Translation of the Church Legal Texts- Theoretical and Legal Aspects

Summary

The universal law of the Church is given to all faithful in the world. In this context, the need for a translation of the law into native languages is of the essence. The article concerns itself with the process of translation of the Church law in theoretical and legal aspects.

At the beginning of the paper, the philosophical background of a translation of languages is presented. Following this the issues are presented: the authority of a lawgiver and, as a result of it, the range of binding force of that law. Later on, an attempt to define the translation in terms of jurisprudence is made. Next, the language used by a Church lawgiver is analyzed in respect of jurisprudence and linguistics. The final point presents norms on translation from the Code of Canon Law 1983.

It can be said, that the process of translation of the Church legal texts is difficult and complex. A translator must undertake the challenge to make the laws of canon law available to the Christ’s faithful.