



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM
PRO LAICIS
1147/14/AIC-69

DECREE

The *Apostolat Militaire International* was established in 1965, after a meeting of Catholics from the armed forces of ten countries, held in Santiago de Compostella (Spain). Its activities led to Holy See recognition through a letter signed by Secretary of State Cardinal Agostino Casaroli on July 23rd 1985 (Protocol No.150.280).

Currently drawing together military federations from forty countries, *Apostolat Militaire International* promotes a Christian vision of military life in the noble service of building lasting peace and justice (Statutes, art. 1), helping its member organisations to cultivate a humanitarian morality rooted in Christian ethics and conscientious service (AMI Berlin Declaration 2010, nos. 20 and 39).

The Second Vatican Council refers to the importance of associations of the Christian faithful and their participation in the life and mission of the Church (Decree on the apostolate of the laity *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, nos. 18, 19 and 21) and to the special task all military personnel have as “the agents of security and freedom of peoples” (Pastoral Constitution *Gaudium et Spes*, no. 79). Teaching since the Council has continued to underline the specific pastoral care that those serving in the armed forces deserve and require (Apostolic Constitution *Spirituali Militum Curae*, Introduction).

The Code of Canon Law of 1983 established a new juridical framework for the associations of the faithful. Consequently, the Pontifical Council for the Laity, in agreement with the Secretariat of State, asked all International Catholic Organizations to reformulate their canonical status according to the new universal legislation of the Church (Letter of February 6th, 2003) .

Consequently:

Having examined the request originally presented to the Pontifical Council for the Laity by the then AMI President, General Miguel Alonso Baquer, and furthered by past-President Brigadier General Reinhard Kloss and the current President, Major General Norbert Sinn;



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM
PRO LAICIS

Following a detailed study of the Statutes, revised by the AMI Executive Council in March 2013 and approved by the AMI General Assembly in September 2014;

In light of article 134 of the Apostolic Constitution *Pastor Bonus* on the Roman Curia and according to canon 322 of the Code of Canon Law;

The Pontifical Council for the Laity decrees:

1. The confirmation of recognition for *Apostolat Militaire International* as a private international association of the faithful, with juridical personality, in conformity with the canonical norms in force and according to canons 298-311 and 321-329 of the Code of Canon Law.

2. The approval of the Statutes, that have been appropriately modified, duly authenticated by this Dicastery and deposited in our archives.

Given in the Vatican, November 14th 2014, in the 50th year since the foundation of the *Apostolat Militaire International*.

+ Dr. Clemens

✠ Josef Clemens
Secretary

St. Card. Ryłko

Stanisław Card. Ryłko
President

