



NEWSLETTER

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

No. 2/2019

Volume 4

21st February 2019

Conference on Registration of Churches in Central Europe Took Place in Trnava

The international scientific conference *Registration of Churches and Religious Societies – yes, but how?* took place at the Faculty of Law, Trnava University in Trnava (Slovakia), on 8th February 2019.

The conference was organized by the Institute for Legal Aspects of Religious Freedom of the Faculty of Law, Trnava University in Trnava, and supported by the Visegrád Fund. Doc. Damián Němec dr, OP, headed the project. Representatives of the Faculty of Law of the Palacký University in Olomouc, the Catholic University of John Paul II in Lublin and the Faculty of Law and Political Science of the Catholic University of Péter Pázmány in Budapest participated representing other countries of the Visegrád Four. The Faculty of Law of the University of Vienna and the Faculty of Law of the Uzhhorod National University joined too.

The conference was preceded by a social and organizational evening event for the participants on 7th February 2019 at the Dream Hotel in Trnava. Eight lecturers, including three experts from the Czech Republic, presented their papers during the conference. There were members of the Church Law Society from several countries present. Lectures mapped registration of churches in the scope of valid regulation and case law. They presented historical developments, sociological data, procedures and the current situation, including interesting issues or problematic areas in individual countries.

Lectures by Damián Němec, Kamila Bubelová and Monika Menke focused on situation in the Czech Republic and Slovakia in the first part of the conference. In the second part (Balázs Schanda, Wolfgang Wieshaider), registration of churches in Austria and Hungary was examined. Finally, state of affairs in Poland and Ukraine was described (Mirosław Sitarz, Agnieszka Romanko and Oleksandr Bilash).

During the conference, especially during the final round table, there was a lively discussion of lecturers and all other present experts assessing the situation regarding recognition of churches in general and specifically in individual states of the Visegrád Four and also addressing the current situation in Ukraine, which undergoes major legislative changes since the beginning of this year, as the Patriarch of Constantinople Bartholomew I granted the Orthodox Church of Ukraine the autocephaly status. The conference languages were Slovak, Czech and Polish.

Both the conference papers and the previous papers will be presented in an expert collection in the English and Slovak versions, at the latest in autumn 2019.

Monika Menke



Conference in Trnava: from the left Michaela Moravčíková, Agnieszka Romanko, Mirosław Sitarz, Róbert Gyuri, Jozef Marčín, Pavol Repko, Kamila Bubelová, Martin Šabo, Stanislav Přibyl, Wolfgang Wieshaider, Damián Němec.

Photo Monika Menke

Invitation to Innsbruck

Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck organizes the conference *Religiöse Symbole* in the premises of the Faculty of Theology from 9th to 10th May 2019. The invitation is attached as the Enclosure 1.

81st Church Law Society Evening Event

The festive evening event consisting mainly in panel discussion on the topic *Ecology, Christianity and Law* took place on Tuesday 19th February 2019 at the Faculty of Law, Charles University in Prague. In the panel discussion spoke RNDr. Jiří Nečas, mathematician from the University of Economics in Prague, Associate Professor Vojtěch Stejskal from the Department of Environmental Law of the Faculty of Law of the Charles University and Matouš Horák, owner of the Prešín farm in West Bohemia. There was a lively discussion. Participation was achieved by almost fifty listeners not only from Prague but also from all Bohemia and Moravia. The evening ended with a meeting with a glass of wine. The attendants evaluated the whole evening as extremely successful.



Dr. Jiří Nečas speaking.

Photo Antonín Krč

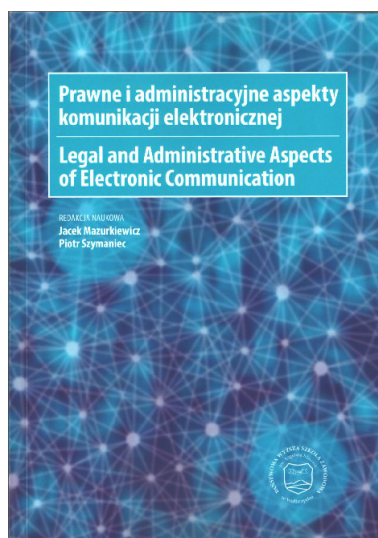
Reminder of Fourth Season of Prague Dialogues on Church and State Relations Conference

It was announced in the Newsletter No. 12/2018 on page 4 that the Church Law Society, in cooperation with the Faculty of Law of the Charles University in Prague, prepares an international conference on *Spiritual Care in Public Institutions* from 12th to 16th June 2019. The conference is held in Prague with the participation of representatives of nine European countries.

Invitation to Conference on Persecution of Churches During Communism

From 10th to 12th September 2019, the international conference on the persecution of churches in Czechoslovakia after 1948 will be held in Olomouc (Czech Republic) under the title *Harnessed Churches*. You find an invitation in English as the Enclosure 2.

From New Publications



MAZURKIEWICZ, Jacek, SZYMANIEC, Piotr, *Prawne i administracyjne aspekty komunikacji elektronicznej, Legal and Administrative Aspects of Electronic Communication*, Wydawnictwo Uczelniane Państwowej Wyższej Szkoły Zawodowej im. Angelusa Silesiusa, Wałbrzych, Poland, 2018, 215 pp., ISBN 978-83-63839-62-8.

Enclosures: 2

Newsletter for the English speaking members and friends of the Church Law Society, Prague – Brno – Olomouc, published by Church Law Society, Sudoměřská 25, 130 00 Praha 3, Czech Republic. Editor: Tereza Hrazdírová Rottová. Editorial Board: P. Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP, Záboj Horák, Marek Novák, Jan Beránek. Photo Editor: Antonín Krč. E-mail: spcp@prf.cuni.cz. Available online at <http://spcp.prf.cuni.cz/newsletter>. Issues appear monthly. ISSN 2464-7276.

Enclosure No. 1

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Rees
Institut für Praktische Theologie
Karl-Rahner-Platz 1, 6020 Innsbruck
Ass.-Prof. Dr. Johann Bair
Institut für Römisches Recht und Rechtsgeschichte
Innrain 52, 6020 Innsbruck

Religion und Staat im Brennpunkt

Sehr geehrte Mitglieder 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 vier 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“, „Fundamentalismus: Bedeutung, Rolle und Umgang“ und „Leistungen der Kirchen und Religionsgemeinschaften für Staat und Gesellschaft“ stattgefunden.

Das Thema der diesjährigen Tagung, die vom **09.05.2019 bis 10.05.2019** in den Räumen der Katholisch-Theologischen Fakultät stattfinden wird, wird sein: **„Religiöse Symbole“**. Diese sollen sowohl mit Blick auf die Bedeutung innerhalb der Kirche bzw. Religions- oder Bekenntnisgemeinschaft als auch in ihrer Bedeutung für die Öffentlichkeit und die damit verbundenen Diskussionen thematisiert werden und 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

Kontaktadresse:

Katholisch-Theologische Fakultät
Institut für Praktische Theologie
Juliane KAPFERER

Sekretariat

Karl-Rahner-Platz 1, 6020 Innsbruck

T +43 512 507-8661

E juliane.kapferer@uibk.ac.at

Enclosure No. 2

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to participate in an international scientific conference

HARNESSED CHURCHES **September 10 – 12, 2019 in Olomouc**

The conference will be held by the State Regional Archive in Prague in conjunction with the Faculty of Arts and the Saints Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology of Palacký University Olomouc, and Archdiocese of Prague, under the auspices of His Eminence Dominik Duka, the Archbishop of Prague and the Primate of Bohemia, and His Excellency Jan Graubner, the Archbishop of Olomouc and the Metrolite of Moravia.

The conference will remember the 70th anniversary of so called Church Bills in former Czechoslovakia. Relationships between Churches and Czechoslovak state, their beginnings, development and establishing during the years 1948–1989 are the focal issues of the conference. We will also observe sources and consequences of the Bills, even after 1989. At the same time, we will also follow the topic in other Central European countries.

Agenda will be divided into four parallel sessions, each of them will follow a specific historical period.

The first session will concentrate on the period before 1949 and will follow sources, inspirational origins and ways to adopt so called Church Bills.

The second session will deal with the events of the year of 1949 and with the Bills themselves, all seen through the eyes of historians and lawyers, in comparison with situation in neighbouring countries.

The third session will focus on the period 1949–1989 and will follow the enforcing of the Bills with consequences for the State, individual Churches, congregations, and the whole society.

The last session will deal with the situation after 1989, the time of new freedom and searching for the new ways for Churches.

We invite proposals not only from historians, archivists and conservators, but also from lawyers and sociologists. Proposals must be received by *March 30, 2019*. Send a 300 word abstract electronically to: *Mgr. Beata Kempná (beata.kempna@soapraha.cz)*.

Papers will be scheduled into a 15 minute time period. The conference languages: Czech, Slovak, German and English.

The organizers reserve the right to select papers that meet the criteria.

The conference fee is 350 CZK and will be used for refreshments.

We are looking forward to further collaboration
Beata Kempná, Jitka Jonová and others