

## Agreement of 25 January 2000 on the legal status of the Evangelical Church in the Republic of Slovenia

The Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Evangelical Church in the Republic of Slovenia have agreed as follows:

### 1. Legal personality of the Evangelical Church in the Republic of Slovenia

The Evangelical Church in the Republic of Slovenia is a legal entity of private law. Legal entities of private law in the Republic of Slovenia may be also all territorial and personal church institutions that are provided such personality based on the internal legislation of the Evangelical Church. The church management shall in line with the legislation of the Republic of Slovenia report/register them to/with the competent national body. Legal entities of the Evangelical Church may in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Slovenia buy, own, exploit and dispose real estate and movable property as well as acquire or dispose title rights.

### 2. Freedom of organisation and conduct of pastoral and educational activity, and jurisdiction

The Evangelical Church in the Republic of Slovenia is under the [Constitution](#) and the legislation of the Republic of Slovenia provided the freedom of worship, religious instructions and all other activities. All extraordinary worship services and other religious gatherings - meetings - shall be reported by the Evangelical Church to the competent national body in accordance with the relevant law.

### 3. Freedom of forming church structures and appointing persons in charge of them

The Evangelical Church shall be solely competent for the formation, alteration and cancellation of its individual structures. The competent bodies of the Evangelical Church shall in line with their Constitution and Articles of Association set up church services and appoint persons in charge of them.

### 4. Freedom of establishing and maintaining contacts

The Evangelical Church in the Republic of Slovenia and all its legal entities may freely establish and maintain contacts as well as co-operate with church and other institutions, organisations and persons, either in the Republic of Slovenia or elsewhere in the world.

### 5. Freedom of access to public media and establishment of own media

The Evangelical Church shall have equal freedom, conditions and rights to establish public media as other legal entities in the Republic of Slovenia. The Evangelical Church shall have equal possibility of access to national and other public media as other legal entities.

## 6. Freedom of creating church associations

Legal entities of the Evangelical Church may in line with the legislation of the Republic of Slovenia create associations. Pursuant to the legislation of the Republic of Slovenia, religious believers may freely create their own associations with the purposes and goals related to the activities of the Evangelical Church, and may freely and publicly operate within them. Legal entities of the Evangelical Church may establish foundations, set up and functioning in line with the legislation of the Republic of Slovenia.

## 7. Freedom of establishing educational institutions

Pursuant to the legislation of the Republic of Slovenia, the Evangelical Church is entitled to establish educational institutions, secondary school and university students' halls of residence and other similar institutions, and in them freely implement educational activities according to its Articles of Association. The State shall support these institutions under equal conditions as other similar private institutions. The status of secondary school and university students and pupils of these institutions is equal to that of secondary school and university students and pupils of other public institutions.

## 8. Preserving historical and cultural heritage

The competent national and church bodies shall co-operate to preserve and maintain cultural monuments and other cultural property and archives, owned by the Church or the State, related to the Evangelical Church.

## 9. Pastoral activities in hospitals, nursing homes and special institutions

The Republic of Slovenia provides for comprehensive observance of the religious freedom of individuals in hospitals, health resorts, prisons, military barracks and other institutions where the movement of the persons present is limited or prevented.

In these institutions the Evangelical Church may provide pastoral work according to the sectoral legislation.

## 10. Equation of Church charity organisations with other charity organisations

Source: <http://www.legirel.cnrs.fr>

Charity and other social church institutions and organisations engaged in charity work and social solidarity, organised in line with the Slovenian legislation, shall be in terms of relief, assistance and other incentive measures equal to other similar institutions in the country.

Geza Erniša,  
Senior Pastor of the Evangelical Church in the Republic of Slovenia  
Jožef Školc,  
Chairman of the Joint Committee of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and  
the Evangelical Church in the Republic of Slovenia

Made this 25th day of January 2000 in Ljubljana.

*(Translation : Government of the Republic of Slovenia, Office for Religious Communities)*