

From the Church Law Society

Aus der Gesellschaft für Kirchenrecht Dalla Società per il Diritto Canonico

The Church Law Society Has 491 Members

We announce that according to our records concerning membership, our Society reached a total of 491 members on 1st January 2018. We enclose a table displaying the membership statistics of the last five years:

Year	Number of newly accepted members	Number of members who left	Number of members who died	Number of members at the end of the year
2013	14	8	3	421
2014	31	7	2	443
2015	22	4	3	458
2016	26	4	2	478
2017	25	9	3	491

“Karlsbader Juristentage”: Questionnaire

Voting for the prestigious award for the best scientific legal journal published in the Czech Republic and in Slovakia for the year 2017/2018 is prepared on the website of the “Karlsbader Juristentage” at www.kjt.cz. We ask all supporters of the Church Law Review to vote and not to forget about our journal. You can fill in the questionnaire online. In case you prefer to send it in by mail, we also attach a copy to this issue of the Church Law Review. The mailing deadline is 8th June 2018, to the address of the Karlovarské právnické dny, Národní 10, 110 00 Praha 1, Czech Republic.

As usual, you have to vote for at least two journals. On this occasion, we would like to point out that also participating in this year’s competition are the journals Studies in Legal History (*Právněhistorické studie*) and Jurisprudence, both published by the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, the Newsletter of

the Czech Lawyers Union (*Zpravodaj Jednoty českých právníků*), published by the Czech Lawyers Union, and the Jurist (*Právník*), issued by the Institute of State and Law of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. Many members of the Church Law Society contribute with their articles and reviews to these journals. At the same time, you can vote *for the best court decision* for the period 2017/2018 in the area of judicature applicable in the Czech Republic.

The 78th Church Law Society Evening Event

The 78th evening event in the series *Influence of Law in Society and in Church* took place in the representation room number 38 at the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, on Tuesday 20th February 2018.

The event was presented by the chairman of the Church Law Society Prof. Jiří Rajmund Tretera. In his introductory speech, he reported on a large number of publications in the areas of church and religion laws that have been published in the Czech lands and in Slovakia since the last meeting of the Prague local group of the Society six months ago.

Prof. Tretera then introduced the main point of the event, i.e., the presentation of the book *Autonomy of Churches (Autonomie církví)*, written by JUDr. Jakub Kříž, Ph.D., one of the leading Prague attorneys and the former deputy director of the Department of Churches of the Ministry of Culture.

Thereafter, the author of the book approached the speaker's desk and over the next hour presented the main ideas contained in the publication. He repeatedly interrupted his speech to read the text of the pertinent passages. The overcrowded auditorium (with more than 40 participants present) listened to a breath-taking narrative. A discussion followed that was more than half an hour long, plus another conversation with a glass of wine. The whole event took place in a friendly atmosphere of scientific fervour.

Successful Annual Audit of the Activities of Church Law Society

On 16th March 2018, the audit committee of the Church Law Society carried out

- an economic audit,
- an inspection of the administration of the list of members of the Church Law Society and
- an inspection of the editorial work of the Church Law Review in 2017,

all according to section eight of the Church Law Society Bylaws. The last audit, concerning activities in 2016, was performed on 26th June 2017.

The inspecting committee found no inconsistencies and confirmed that all three areas of activity audited are properly conducted. The results of the inspection will be submitted together with the results of the inspection dated 26th June 2017 to the next general meeting of the Society, which will be convened this year before the holidays.

Wolfgang Wieshaider Lectured at the School of Law of Charles University in Prague

From 4th to 12th December 2017, Prof. Wolfgang Wieshaider from the School of Law of the University of Vienna and visiting professor at the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, presented the first course of the new optional subject *Comparative Law of Religion*. The subject is presented in English. It introduces comparative religion law and focuses on the case law of the European Court of Human Rights on freedom of religion and belief.

Prison Chaplains Commissioning

An ecumenical worship was held at the St. Wenceslas local congregation of the Czechoslovak Hussite Church on Zderaz in Prague New Town, on 14th December 2017, during which new prison chaplains and volunteers from many churches were commissioned. The ceremony of commissioning prison chaplains took place two years after the last similar ceremony. The ecumenical worship was presided over by the Catholic Bishop Mons. Josef Kajnek from Hradec Králové and by the Moderator of the Synodical Council of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren, Daniel Ženatý. The oath of the new prison chaplains, who were accepted by the representative of the Czech Bishops' Conference, Secretary General P. Stanislav Příbyl CSsR, was the main part of the worship. The oath of the volunteers who served in prisons was accepted by the head of the Ecumenical Council of Churches and the Moderator of the Synodical Council, Daniel Ženatý. A supplementary arrangement to the Prison System Spiritual Service Agreement, concluded in 2013, was signed on the same occasion. We publish the supplementary arrangement in the *Documents* section of this issue of the Church Law Review.

Semi-annual Meeting of the Academic Committee of Czech Christian Academy in Emmaus

The regular semi-annual meeting of the Academic Committee of the Czech Christian Academy (ČKA) took place on Saturday, 16th December 2017, in the Emmaus Benedictine monastery in Prague. Chairmen of ČKA local groups from all of Bohemia and Moravia arrived in Prague and, together with chairmen from specialized sections, they held wide-ranging lecturing and educational activities. Prof. Jiří Rajmund Tretera reported on the activities of the Church Law Society, which works as a legal department of the ČKA.

Ball of Lawyers 2018

On the eve of this year's carnival, on Saturday, 10th February 2018, the festive Ball of Lawyers was held in all the halls of the Municipal House in Prague, attended by a thousand participants and organized by the Všešrd Association of Czech Lawyers in cooperation with the School of Law of Charles University in Prague. The whole of this major event of public life in our capital was carried out in a festive atmosphere and represented members of the legal state in an excellent manner.

Among the teachers and students of the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, as well as numerous lawyers from practice, many members of the Church Law Society were present. Numerous conversations took place not only at tables in the Smetana Hall, but also in the Mayor, Palacký and Rieger Halls. The traditional presence of our Society's members is not only an expression of our interest in matters concerning the entire legal community, but also a joyful response to the recently renewed cooperation between the Všešrd Association and the Church Law Society.

Celebration of 150th Anniversary of Všešrd Association of Czech Lawyers

The celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of one of the oldest permanently living associations in the Czech lands, the Všešrd Association of Czech Lawyers, took place in the Karolinum on 8th March 2018. After the opening of the meeting by the Czech national anthem and the introductory speeches of representatives of the Charles University in Prague and its School of Law, Jan Zvěřina, presenter of the evening, stated that church law is one of the two pillars that have always been the subject of law studies at our school. That is why he asked church

law professor Jiří Rajmund Tretera, an honorary member of the Všehrd Association, for another festive speech. The text of the speech is printed in this issue of the Church Law Review in the *Information* section. Further speeches followed, given by representatives of the Všehrd Association, a representative of the general partner and a representative of the Arminia Catholic student fraternity of Heidelberg. The first part of the evening ended with the singing of the student anthem *Gaudeamus igitur*.

In the second part of the celebration in the Karolinum, Prof. Aleš Gerloch, Vice-Rector of the Charles University in Prague received an award. Prof. Michal Tomášek, Vice-Dean of the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, received the honorary laureate of Všehrd *in memoriam* on behalf of his father JUDr. Miloslav Tomášek, who participated in the renewal of the Všehrd Association of Czech Lawyers after the end of World War II. JUDr. Jan Vojtěch, a victim of the political repression of the 1950s, was also awarded.

The meeting in the Great Hall of the Karolinum was accompanied by classical music and singing. Subsequently, the newly published book, Memorial 1868–2018 (*Památník 1868–2018*), was presented. A review of this book by Prof. Jiří Rajmund Tretera is published in the *Abstracts and reviews* section of this issue of the Church Law Review.

On Friday, 9th March 2018, Holy Mass was celebrated in the Dominican church of St. Giles in the Old Town of Prague in thanksgiving for the 150th anniversary of the Všehrd Association of Czech Lawyers and with a request for a blessing for the future. P. Prof. Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP, honorary member of the association, was the principal celebrant.

Congratulations to Members of the Church Law Society

Assoc. Prof. JUDr. PhDr. Veronika Bílková, E.M.A., Ph.D., was elected Vice-Chairperson of the Council of Europe Venice Commission at the 113th meeting of this body, which took place from 8th to 9th December 2017. The Venice Commission is the consultative body of the Council of Europe for matters of constitutional and international law.

P. Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Miroslav Černý, Ph.D., J.U.D., from the School of Law of the West Bohemian University in Plzeň (Pilsen), canonist, Romanist and attorney, celebrated his 60th birthday on 7th January 2018.

Assoc. Prof. Jiří Kašný, Th.D., from the Anglo-American University in Prague, canonist, celebrated his 60th birthday on 18th January 2018.

Mgr. Adam Csukás, Ph.D. student at the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, successfully passed a rigorous examination on 25th January 2018, defended his thesis on the topic *Church Subsidies and Their Legal Development in Slovakia and Subcarpathian Ruthenia*, and achieved the academic title JUDr.

PhDr. Petr Honč, Latin lecturer at the Third School of Medicine of Charles University in Prague, successfully completed his Ph.D. studies at the School of Catholic Theology of Charles University in Prague on 26th January 2018, defending his thesis on the topic *Prague Between Vienna and Rome: Salt Treaty and Cassa Salis Administration in the Years 1630–1782*, achieving the academic title Ph.D.

P. Prof. JUDr. Jiří Rajmund Tretera OP, from the School of Law of Charles University in Prague, chairman of the Church Law Society, was appointed as a member of the Scientific Council of the School of Catholic Theology of Charles University in Prague on 1st March 2018.

P. Prof. JUDr. Antonín Ignác Hrdina, DrSc., OPraem., from the School of Catholic Theology of Charles University in Prague and the School of Law of the West Bohemian University in Plzeň (Pilsen), judicial vicar of the Archbishop of Prague and the chairman of the Metropolitan Tribunal in Prague, celebrated his 65th birthday on 6th March 2018.

R. D. Mgr. Pavel Kubů Passed Away

We regret to announce that on Friday, 3rd November 2017, *R. D. Mgr. Pavel Kubů*, priest of the Diocese of České Budějovice (Budweis), passed away. He was buried in the family tomb in Dráčov. R. I. P.

Adam Csukás