

CONFERENCE REPORTS

THE SIXTH COLLOQUIUM OF ANGLICAN AND ROMAN CATHOLIC CANON LAWYERS

ROME, 21–23 April 2005

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The Sixth Colloquium of Anglican and Roman Catholic Canon Lawyers took place in Rome on 21–23 April 2005. As the plans for the Colloquium came to fruition, it looked as if the participants would be in Rome during the meeting of a conclave, but in the event, members assembled the day after the election of Pope Benedict XVI, and the Colloquium finished the day before the Mass inaugurating his ministry as ‘Successor of Peter’. It was, however, an exciting time to be in Rome and to be considering the topic of comparative Canon Law as it relates to Ordained Ministry and the Validity of Orders.

The Colloquium has become an established forum for dialogue between canon lawyers of the two traditions, founded upon a conversation initiated in 1999 between members of the Centre for Law and Religion at Cardiff University, and representatives of the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas, and in which representatives of Duquesne Law School in the United States and the Pontifical Gregorian University and other institutions have participated. The Colloquium has developed links with the International Anglican–Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission (IARCCUM), one of the two official instruments of dialogue between the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (PCPCU), on behalf of the Catholic Church, and the Anglican Communion.

The Sixth Colloquium was hosted by Professor James Conn SJ at the Pontifical Gregorian University, and followed earlier colloquia on comparative church law relating to church property (held in Rome in 1999): clerical discipline (held in Windsor in 2000): initiation and membership (held in Rome in 2002): authority (held in Cardiff and St David’s in 2003): and ecumenical co-operation (held in London in 2004).

The Anglican team consisted of Professor Norman Doe, Dr Brian Hanson, Chancellor Mark Hill, Mr Anthony Jeremy, Judge Philip Price, Canon John Rees, and Canon Gregory Cameron. The Roman Catholic team consisted of Fr Michael Carragher OP, Professor James Conn SJ, Fr Joseph Fox OP, Professor Aidan McGrath OFM, Fr Robert Ombres OP, and Fr Becket Soul OP. The members were delighted to be joined

for some of their sessions by Bishop David Beetge, Anglican Co-chair of IARCCUM; Fr Don Bolen of the PCPCU; Fr James Puglisi, Director of the Centro Pro Unione, Rome; Fr Georges Ruysen; and the Rector of the Pontifical Gregorian University, Professor Ghirlanda Gianfranco. The members also enjoyed a visit to the Basilica of Santa Sabina, organised by Fr Robert Ombres, a reception hosted by HM Ambassador to the Holy See, Mrs Cathryn Colville, and a reception and dinner hosted by Bishop John Flack, Director of the Anglican Centre in Rome, which was sponsored jointly by the Anglican Centre and the Anglican Communion Office.

Discussion centred on the relationship between ecclesiality and the laws of ordained ministry, together with consideration of the mutual recognition of Ordained Ministry and current understandings of the Papal Encyclical, *Apostolicae Curae*. Conversations were supported by papers by members of the teams and by the Revd William Adam of the Diocese of Ely in the Church of England.¹

The series of colloquia has now explored a range of subjects in Canon Law, both where Anglican and Roman Catholic Canon Law are in close parallel, and areas which have been the subject of theological dispute between the two traditions. By continuing academic discussion, publication of the papers of the colloquia, and institutional inter-action, participants in the colloquia hope to build understanding and co-operation in the area of Canon Law in a way which will complement and facilitate ecumenical co-operation in other areas.

EMERGING LEGAL ISSUES INVOLVING ISLAM IN EUROPE

BUDAPEST, 3–4 JUNE 2005

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The Central European University in Budapest played host to a meeting of experts engaged in a continuing conversation on the subject of Islam in the European Union. The event was sponsored by Brigham Young University and convened by Professor Cole Durham, a leading expert in religious freedom particularly in relation to countries of the former Soviet Bloc. Contributors included Louis-Léons Christians and Rik Torfs (Louvain), Guy Haarscher (Brussels), Fikret Karcic (Sarajevo), Atanas Krusteff and Daniel Smilov (Sofia), Patrick Macklem (Toronto), Alain Garay (Paris),

¹ W Adam, 'The Reception, Recognition and Reconciliation of Holy Orders' (2005) 8 Ecc LJ 4.