

25th Congress of the European Consortium for Church and State Research, Klingenthal 2013

La formation des cadres religieux en Europe:

Histoire, statuts actuels, évolutions récentes

Formation of the Clergy in Europe:

History, Current Law, and Recent Developments

Each year the European Consortium for Church and State Research organizes an annual Congress in a different European city. The Church Law Review reported in Nos. 48, 51, and 54 on the three previous Congresses in Trier, Oxford, and Budapest.

Six months before each Congress reporters from various European countries draft reports for their countries. The country reports are distributed to all members and incorporated into summary reports, which are presented and discussed during the Congress. All final country reports and summary reports are published as well.

This year the Congress had a special atmosphere; after thirteen years it returned to the place where it was first organized – the Goethe Foundation chateau in Klingenthal, at the foot of St. Odilia mountain in Southern Alsace. The Congress took place under the patronage of Professor Francis Messner of the University of Strasbourg.²

Professor Francis Messner and University of Strasbourg Vice-Rector Michel Deneken opened the Congress on Friday, 15 November 2013. The first work session of the Congress concerned the **Histoire des modes de formations des ministres du culte au 19^e siècle et mise en place du système actuelle** (History of the Formation of the Clergy in the 19th Century and the Development of the Current System). Professor Agustín Motilla from Madrid chaired the meeting; Professor Brigitte Basdevant Gaudemet from Paris presented the summary report.

The second work session took place on Friday afternoon; its topic was **Le statut des établissements de formation des cadres religieux hors de l'Université et**

² Church Law Review No. 17–3/2000 reported on the Congress on p. 278.

dans l'Université (The Approach of the Establishment toward the Formation of the Clergy outside the University and in the University); Professor Mark Hill QC from London chaired the meeting and Professor Matti Kotiranta from the University of Eastern Finland presented the summary report.

The third work session took place on Saturday, 16 November 2013 and discussed **Les évolutions actuelles: Les nouvelles politiques publiques en matière de formation de cadres religieux** (Current Developments: The New Public Policies of the Formation of the Clergy). Professor Marco Ventura from Siena chaired the meeting and the current Consortium President, Professor Lars Friedner from Bankeryd (Sweden), presented the summary report.

Professor J. R. Tretera and Associate Professor Z. Horák represented the Czech Republic; they submitted a country report and participated in the discussions. The Congress was attended by 28 representatives from 17 European Union countries.

The general meeting of the Consortium took place on Saturday afternoon; it elected Professor Agustín Motilla as Consortium President for the upcoming term. The next Congress will take place in Vienna in November 2014, and in 2015 the Congress will be in Alcalá de Henares (Spain).

At the end of the Congress the participants visited Strasbourg, where they attended a detailed lecture in the evagelic church of St. Thomas about the Alsatian reformation.

Jiří Rajmund Tretera

Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the Church Law Society

On Sunday, 15 December 2013, at 4 pm the Church Law Society held a celebration of the 20th anniversary of its founding. The celebration was also the 67th evening in the series “The Law in the Society and the Church”; it took place in the baroque refectory of the Dominican Monastery of St. Gill in Prague Old Town. About 45 members and friends of the Society attended the celebration.

The first hour of the celebration was devoted to a commemoration. Associate Professor Zábaj Horák chaired the commemoration, during which the participants viewed a series of photographs from the many events of the Society in Prague and Brno.

Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera spoke about an event that took place 20 years ago. On 15 December 1993 the book “Church Law” was presented; the book was published by the publishing house Jan Krigl and was the first of our major textbooks. The book presentation was organized by the Center of Christian Culture at the Dominican Monastery in Prague under the leadership of its Chairman, P. Tomasz Dostatni. Among the speakers were Dean of the Law School of Charles University in Prague Professor JUDr. Valentin Urfus, Deputy Minister of Justice JUDr. Cyril Svoboda, Head of the Department of Churches at the Ministry of Culture JUDr. Pavel Zeman, and JUDr. Miroslav Černý, the then-Provincial of Augustinians. The participants discussed a proposal to start a society that would organize similar meetings regularly; the proposal eventually led to the formation of the Church Law Society in 1994. In Fall 1994 the first two lectures took place in the series “The Law in the Society and the Church,” and this series continues today.

The next contribution in the celebration on 15 December 2013 was a lecture by Associate Professor Stanislav Příbyl on “Scientific Peer-Reviewed *Church Law Review* and Its Role in Legal Science.” The Society has published the Review since 1995; it is published regularly, three times a year. Associate Professor Příbyl explained the structure of the Review and reviewed the numbers and range of its contributors.

Associate Professor Zábaj Horák spoke about three international conferences that the Church Law Society organized in 1996 (Heiner Marré, Harry Veryser, Bernard Dafflon), 1998 (Józef Krukowski, Péter Erdő, Ján Duda, Jiří R. Tretera) and 2000 (Karl Eugen Schlieff, Mark E. Chopko). He also mentioned 66 lectures in the series “The Law in the Society and the Church,” which took place in Prague, and 19 annual full-day conferences entitled “Church and State,” which took place in Brno.

Associate Professor Damián Němec greeted the participants on behalf of the local chapter of the Church Law Society in Olomouc. He summarized the activities of the chapter and its events at the Theological School and the Law School in Olomouc and emphasized the scientific contributions of the Church Law Review and its unique importance in research on canon law, Church law, and the state law on churches and religious societies in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Next, the Chairman of the Society and the Editor-in-Chief of the Review, Professor J. R. Tretera, received a gold medal for his contributions to the formation and leadership of the Church Law Society and for his editing of the Church Law Review. Ing. Jiří Vaingát received a commemorative certificate for his work as Secretary of the Society in 2006–2013, and Ing. Stanislav Hruška for his work as Librarian of the Society in 2007–2013.

The Society presented its new secretary and librarian, Adam Csukás, a 2nd year student at the Law School of Charles University, and the new Acting Editor of the Church Law Review, Jakub Kolda, a 5th year student, also at the Law School.

At 5 pm the program continued with a reception, and at 6:30 pm some of the participants attended a mass at St. Gill Church.

Jiří Rajmund Tretera