# History and Systems of Relations Between State and Church

## Prof. Antonio Giuseppe Maria Chizzoniti

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to consolidate the students’ historical and legal culture through:

- knowledge of the main systems of relationship between State and religious denominations both from a theoretical point of view and from their historical evolution;

- knowledge of the history of relations between the Italian state and the Catholic Church;

- knowledge of the position of the Holy See in the international system;

- analysis of the role of religions in the national, European and international public space with a particular focus on: a) places of worship; b) religious cultural heritage; c) religious associations; d) the financing of religious confessions; e) religions and food choices; f) educational choices and freedom of teaching.

The course will also introduce students to the condition of religious denominations in the digital society. In particular some lessons will focus on:

- the dynamics related to digital religious citizenship;

- religious communication dynamics in the digital society with particular attention to the activity of the Catholic Church;

- analysis of civil and confessional rules related to the protection of religious data.

*Learning outcomes*

At the end of the course, the student will be able to:

- *Knowledge and understanding*: describe the historical development of relations between European states and religious denominations, recognize the different systems of relations between state and religions, reconstruct European policies regarding the religious factor; understand the dynamics generated by the presence of religions in the digital society;

- *Applying knowledge and understanding*: reflect critically on issues related to the presence of religion in the public space and identify possible policies for the governance of digital religious citizenship.

- *Independence of judgement and Independence of judgement*: elaborate opinions on ecclesiastical policies and expose the contents through a correct use of the technical-juridical language

***Course CONTENT***

**- Religions and States.**

Religions and civil societies. Religious freedom of individuals. Faithful-Citizen vs. Citizen-Faithful. Relations between religious and civil legal systems. The State and the Church: history and systems of relationships.

- **Law and religions with particular reference to the Catholic Church.**

The forms of organization of religions. The law of the Catholic Church. The organizational structure of the Church.

- **The traditional classification of state-church relationship systems.**

The systems of subordination or union, collaboration/coordination and separation (from their historical development to the contemporary age).

- **The history of state-church relations in Italy.**

Measures aimed to diminish the economic power of the Church and birth of the Italian state. The Roman question. Catholics and politics: from *non expedit* to the Gentiloni Pact. Fascism and the preparation of Conciliation. The Lateran Pacts. Church and fascism. The Constituent Assembly and the Constitution. Democracy and the reform of the Lateran Pacts in 1984. Agreements with other religious denominations. Religious pluralism and third millennium society: secularism of the state and collaboration with religions. Pope Francis and the new direction of the Church.

- **European Union and relations with religious denominations.**

The history and rules of the Union. The EU model of relations. The main systems of relationships in the EU. The Catholic Church and COMECE. The ECHR and the protection of religious freedom.

- **The Catholic Church and the international order**.

The Holy See and Vatican diplomacy. The Church and international organizations: UN, UNESCO, FAO. Vatican City State

- **Religions in the european public space.**

Citizenship and religious affiliation: between private and confessional autonomy. The space for worship: places of worship. Religion and identity roots: religious cultural heritage. The action of religions: subsidiarity and the Voluntary sector. The financing of religious communities, in particular of the Catholic Church. Religious freedom and food choices. The rites of passage: religious confessions vs. civil religions. Education and religious freedom.

- **Religions in the digital society.**

Religions and the web: digital religious citizenship. CyberTeology and new forms of religious organization. Religious communication in the digital society. Social media and the Catholic Church: the recent reforms of Pope Francis. The protection of religious data: GDPR and Church law.

***READING LIST***

Textbooks

M. Madonna, *Profili storici del diritto di libertà religiosa nell’Italia post-unitaria*, Libellula Edizioni, Tricase (LE), 2012, pp. 1-112.

A. Licastro, *Il diritto statale delle religioni nei paesi dell’Unione Europea*, II ed., Giuffrè, Milano, 2017, i capitoli II, III, IV, VI, VIII.

J. Schouppe, *Diritto dei rapporti tra Chiesa e comunità politica*, ESC Roma, 2018, la parte II “Profili giuridici attuali” da p. 175 a p. 380.

At the beginning of the course, the Syllabus will be made available through the Blackboard platform, complete with all the lessons and with the direction of the materials that will be used. Through the Blackboard platform will be provided specific didactic material.

The Blackboard platform will also be the main tool for all communications (timetable changes, information on tests, assignments and exams).

***TEACHING METHOD***

The lectures will be highly interactive. Study groups will be organized for the preparation of papers which will be discussed in the second part of the course. During the course Italian and foreign experts will attend (in presence or by videoconference).

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final assessment is based on an oral exam lasting 30 minutes based on three questions, with a value of 10 points each. For students who have participated in group work, one of the questions will be replaced with the valuation of the discussed paper.

During the course, optional short open-ended tests are provided through the Blackboard platform.

During the tests will be evaluated the completeness of the answers, the organizational, presentation and summary skills.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The course does not require any prerequisites with regard to the contents.

*Student reception: time and place*

Office hours are available online on the Professor’s personal page, which can be consulted on the website <http://docenti.unicatt.it/ita/antonio_giuseppe_maria_chizzoniti/>.

In any case, it is possible to request a meeting at different times via email, even on online platforms (Skype: antonio.g.chizzoniti o Ms Teams: [antonio.chizzoniti@unicatt.it](mailto:antonio.chizzoniti@unicatt.it)).