



# Centre for Law and Religion

Cardiff University

<http://www.law.cf.ac.uk clr/>



## Background

The success of the LLM in Canon Law, the first degree of its type at a British university since the Reformation (set up in 1991 with the support of the Ecclesiastical Law Society), led those involved in that course and others at Cardiff Law School to recognise the need for a community of scholars dedicated to the study of law and religion. The Centre was established in the summer of 1998 to promote research and its dissemination in this field.

The Centre is staffed by a director, research fellows, and associates not only from the United Kingdom but from across the globe. The research fellows, several of whom are graduates of the LLM in Canon Law, enjoy international reputations in a wide range of fields.

Centre members are engaged in research into all areas of law and religion.

Current research includes a study of religious courts and tribunals across the UK funded by the AHRC/ESRC Religion and Society Programme with an award of £79,862.

The Centre was also successful in its application to the AHRC/ ESRC for a Collaborative Research Studentship under the Religion and Society Research Programme.

The Centre has also received financial support from many bodies, including the Ecclesiastical Law Society, Nuffield Foundation, Church of England, Church in Wales, Isla Johnston Trust, Christendom Trust, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Cardiff and Welsh Assembly Government.



## Publications

A number of important publications have been written by members of the Centre, including:

- Norman Doe, *The Legal Framework of the Church of England* (Oxford, 1996)
- Norman Doe, *Canon Law in the Anglican Communion* (Oxford, 1998)
- Norman Doe, *The Law of the Church in Wales* (Cardiff, 2002)
- Norman Doe, *An Anglican Covenant* (SCM Canterbury, 2008)
- Mark Hill, *Ecclesiastical Law* (3<sup>rd</sup> edn., Oxford, 2007)
- Mark Hill, Russell Sandberg and Norman Doe, *Religion and Law in the United Kingdom* (Kluwer Law, 2011)
- Roger Ruston, *Human Rights and the Image of God* (SCM Press, 2004)
- Russell Sandberg, *Law and Religion* (Cambridge University Press, 2011)

*Law and Religion in Europe* by Norman Doe is due to be published by Oxford University Press in August 2011. He is working on *Contemporary Principles of Christian Law*, which will be published by Cambridge University Press.

The Centre also runs its own online Working Papers series.



### *Edited Books and Journals*

Professor Mark Hill QC is the editor of the *Ecclesiastical Law Journal*, while John Duddington is editor of *Law and Justice*.

Centre members have contributed to and have edited a number of edited collections including:

- Norman Doe (ed), *Essays in Canon Law* (Cardiff, 1992)
- Norman Doe, Mark Hill and Robert Ombres (eds), *English Canon Law* (Cardiff, 1998)
- Mark Hill (ed), *Religious Liberty and Human Rights* (Cardiff, 2002)
- Norman Doe and Russell Sandberg (eds) *Law and Religion: New Horizons* (Leuven, 2010)

Centre members have contributed and edited the publications of the Colloquium of Anglican and Roman Catholic Canon Lawyers and have contributed and edited the publications of the European Consortium for Church and State Research.

## Teaching

The first degree course of its type in the United Kingdom, the LLM in Canon Law provides an opportunity for postgraduate study in the canon law of the churches of the Worldwide Anglican Communion, particularly that of the Church of England, and the Roman Catholic Church and the law of the State applicable to these churches.

The degree provides academic training, but with a substantial emphasis on practical application. The degree is research-led and has attracted students of the highest quality, including secular and ecclesiastical judges, university academics, barristers, solicitors and clergy from both the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches.

The annual reunion of graduates of the LLM in Canon Law is held every September at Magdalen College, Oxford.

The undergraduate LLB module Comparative Law of Religion was introduced in 2000.

Centre members also contribute to teaching overseas. Professor Norman Doe teaches Anglican canon law on the Gratianus programme at the University of Paris, and is on the board of the summer school in law and religion at the University of Siena, at which Professor Mark Hill QC regularly contributes

The Centre has received visiting scholars from across the globe, including Italy, Spain, Germany, Poland, Korea, Sri Lanka, and the Czech Republic.



## Consultation and Training

As part of its function of providing assistance to outside bodies, the Centre has been consulted on a wide range of matters.

Professor Norman Doe and Mark Hill QC have been members of the Legal Advisory Commission of the General Synod of the Church of England.

The Centre has also organised successful training courses. In 2006, at the invitation of the Archbishop of Cape Town, and following a successful exploratory workshop there in 2002, three centre members delivered a two-week series of canon law workshops in the Anglican Province of Southern Africa, at Johannesburg, Durban, East London and Cape Town.

In 2009, Professors Norman Doe and Mark Hill QC delivered a series of workshops at the clergy conference for the United Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross of the Church of Ireland.

At the invitation of George Carey, then Archbishop of Canterbury, Professor Norman Doe delivered a paper to the Primates' Meeting of the Anglican Communion at Kanuga, North Carolina, USA, in March 2000. This proposed the existence of an Anglican *ius commune* induced from the similarities between the legal systems of the forty-four member churches of the Communion.

The Primates decided to test the hypothesis and a specially convened Anglican Communion Legal Advisers' Consultation met at Canterbury in March 2002 which agreed that there are principles of canon law common to the churches of the Communion.



The Centre produced a draft of one hundred macro-principles and six hundred micro-principles which was the subject of discussion by a Network drafting group held at Toronto in 2005 and Nassau in 2006 to finalise the draft for submission to the full Network in 2007.

October 2003 saw the appointment by the Archbishop of Canterbury of the director, and three LLM in Canon Law graduates, to the Lambeth Commission, under the chairmanship of Archbishop Robin Eames. The commission was set up at request of the Primates' Meeting to examine implications of consecration as bishop of a practising homosexual in the USA. Professor Norman Doe wrote a position paper for the commission, and, related to the suggestion for a concordat made by the director to the Primates' Meeting in 2001, a draft Anglican Covenant was included in the *Windsor Report* of the Lambeth Commission in 2004.

In 2007, at the request of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education of the Council of Europe, Frank Cranmer gave evidence to the committee on establishment of religion in the United Kingdom, and drafted a narrative section in its Report on State, Religion, Secularity and Human Rights.

## Networks

A key aspect of the work of the Centre is to bring people together to study law and religion as a means to greater ecumenical and interfaith understanding. The Centre has established three Networks which operate under its auspices: the Colloquium of Anglican and Roman Catholic Canon Lawyers, the Interfaith Legal Advisers Network and the Law and Religion Scholars Network.

### Colloquium of Anglican and Roman Catholic Canon Lawyers

This was established in Rome 1999, as an initiative of the Centre, the Pontifical University of St Thomas Aquinas, Rome (Angelicum), and Duquesne Law School, Pittsburgh, USA. The meeting is believed to have been the first of its type, and included an audience with His Holiness Pope John Paul II. The aim of the Colloquium is to contribute to greater ecumenical understanding from the perspective of canon law as a form of applied ecclesiology. It explores ways in which the respective laws of each communion either facilitate or inhibit greater visible ecclesial unity.

The membership is a mix of academics and practitioners. Roman Catholic members have included scholars from the Angelicum, Lateran, Orientale and Gregorian, and for the Anglican team, in addition to academics from Cardiff, lawyers from the Anglican Communion Office, Church of England, Church in Wales, Scottish Episcopal Church and Episcopal Church USA. The proceedings of the Colloquium are published.

### Interfaith Legal Advisers Network

The Interfaith Legal Advisers Network (ILAN) was established by the Centre in December 2007 to facilitate an ongoing discussion providing members with a greater understanding of their respective religious legal systems and the common secular legal issues they face.

### Law and Religion Scholars Network

In May 2008, the Centre launched the Law and Religion Scholars Network (LARSN), designed to bring together, for the first time, academics from across the UK interested in all dimensions of the study of law and religion. LARSN currently has over a hundred and sixty members.

The Centre for Law and Religion website hosts webpages for both ILAN and LARSN which include weblinks, details of recent publications and papers presented at meetings.

In addition, the LARSN Case Database provides a list of judgments delivered by domestic courts, the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights concerning law and religion. The list is compiled by the *Law and Justice* case note writing team, led by Frank Cranmer



For further details about the Centre, visit our website at:

<http://www.law.cf.ac.uk/clr>