

The canon law in the form of a code was first drafted in 1917: *Codex Iuris Canonici*. This collection of laws included, inter alia, norms concerning temporal goods. The church property law was primarily discussed in Book III (*De rebus*) in part VI (*De bonis Ecclesiae temporalibus*), which included 57 canons (1495-1551). The structure of Part VI consisted of four initial canons followed by four titles: acquisition of property, administration, contracts and pious foundations.

Property issues also included benefice and patronage norms, which could be found in part V (*De beneficiis aliisque institutis ecclesiasticis non collegialibus*) of the same Book of the Code from 1917. Some of the issues of property law were also found in other parts of the Code, e.g. in the norms concerning the monks.

Essential, however, was the already identified part VI in Book III. Its content refers to the content of the collection *Corpus Iuris Canonici*, as well as later sources of law, especially those promulgated after the Council of Trent. This relation is indicated by the list of the references to the sources that were included in the issue of *Codex Iuris Canonici* from 1917, in the extended version with source footnotes. The sources of the law issued after the Council of Trent had the decisive influence on the establishment of norms in the 1917 Code.

After the publication of the Code of 1917, the Church's property law evolved only to a small extent. Its future shape was influenced by the following legal acts and statements of the Magisterium: the responses of the Congregation of the Council (17), the Commission interpreting the Code of 1917 (3), and the papal statements (21). These documents clarified concepts, for example in reference to the social doctrine of the Church, and settled particular disputes. The past experience of the Church expressed in its norms required little interpretation and explanation. The impetus for changes in canon law was brought by another great event in the history of the Church, the Second Vatican Council.