Abstract

The aim of this project was the study of the ordination law, the history of the hidden church, and the subsequent research and comparison of all "types" of secret ordinations in all levels (ordination and consecration) granted during the Communist regime of 1948-1989 in Czechoslovakia or to Czechoslovak citizens abroad, especially from the perspective of the canon law.

The presented dissertation consists of an introduction, seven chapters and a conclusion. The first chapter gives the basics of the ordination law, the second chapter describes the relations between the Church and the state during the relevant historical period in Czechoslovakia and the first secret Episcopal ordinations. The third chapter introduces the Mexican faculties. The fourth chapter introduces the other secret faculties granted to the Church in Czechoslovakia, from which, among other things, the ordination activities of the Jesuit bishops and Felix Davidek was unfolded. The fifth chapter provides an digression to the subject of secret ordinations given to Czechoslovak candidates abroad. The final chapter analyzes the development around the secret ordinations after 1989, all possible reasons that have led to the questioning of the ordinations originated from Bishop Felix Davidek are listed and examined. The Latin texts of the so-called Mexican faculties, including the Czech translation, are published in the appendix.

Keywords

Catholic Church, communist regime, Czechoslovakia, secret ordinations, canon law.