



NEWSLETTER

FOR THE ENGLISH SPEAKING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS
OF THE CHURCH LAW SOCIETY
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Všehrd Association of Czech Lawyers Celebrated 150th Anniversary of Foundation

We informed of cooperation between the Church Law Society and the Všehrd association, founded in 1868 in Prague, on pages of the Newsletter already in March last year. We emphasized, that the Všehrd association has always played an important part in professional and national conscious formation of students of law at the Czech university in Prague and professed all patriotic and humanistic heritage of the Czech nation. The association bears a name of Czech Renaissance nobleman Viktorin Kornel Všehrd (1460–1520), author of Czech written treatise *Nine Books on Laws, Judiciary and Land Books of the Kingdom of Bohemia* (1499).

The Všehrd association was of great importance during establishing and construction of democratic Czechoslovak state since 1918, when most Czech law students in Prague belonged to it, and again in the process of defence of democratic values in the renewed democracy in Czechoslovakia between 1945 and 1948. The association was banned after the Communist coup d'état in 1948 and its members were persecuted. It was restored in 1990 and fought for restoration of democracy in Czechoslovakia as well as in the Czech Republic.

We celebrated the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Všehrd association on 8th March 2018 in the Old Town of Prague, in a historic and ceremonial building, the seat of the Rector of Charles University.

The first part of the meeting was held at the Karolinum Great Hall. It was opened by the Czech national anthem and speeches of representatives of the Charles University and the School of Law. Then, the presenter of the evening stated that one of the two pillars, which have always been the subject of law studies at the School of Law of Charles University, is church law. In connection with this fact, he asked Jiří Rajmund Tretera, professor of church law and honorary member of the Všehrd association for another festive speech. Other speeches followed, given by current and past representatives of the association and by

a representative of an allied Catholic student association Arminia from Heidelberg. The first part of the evening ended with the singing of the student anthem *Gaudeamus igitur*. In the second part of the celebration, the prizes were handed over to three leading Czech lawyers. The program in the Karolinum Grand Hall was accompanied by a concert from the works of classical authors and singing.



Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera gives a speech during the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Všehrd association in the Karolinum Great Hall on 8th March 2018, in which he welcomed the audience on behalf of members of the Church Law Society.

Subsequently, the participants moved downstairs to the so-called ‘Maashaus’, where a newly published book, *The Memorial 1868–2018*, was presented by the Všehrd association, composed of memories of a number of important representatives of the association in the past. Associate Professor Zábaj Horák, Vice-Chairman of the Church Law Society, contributed by the chapter about his grandfather JUDr. Jiří Horák, who was mayor of the Všehrd association in two election periods from 1931 to 1933.

At the end of the evening, the adjoining premises of the Karolinum Cloister were opened, where the preview of the exhibition of history of the Všehrd association took place. At the same time, Mgr. Stanislav Mikule, specialist in the field of heraldry, gave a lecture on the genus and the coat of arms of Viktorin Kornel Všehrd in one of halls of Karolinum.

The following day, Holy Mass was celebrated in the Dominican church of St. Giles in the Old Town of Prague to thank for the 150th anniversary of the Všehrd association and with a request for blessing for the future. P. Prof. Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP, honorary member of the association, was the principal celebrant. In addition to the parishioners, members of the

Všehrd association, the Arminia Heidelberg association, the Church Law Society and students of the School of Law of Charles University were present.



From the concert to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Všehrd association in the Karolinum Great Hall on 8th March 2018.

We wish you a Blessed Easter

We wish all members and friends of the Church Law Society a blessed Easter.

Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera, Chairman
Associate Professor Zábój Horák, Vice-Chairman

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