 2017,

including:

NASH, Patrick S., *Sharia in England: The Marriage Law Solution*, pp. 523–543.

Newsletter for the English speaking members and friends of the Church Law Society, Prague – Brno – Olomouc, published by Společnost pro církevní právo, Sudoměřská 25, 130 00 Praha 3, Czech Republic.

Editor-in-Chief: P. Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP. Editorial Board: Záboj Horák, Adam Csukás, Marek Novák.

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Issues appear monthly. ISSN 2464-7276