

From the Church Law Society

Church Law Review Included in the ERIH PLUS Database

The Church Law Review was informed on 28th August 2015 that as of that date the Church Law Review has been included in the prestigious European database of scientific journals ERIH PLUS (European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences).

Since 2014 the database has been administered by the Norwegian governmental agency Norwegian Social Science Data Services (NSD). For any scientific journal to be added to the database ERIH PLUS, that journal must comply with strict conditions that safeguard the continuing scientific value of published articles. Most importantly, articles must be submitted to a double-blind peer review based on a procedure established by the editors.

Binding documents of the Church Law Review editors – instructions for authors and the procedure of the editors for the preparation of articles and rules for the peer review procedure – have been made available on the website of the Church Law Society in Czech at <<http://spcp.prf.cuni.cz/revue>>, and in English at <<http://spcp.prf.cuni.cz/review>>. Each author who wishes to submit his or her article to the Church Law Review may consult the documents online.

The editors are looking forward to receiving new article submissions for the Church Law Review, which yet again sees its status rising, as confirmed by its inclusion in the ERIH PLUS database.

JUDr. Kateřina Šimáčková, Ph.D., Receives an Award for the Best Court Decision

The society of Czech, German, Slovak, and Austrian lawyers, Karlovy Vary Law Days (Karlsbader Juristentage), held its annual competition again this year. At the end of the first day of this year's 23rd annual conference, on 3rd June 2015, the competition results were announced in Hotel Thermal in Karlovy Vary.

The award for the best court decision was given to the finding of the Constitutional Court No. II. ÚS 1430/13 regarding the liability for damage caused by the exercise of public authority through a decision or incorrect official procedure.

The Justice of the Constitutional Court, JUDr. Kateřina Šimáčková, Ph.D., accepted the award; she is also the guarantor of the field of church law and the state law on churches and religious societies at the Law School of Masaryk University in Brno, and the chairperson of the local chapter of the Church Law Society in Brno. The representatives of the Church Law Society who were present at the conference congratulated Dr. Šimáčková.

The award for the best law journal was a joint award for the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic. The first was the Czech Bar Bulletin (Bulletin advokacie), and the second was *Ars Notaria*. The Church Law Review placed seventh among the 32 competing journals. We thank all our readers who voted for the Review.

New Church Law Review Editor

Mgr. Jakub Kolda, the editor of the Church Law Review, has started his postgraduate studies at Maastricht University. The Church Law Society leadership expressed its thanks for his excellent editorial work for the Review during 1st September 2013 – 30th June 2015.

As of 1st July 2015 the new editor of the Church Law Review is Mr. Adam Csukás, the Secretary of the Church Law Society.

Congratulations to Church Law Society Members

On 2nd June 2015 the President of the Slovak Republic appointed R. P. Associate Professor ThDr. Ing. Inocent-Mária Vladimír Szaniszló, Ph.D., OP, a university professor. The appointment took place in the Presidential Palace in Bratislava, Hodža Square.

As of 1st July 2015, JUDr. Markéta Trimble Landová, Ph.D., J.S.D., an alumna of the JSD program of Stanford University, California, and a longtime cooperator of the Church Law Society, was appointed a full professor and granted tenure at the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The Diocesan Bishop of Brno confirmed Mons. Karel Orlita, J.U.D., in his office of the Vicar of the Diocesan Church Court in Brno for another period of five years, from 1st July 2015 until 30th June 2020.

Mr. Adam Csukás, the Secretary of the Church Law Society, the student of the Faculty of Law of the Charles University in Prague, was awarded on 11th September 2015 by the 1st prize in the Czecho-Slovak Juristic Competition for the Best Student's Paper for Year 2015, in the section Roman law and legal history.

He wrote a paper bearing the title *Hard Life of the Priest, Whom from Lectical Bake the Bread... Church Subsidies and Their Legal Life in Slovakia (Trpký život kňaza, ktorému z ložného chlieb napečú... Cirkevné dávky a ich právny život na Slovensku)*.

Conceptual Meeting of the Leadership of the Church Law Review

On 30th July 2015 the longtime collaborators of and the leadership of the Church Law Review met in Cafe Barista on Na Poříčí Street in Prague. In attendance were the senior advisor of the Review, Mr. Pavel Landa, a journalist and writer; his daughter, Professor Markéta Trimble Landová; Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera; and Associate Professor Zábaj Horák. They discussed conceptual questions concerning the Church Law Review.

Anniversaries of Church Law Society Members

R. P. Professor JUDr. Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP, the Chairman of the Church Law Society and the Editor-in-Chief of the Church Law Review, celebrated his 75th birthday on 8th June 2015.

R. P. Associate Professor Damián Němec, Dr, OP, the Head of the Church Law Department at the Sts Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology of Palacký University in Olomouc, the chairperson of the local chapter of the Church Law Society in Olomouc, celebrated his 55th birthday on 17th June 2015.

Ms. Jana Nosková, owner of the Bookstore Oliva in the building of the St. Giles Priory in Prague, the longtime member of the Church Law Society and distributor of the Church Law Review, celebrated on 6th September 2015 her jubilee.

Dr. iur. Richard Buchsbaum's Birthday

On 11th August 2015, Dr. iur. Richard Buchsbaum celebrated his 85th birthday in Bonn, Germany. Dr. Buchsbaum has been a longtime supporter and honorary member of the Church Law Society. In his position as the Ministerial Councilman of the German Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Development he devoted a significant part of his life to introducing throughout Germany a housing subsidy that was crucial for persons in need and for families with multiple children. On 24th April 1996 he gave a lecture on this topic to the Church Law Society in Prague, highlighting the topic as an example of a practical implementation of the Church's social teaching.

In Memoriam Ing. Jiří Vaingát

Ing. Jiří Vaingát, a member of the Church Law Society, a surveyor, and a graduate of the Czech Technical University in Prague, was the Secretary of the Church Law Society in 2006–2013. On 10th April 2015 he celebrated his 75th birthday, as the Church Law Review reported in its previous issue.

On 3rd June 2015 in the morning we were saddened to learn about his sudden departure following a short serious disease. We remembered him on 7th June 2015 during the holy mass in the Dominican St. Giles Church in Prague.

On 15th December 2013, during the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the Church Law Society, Ing. Jiří Vaingát received a diploma recognizing his outstanding service as the Secretary of the Society. Photographs from the event were published in Church Law Review No. 57–1/2014, p. 38.

In Memoriam Theobald Count von Czernin from Chudenice

Count Theobald Czernin, a supporter of the Church Law Society, died on 12th July 2015 at the age of 79 years following a long serious illness. Funeral services were conducted on 28th July 2015 in Dymokury by Mons. František Václav Lobkowicz OPraem, the Diocesan Bishop of Ostrava and Opava, and by Zdeněk Filip Lobkowicz OPraem, the Abbot of Teplá. Dominik Cardinal Duka OP, the Archbishop of Prague, delivered the sermon at the services.

On 5th August 2015, Mons. František Radkovský, the Diocesan Bishop of Pilsen, P. Zdeněk Filip Lobkowicz OPraem, the Abbot of Teplá, and P. Professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP celebrated a requiem for the deceased in the Church of the Virgin Mary under the Chain in Prague – Malá Strana. Present were Count von Czernin's widow, Mrs. Polyxena Contess von Czernin, born Princess of Lobkowicz; a number of relatives of the deceased; and members of the Sovereign Order of Malta with the former Grand Prior Karel Count von Paar. The Epistle was read by the son of the deceased, Mgr. Jan Czernin, LL.M., a judge and a member of the leadership of the Church Law Society. Among the friends of the deceased in attendance was also a large group of members of the Church Law Society.

Jiří Rajmund Tretera