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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Case No. F-2019-02341

NSA Case No: 100843 (R-1)

John Greenewald

**MAY 23 2019**

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

I refer to your February 19, 2017 request to the National Security Agency for the release of certain material under the Freedom of Information Act (Title 5 USC Section 552). Of the relevant documents retrieved in response to your request, two were considered to be of primary interest to the Department of State and were referred to us for appropriate action.

After careful review, we have determined that both may be released in part. Information was exempt from release pursuant to the following exemptions:

- 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(1), which protects information that is properly classified in the interest of national security pursuant to Executive Order 13526.
- 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3), which concerns material specifically exempted from release by statute; specifically, Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S.C. 3605).
- 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), which concerns material the release of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of an individual's personal privacy.

For further assistance or to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact our FOIA Requester Service Center or our FOIA Public Liaison via email to [FOIAstatus@state.gov](mailto:FOIAstatus@state.gov) or telephone at (202) 261-8484.

If you are not satisfied with DOS's determination in response to your FOIA request, you may administratively appeal by writing to: Appeals Officer, Appeals Review Panel, Office of Information Programs and Services, U.S. Department of State, SA-2, 515 22<sup>nd</sup> Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20522-

8100, or faxed to (202) 261-8571. Appeals must be postmarked within 90 calendar days of this decision letter and must include a copy of this letter with your written appeal, clearly stating why you disagree with the determinations set forth in this response.

Additionally, if you are not satisfied with DOS's determination in response to your request, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA Mediation Services they offer. The contact information is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, email address: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone: (202) 741-5770; toll free number: 1-877-684-6448; fax: (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Stein", with a stylized flourish at the end.

*fo* Eric Stein, Director  
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures:  
As stated.

RELEASE IN PART B6,B3

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Doc ID: 6560994

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# (U) Category: Vatican City

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(U) This is the category page for Vatican City. For the main country page, please go to Vatican City.

## Subcategories

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V

- [x] Vatican (0 Categories, 1 Pages, 1 Files)
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## Pages in category "Vatican City"

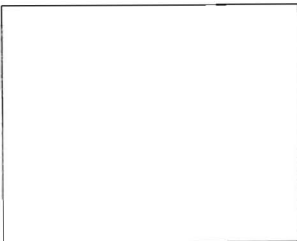
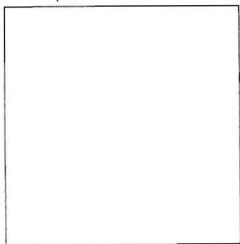
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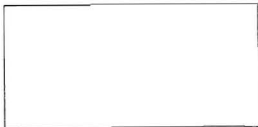
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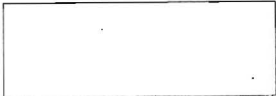
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- Pope Benedict XVI US Visit



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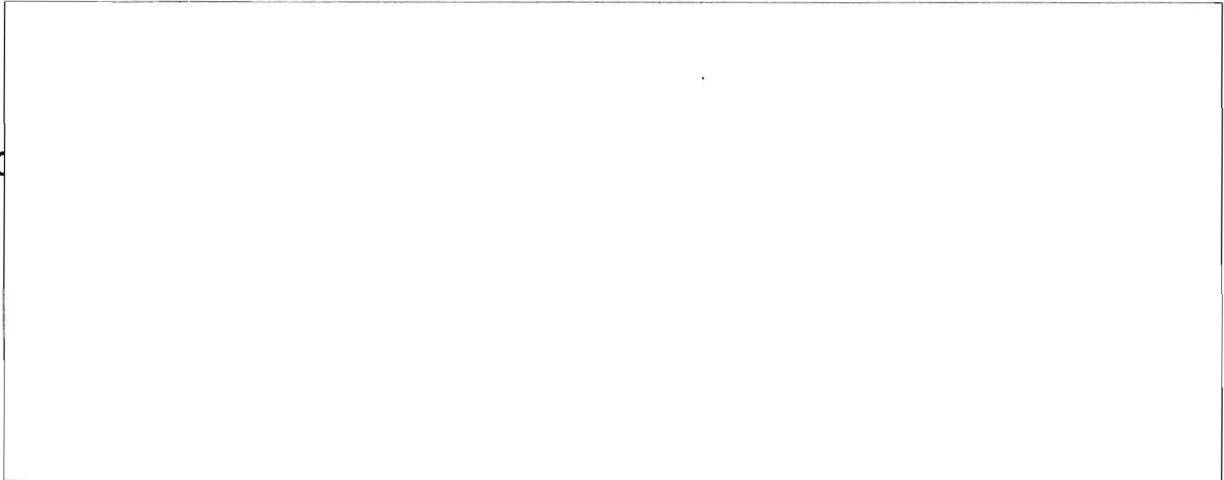
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## Media in category "Vatican City"

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Holysee-arms.png  
173,332 bytes

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# (U) Vatican City

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(U) **Vatican City** — formally **State of the Vatican City**, or **Vatican City State** (Italian: *Stato della Città del Vaticano*, Latin: *Status Civitatis Vaticanae*) — is a tiny sovereign state whose territory consists of a landlocked enclave within the city of Rome, Italy. The entire state is about 0.44 square kilometers (108.7 acres) and thus is a European microstate. Since it is governed by the Bishop of Rome (the Pope), its government can be described as ecclesiastical and the highest state functionaries are in fact clergymen. It is the smallest independent nation state in the world in terms of area and population (that is, if that of the Knights of Malta is not counted as a country). It is the sovereign territory of the Holy See (Latin: *Sancta Sedes*) and the location of the Apostolic Palace—the Pope's official residence—and the Roman Curia. Thus, although the principal ecclesiastical seat of the Holy See (Basilica of St. John Lateran) is located in Rome itself, the Vatican City can be said to be the governmental capital of the Roman Catholic Church of both East and West. The Vatican is incorporated into the United States European Command area of responsibility.

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## Papal Transition - Candidates for a Future Papacy. APRIL 2011

(SBU) Pope Benedict XVI will turn 84 on April 16. While he appears relatively robust and in good health for his age, and his older brother is still hale and visits the Pope regularly, the Vatican is now incorporating small changes into Benedict's events and schedules to ensure he is not overtaxed. For example, midnight mass on Christmas Eve 2010 actually began at 10:00 p.m. to end – rather than begin, as is traditional – at 12:00 p.m. Pope Benedict XVI is healthy and strong for a man turning 84, but upon his death, the College of Cardinals will have to elect his successor.<sup>[1]</sup>

(SBU) The College of Cardinals will likely use certain criteria in making its determination. First, given the reluctance of the universal Catholic Church leadership to repose too much power in any one country, it is unlikely that an American Cardinal will win much support for the position. Second, Cardinals from Africa, Asia, Oceania and Cuba probably will also not make the list of most viable contenders. They

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come from "missionary" churches and, in the eyes of many Cardinals from the developed Western world, lack ecclesiastical gravitas. Third, Germans and Poles are also likely to be out of the running as electors will want to "spread the love" after the papacies of John Paul II and Benedict XVI. Finally, some Vatican insiders believe an Italian is more likely to prevail at the next Conclave because of the preponderance of Italian Cardinal electors, and because the powerful Italians in the Curia think it is time they had another "turn."

### **Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga**

(SBU) Rodriguez Maradiaga is the current Archbishop of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and head of the Honduran Bishops' Conference. Born December 29, 1942 in Tegucigalpa, he joined the Salesian Order in 1961 and has three doctoral degrees: philosophy (from El Salvador), theology, and moral theology (from papal universities in Rome). The fact that he comes from Latin America but is Roman-trained could be a plus for Rodriguez Maradiaga in a future Conclave. His urbane style coupled with his theological conservatism may also be appealing to his fellow Cardinals. Nonetheless, Rodriguez Maradiaga's prospects may have taken a hit in the recent struggle over who will be the next secretary General of Caritas Internationalis, the humanitarian assistance arm of the Church, run by the Cardinal (see ref i and j). Rodriguez Maradiaga's full bio is at ref b.

### **Odilo Pedro Scherer**

(SBU) Scherer is currently the Archbishop of Sao Paulo, Brazil. After attending minor and major seminaries in Brazil, Scherer studied at the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná and then at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome – from which he obtained his Doctorate in Theology in 1991. As with Rodriguez Maradiaga, the fact that Scherer comes from Latin America but is Roman-trained and worked in a Curia office could be a plus for him in a future Conclave. He is familiar with Vatican culture, while at the same time based in the "real world" of a large diocese. Scherer's full bio is at ref c.

### **Angelo Scola**

(SBU) Angelo Scola, the current Patriarch of Venice, Italy, was considered a front runner for Pope at the 2005 Conclave and remains a contender. Born in 1941 in Northern Italy, he obtained a degree in philosophy from the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Milan, and a doctoral degree in theology from Switzerland's Fribourg University. While he has played a less prominent role in the Benedict XVI papacy than he did under Pope John Paul II, Scola remains a "papabile" because of his enormous intellectual capacity, his winning personality, and his international profile – particularly in the Middle East. Given the ever-growing focus of the Catholic Church on cultural, theological and political relations with the Islamic world, someone like Scola may appeal to the Cardinal Electors. Scola's full bio is at ref f.

### **Leonardo Sandri**

(SBU) Argentine-born Cardinal Leonardo Sandi is the Prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches. He was born in Buenos Aires in 1943. He studied at Buenos Aires' Metropolitan Seminary, and earned a licentiate (Masters) in theology from the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina. He is considered a

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strong manager and has excellent communication and pastoral skills. Sandri may be a good candidate for those who want a Latin American as the next Pope, but who also has the ability to manage the unwieldy Vatican bureaucracy--a challenging task for every new Pope. Sandri's full bio is at ref d.

### **Marc Ouellet**

(SBU) Marc Ouellet was born June 8, 1944 in La Motte, Quebec, Canada. He attended minor seminary courses as a young man, studying philosophy before earning a Bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Laval in 1964. Ouellet entered Montreal's Major Seminary in 1964 and gained a Licentiate in Theology four years later. He appeals as a candidate for the next papacy because of his vast experience in clergy education and his service in the Vatican curia. Ouellet might draw the votes of American and Latin American Cardinals because he originates from their continent, but more importantly, he understands it. Many Cardinal Electors will also be drawn by Ouellet's staunch anti-abortion stance and conservative views. Ouellet's full bio is at ref e.

### **Peter Turkson**

(SBU) Cardinal Peter Turkson was born in Wassaw Nsuta in Western Ghana. He studied at the seminaries of Amisano and Pedu before attending St. Anthony-on-Hudson Seminary in Rensselaer, New York, where he obtained a Bachelor's degree in theology. Turkson is the first Ghanaian cardinal, and served as a Cardinal Elector in the 2005 papal conclave. Known as "one of Africa's most energetic church leaders," Turkson seems to have the ear of the Pope. While it remains unlikely that an African could be elected Pope at the next Conclave, experience has shown that those considered outsider cannot always be completely discounted. Turkson's full bio is at ref k.

### **Christoph Schönborn**

(SBU) Schönborn is Archbishop of Vienna, Austria. Born on January 22, 1945 in Salsko in the former Czechoslovakia, his family fled to Austria later that year. Schönborn joined the Dominican Order in 1963, and studied theology at prestigious Catholic and State-run universities in Germany and France, including Paris' Institute Catholique and the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes at the Sorbonne where he studied Slavic and Byzantine Christianity. He holds a Doctorate of Theology. Schönborn is considered theologically robust yet pastorally sensitive. Schönborn has spoken of the difficulty for the Church in finding a middle road between its formal teachings on marriage and the family on one hand, and human "weakness" and difficulties on the other. Schönborn might appeal more to Cardinals based in dioceses rather than the generally more conservative Roman Curia officials (and retirees). However, Schönborn's star may have diminished somewhat among supporters of former Cardinal Secretary of State and current Dean of the College of Cardinals, Angelo Sodano, after the Viennese archbishop's scathing public criticism of the way Sodano managed allegations of historic sexual abuse by prominent clergymen. Schönborn's full bio is at ref g.

### **Gianfranco Ravasi**

(SBU) Gianfranco Ravasi is the current President of the Pontifical Council for Culture (essentially the Vatican's department for dealing with non-believers and the intellectual world). Ravasi's first love was

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the study of classical languages, but he eventually entered the seminary in Milan and was ordained a priest in 1966. Following his ordination, Ravasi studied in Rome at the Pontifical Gregorian University and at the Pontifical Biblical Institute. Ravasi is a strong candidate due to his current position in the Vatican, the confidence Pope Benedict reposes in him, and his Italian nationality. Given Pope Benedict's current push to re-Christianize the Western world, Ravasi may seem like an obvious successor to many electors who may wish to continue the emphasis on one of Benedict's central themes. Ravasi's full bio is at ref h.

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### High Price for Victims and Church

(SBU) According to a report commissioned by U.S. bishops, between 1950 and 2002, there is substantiated evidence that 4,392 priests in the United States sexually abused a minor under 18 (mostly teens). They had multiple victims: as many as 10,000, by some estimates. In Dublin alone, the Murphy report (ref d) documented abuse by at least 172 abusive priests between 1975 and 2002, many also with multiple victims. Over 500 cases have been reported in Austria since the start of the year; some 2,700 people called the German bishops' hotline in a 3-day period this year; and a hotline for reporting clerical sex abuse in the Netherlands got 1,100 calls since early March. The present crisis probably will encourage more victims (and some false accusers) to report their abuse. It is reasonable to estimate that the victims worldwide number in the tens or hundreds of thousands worldwide. Damage to these victims is incalculable.

(SBU) Disgust over the scandal is creating a crisis of faith for many still inside the Church. German Catholics reportedly are leaving the Church in droves as confidence in Church leadership has been severely sapped by the scandal, according to a recent survey by Stern magazine. Only 34% of the Catholics surveyed said they trust the Church and 39% now trust the Pope; in January, 56% of Catholics surveyed in Germany trusted the Church and 62% trusted the Pope. Figures in Austria are similar: last year 53,000 Catholics left the Church -- and that was before the abuse scandal erupted in force. (Interestingly, Italians are not defecting from the Church in the same numbers, which could help to explain why the Italian-dominated Curia fails to grasp the gravity of the situation.)

(U) The defections throughout much of Europe related to the scandal, meanwhile, are coming on top of those caused by Europe's growing secularization. Forty years ago, by some estimates, 75% of Western Europeans attended Catholic services regularly. Today, attendance has dropped to 15% to 20%, depending on the country. Financially, affected Catholic dioceses will incur very high costs in gathering the information, providing care to victims, defending themselves from lawsuits, and making pay-outs to victims. In the U.S. alone, (where juries admittedly award higher damages than in Europe), the cost of the sex abuse crisis is estimated between 2.6-3.00 billion dollars.

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(SBU) At the same time, we should not rush to judgment. Many of the abuse allegations are sadly true, but some will undoubtedly prove false. In addition, it's critical that U.S. officials, and governments and people everywhere for that matter, not assume that all priests everywhere are pedophiles or guilty of protecting pedophiles. The vast majority of Catholic priests, religious sisters, and other ordained persons are people who make real, life-long sacrifices in order to serve others.

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## **Pope Acts To Restore Trust in the Still-Growing Church. APRIL 2010**

(U) According to recently published Catholic Church statistics, there were 1.16 billion baptized Catholics in the world in 2008 - an increase of 11.5 percent since 2000. Most growth occurred in the developing world. Gathered before the latest sex abuse scandals, however, the statistics fail to measure how the sex abuse crisis may be affecting the number of faithful and their trust in the Church hierarchy. To regain that trust, the Pope is taking steps beyond those reported in ref a, and has begun to accept the resignations of bishops who committed or concealed abuses. The Pope also may deliver a public apology in June for clerical sex abuse, and is rumored to be bringing in a highly-regarded Australian Cardinal to lead the selection process for new bishops. Because the Church's new statistics measure the number of baptized Catholics and not mass attendance, they also fail to grasp how much ground the Church has lost in Europe due to secularization. To support and promote the Church in European and other highly secular countries, the Pope is creating a new Vatican department. <sup>[3]</sup>

### **Church Growth Outpaces Population Growth**

(U) On April 27, the Vatican Publishing House released the latest Statistical Yearbook of the Church, which covers demographic information about the Catholic Church during the 2000-2008 period. According to this report, the Church grew by 11.5 percent overall between 2000 and 2008. This growth outpaced world population growth, which stood at 9.8 per cent for the same period (using U.S. Census Bureau International Database statistics). The biggest gains were in Africa with a 33 percent increase while in Asia they increased by 15.61 percent, in Oceania by 11.39 percent, and in the Americas by 10.93 percent. Interestingly, even in Europe, where Pope Benedict laments the replacement of faith by secularism, the Church reportedly grew by just over 1 percent. The number of bishops worldwide went up from 4,541 in 2000 to 5,002 in 2008, an increase of 10.15 percent. There was also a small increase in the number of priests - mostly in Africa and Asia, while in Europe and Oceania the number of priests actually decreased. Worldwide, the number of monks and nuns decreased from 55,057 in the year 2000 to 54,641 in 2008, as the number of deaths was higher than that of new entrants.

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**Context and Caveats for the Growth Figures**

(U) It is essential to place these impressive growth statistics into the proper context. First, they may be somewhat distorted because they measure the number of people baptized into the Catholic Church, rather than regular mass attendance. Second, the figures were compiled before the latest round of sex abuse scandals hit the Church, and anecdotal evidence suggest that the crisis is driving people in some areas to leave the Church. Even before the recent clerical sex abuse scandals, church attendance was at historical lows in Europe, according to Gallup Poll data. Fewer than 20 per cent of Spaniards attend mass regularly, down from more than 30 percent in the 1980s. In Germany, fewer than 14 per cent of Catholics attend church regularly, compared with 29 per cent three decades ago. In Italy, where 95 percent of the population considers itself Catholic, church attendance has fallen to less than 30 percent, according to figures compiled by a popular Italian Catholic magazine. In France, where 65 percent of the population considers itself Catholic, less than 10 percent say they go to church on Sunday, according to a Georgetown University study. And in Ireland, where 90 percent of the population is nominally Catholic, less than 50 percent attend Mass even once a month, according to church officials' estimates, although 91 percent of the country did so regularly just 30 years ago.

**Regaining Trust of the Faithful in the Wake of Abuse Crisis**

(SBU) Church leaders understand that trust in the Church hierarchy can influence how a baptized Catholic practices his or her faith. In response, the Pope and the Church hierarchy have now taken or are planning a series of actions to regain the trust of Catholics. The Pope has -- since the start of the year -- accepted the resignation of six bishops involved in sexual or physical abuse, or the cover-up of abuses. Three were let go in Ireland, and Belgium, Norway, and Germany each had a local bishop resign (or be asked to resign). These numbers are historically unprecedented, and more are expected in the short- to medium- term.

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(SBU) Finally, and perhaps most significantly, the Pope appears to be planning to make a general apology for the abuse of children and minors by Roman Catholic priests at a major public event. He is scheduled to meet thousands of clergymen from around the world from June 9 to 11, during a previously scheduled public ceremony to support vocations. According to articles published in Italian and U.K. newspapers, the Pope plans to deliver his apology during this gathering. Vatican sources say the apology could be ground-breaking -- similar to those of Pope John Paul II for historic Church anti-Semitism and for misdeeds during the crusades. Victims have long called for precisely such an admission of guilt by the Pope. If the event is handled well, the Pope's apology at a major public event, surrounded by priests, would have undeniable public relations benefits.

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**... And Responding to Secularization in Europe**

(U) Even before the abuse crisis hit, Pope Benedict had been particularly concerned with the erosion of Catholic values in a highly secularized Europe. He has raised this concern from the beginning of his pontificate, and is now also taking concrete steps to maintain and strengthen the Catholic faith in places where he thinks it is at risk. According to one informed journalist, the Pope will announce sometime soon the creation of a new Vatican Department charged with reenergizing the Church in Europe and the American continent. Archbishop Rino Fisichella, the current President of the Pontifical Academy for Life (the Vatican think tank on abortion, euthanasia and bioethics) will leave his current post to become head of the new department.

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**Crisis Just Keeps Growing**

(SBU) Since the transmission of Ref A, which reported on clerical sexual abuse claims in Ireland, Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Switzerland, Spain, and Brazil (and noted prior crises in the U.S., Canada, and Australia) new allegations have emerged in Italy, Poland, Chile, India, and Mexico, among others. The resignation last year of a bishop in Norway, at the time presumed to be because of mismanagement, turns out to have been because the bishop had abused an underage boy. The problem for the Church is now global.

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(C) Meanwhile, the Pope's letter to the victims and their families in Ireland, one of the worst-hit areas, appeased some with its contrite and sincere tone. "You have suffered grievously and I am truly sorry," he wrote, "Nothing can undo the wrong you have endured." If the media commentary is any indication of the broader reaction, however, more people were angered by the Pope's failure in that letter to announce concrete actions to punish those responsible for the cover-up.

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### **Holy See Officials Get Emotional Defending Pope**

(SBU) Officials at the Vatican have reacted emotionally, and in the view of many, injudiciously, to what they perceive as unfair media attacks on the Pope. At the Good Friday service, the preacher of the Papal household said a Jewish friend of his had compared the recent "persecution" of the Church with the persecution of Jews worldwide. The comments outraged Jews and non-Jews alike. And two days later, in an unscripted pep talk in front of millions of television viewers during the Easter Sunday mass, the dean of the College of Cardinals, Angelo Sodano, publicly urged the Pope not to allow all the "petty gossip" to get him down. Meanwhile, senior Vatican officials like Cardinal Levada, the new CDF head, and Vatican Spokesman Father Lombardi, have publicly blamed the media for what they call unjustified and unsubstantiated attacks on the Pope.

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(SBU) A situation that developed over decades cannot be solved overnight, our interlocutor emphasized, but the Holy See -- at the direction of the Pope -- is working hard to address the crisis. Some measures were put in place by then-Cardinal Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict) after 2001, when he realized the

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extent of the problem. They include far stricter psychological profiling for seminarians to prevent abusers from becoming priests. Abusive priests can no longer be transferred between dioceses without informing the receiving bishop of the accusations, so the priest can be monitored, and they cannot be transferred between countries without the express approval of the Holy See itself.

(SBU) The full implementation of these changes worldwide, and their results, will take years to be felt. In jurisdictions where the reforms have been implemented comprehensively, like the United States, our interlocutor said they are working: with 40,000 active priests in the U.S., there were only six credible accusations of abuse in 2009, way down from previous years. (Note: The vast majority of accusations being made now cover abuse that pre-dated the future Pope's imposition of the above reforms.)

### Helping Victims, Dealing with Past and Preventing Future Abusers

[redacted] said the Holy See is not relying just on the past reforms to manage the crisis. Under the direction of the Pope, the Vatican is taking steps to show concern for victims and address past abuses: 1.4(B), 1.4(D), B1

-- The Vatican is organizing a Rome meeting for victims with the Pope, and is contemplating meetings with victims on the Pope's forthcoming trips to Malta, Cyprus, and the UK.

-- The Pope has instituted a "zero tolerance" report and is immediately ordering the removal of any bishop known to have himself abused children; a Norwegian bishop so accused was recently removed. (refel C)

-- The Pope has ordered an investigation of the abuses in Ireland and on the basis of its results, will likely accept the offers to resign of some Irish bishops.

(C) Further steps are intended to prevent future abuse:

-- The Holy See on April 9 issued a written policy for bishops worldwide to follow when dealing with abuse accusations. The policy, for the first time, states that bishops must report abuses to civil authorities according to the laws of their country. (A copy of the policy and of other Vatican statements on this crisis may be found on Embassy Vatican's diplopedia page: [http://diplopedia.stet.gov/index.php?title=2010\\_Clergy\\_Sexual\\_Abuse\\_Statements\\_and\\_Information](http://diplopedia.stet.gov/index.php?title=2010_Clergy_Sexual_Abuse_Statements_and_Information))

-- Holy See officials are organizing a forum of experts to advise Church leaders on the causes, effects, and means to prevent pedophilia.

-- Similarly, the Vatican is preparing a handbook with a directory of services for bishops worldwide on how to manage cases.

[redacted]

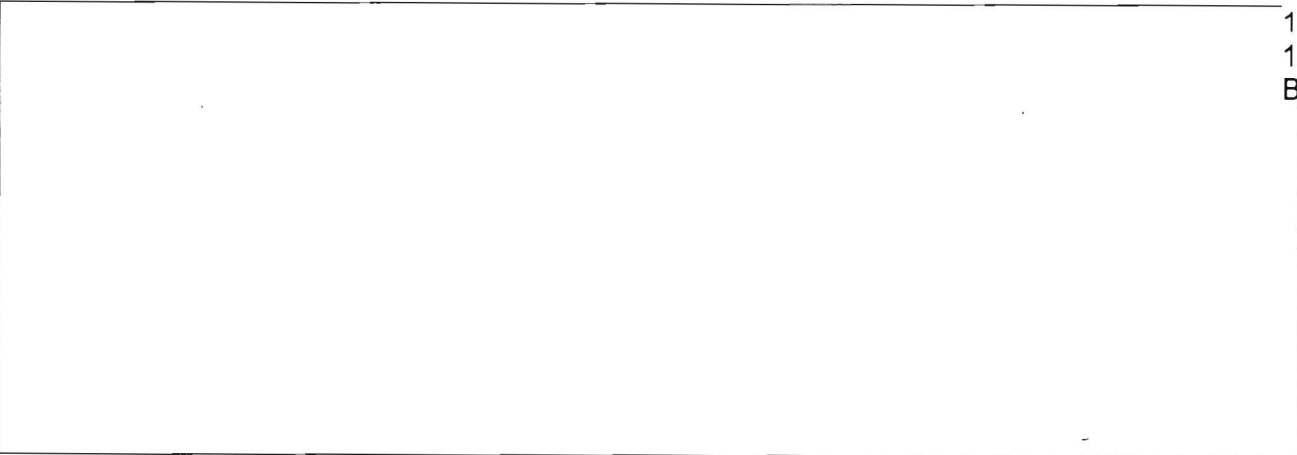
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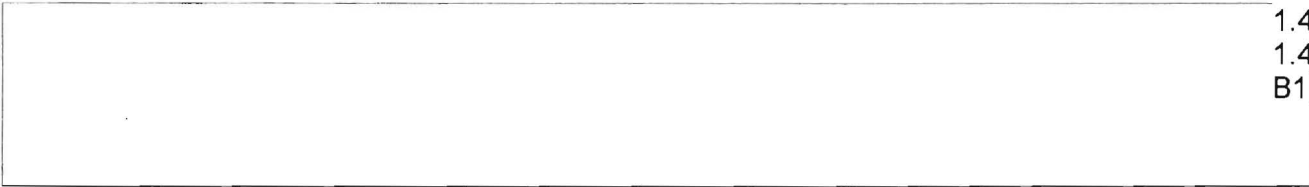
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**Comment: More Steps the Holy See Probably Won't Take**

(SBU) Beyond the red lines drawn by our interlocutor and other Vatican officials, Embassy Vatican believes there are other steps which are deeply unlikely, at least in the short to medium term. It is highly unlikely the Pope will lift the rule for celibacy in the priesthood, for several reasons. First, there is no evidence that celibacy contributed to abuse of minors. Second, Church leaders believe that celibate priests are able to focus more attention on their pastoral duties without the distraction of a family. Moreover, celibacy vows have long been a tradition in the Roman Catholic Church, and they save the Church money since unmarried men need lower salaries than those who support families (Note: Eastern Rite Catholic priests can marry, but bishops cannot. End note.)

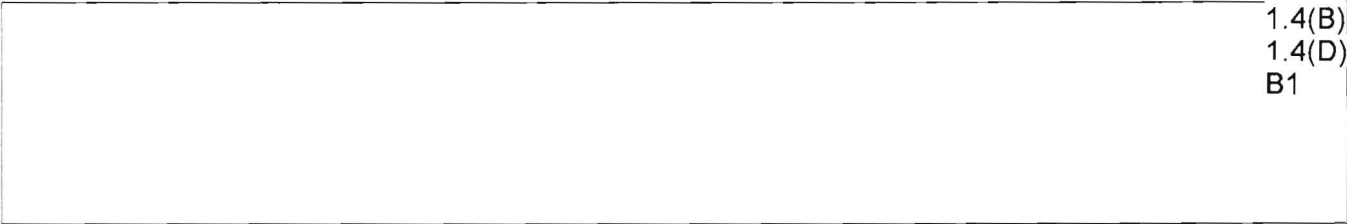


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(SBU) The Pope will not be drawn into a discussion of the issue with the media, despite the voracious appetite for interviews and comments. (Ambassador Diaz and DCM are also declining interview requests from the likes of Sixty Minutes, Good Morning America, and Larry King.)



1.4(B)  
1.4(D)  
B1



1.4(B)  
1.4(D)  
B1



B3

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1.4(B)  
1.4(D)  
B1**Origin of a Scandal: Horrific and Endemic**

(U) The Irish scandal broke in the 1990s, following a series of criminal cases and Irish government enquiries that established that hundreds of lay persons and priests had abused thousands of children in Ireland for decades. In 1999, Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern announced a program to respond to the abuse, including a compensation scheme into which the government and various religious orders made contributions. In announcing this program, Ahern was the first Irish official to apologize to the victims. He also launched a study into abuse at Irish institutions run by religious orders but overseen and funded by Ireland's Department of Education. After nine years of investigation, the Ryan Commission issued a report in May 2009 that detailed horrific abuses, including 325 alleged cases of abuse by priests, and concluded they were "endemic." With the crisis unfolding, Irish Catholics and Irish investigators turned to Rome for additional answers.

**Political Reaction: Inquiries Offend Vatican and Irish Public**

(SBU) After release of the Ryan report, the Irish Government ordered an investigation of the Ryan Commission's allegations against priests in the Archdiocese of Dublin, to be conducted by the independent Murphy Commission. Sidestepping diplomatic channels, the Murphy Commission sent a letter requesting further information to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF), which follows issues relating to clerical misconduct and crimes. The Commission also asked the Vatican Nuncio in Ireland to answer questions. (Judge Murphy argued that the body did not have to follow normal inter-state procedures in making its requests because the independent commission was not part of the Irish government.)

1.4(B)  
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1.4(B)  
1.4(D)  
B1**Pastoral Reaction: Meetings with Clerics and Messages to Catholics**

(C) Meanwhile, the normally cautious Vatican moved with uncharacteristic speed to address the internal Church crisis. The Pope convoked a meeting with senior Irish clerical leaders on December 11, 2009. Irish Cardinal Sean Brady and Archbishop of Dublin Diarmuid Martin came to Rome and met with the Pontiff, who was flanked by Cardinal Bertone (the Vatican Prime Minister equivalent), and four other Cardinals whose duties include oversight over some aspect of the Irish situation. At the end of the meeting, the Vatican issued a statement saying that the Pope shared the "outrage, betrayal, and shame" of Irish Catholics over the deliberations, that he was praying for the victims, and that the Church would take steps to prevent recurrences. Archbishop Martin told reporters afterwards that he expected a major shake-up of the Church in Ireland.

(SBU) The Vatican's next move was to call a broader, two-day meeting with Irish bishops, February 15-16, to discuss the crisis. There, the Pope urged the bishops to address the sexual abuse with resolve and courage, to prevent any recurrences, and to bring healing to the victims. Meeting participants examined and discussed a draft of the "Pastoral Letter of the Holy Father to the Catholics of Ireland" that the Pope will issue by the end of March. A later Vatican statement said the abuses in Ireland were a "heinous crime and also a grave sin."

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(U) At a press conference on February 16, Vatican spokesman Lombardi said the meeting was aimed at dialogue and direction-setting, and was not intended to produce specific policy decisions. The statement quoted the bishops' assurances that "significant measures have now been taken to ensure the safety of children and young people." The full text is available at [http://212.77.1.245/news/services/bulletin/news/25154.php?index=25154&po date=16.02.2010&lang=en](http://212.77.1.245/news/services/bulletin/news/25154.php?index=25154&po%20date=16.02.2010&lang=en)

1.4(B)  
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## AMIDST CONTROVERSY, ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY MEETS POPE, NOVEMBER 2009

1.4(B)  
1.4(D)  
B1

### Official and Public Statements Focus on Positive

(SBU) The Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, met with Pope Benedict XVI on November 21. The meeting was planned before the Vatican released its new apostolic constitution that facilitates the conversion of Anglicans to Catholicism. Described as "cordial" by Vatican officials in an official statement, the Holy See said "The discussions also focused on recent events affecting relations between the Catholic Church and the Anglican Communion, reiterating the shared will to continue and to consolidate the ecumenical relationship between Catholics and Anglicans." Notwithstanding this upbeat Vatican characterization of the meeting, Williams used it to draw clear lines between Anglican and Catholic core beliefs. He presented the Pope with a copy of a lecture he delivered in Rome on November 19, in which he challenged the Vatican's position on the ordination of women, the authority of the papacy, and the role and relation of local churches to a centralized governing structure.

(U) Speaking with Vatican Radio shortly after the meeting, Williams stressed his prior good relations with the Pope and downplayed the importance of the Vatican's new procedure for receiving Anglicans into the Catholic Church. However, he did express misgivings about how the new procedure was announced. In order to prevent negative fall-out during the Pope's planned 2010 state visit to England, Williams recommended in the interview that the Pope tread carefully while in England when discussing the late Cardinal Henry Newman (1801-1890). (Note: Newman, a convert from Anglicanism to Catholicism, may be recognized as a "blessed" model for Catholics -- beatified -- during the Pope's visit.) Williams said he had asked the Pope to speak about Newman as a great British intellectual, and not just as a convert.

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1. ↑ Papal Transition - Candidates for a Future Papacy
2. ↑ (S) Holy See's Biggest Crisis in a Century: Roots, Repercussions, and Response
3. ↑ Pope Acts To Restore Trust in the Still-Growing Church. APRIL 2010
4. ↑ Sex Abuse: The Holy See's Growing Public Affairs Nightmare. APRIL 2010

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5. ↑ How the Holy See is Tackling Sex Abuse Internally. APRIL 2010

6.

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8. ↑ Islam: The Pope, Just War, and Utopian Dreams

9. ↑ Holy See: The Foreign Policy Legacies of John Paul II

1.4(B)

1.4(D)

B1

## Links

### Countries and territories of Europe

Albania | Andorra | Armenia<sup>2</sup> | Austria | Azerbaijan<sup>1</sup> | Belarus | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Bulgaria | Croatia | Cyprus<sup>2</sup> | Czech Republic | Denmark | Estonia | Finland | France | Georgia<sup>1</sup> | Germany | Greece | Hungary | Iceland | Republic of Ireland | Italy | Kazakhstan<sup>1</sup> | Latvia | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Republic of Macedonia | Malta | Republic of Moldova | Monaco | Netherlands | Norway | Poland | Portugal | Romania | Russia<sup>1</sup> | San Marino | Serbia and Montenegro | Slovakia | Slovenia | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | Turkey<sup>1</sup> | Ukraine | United Kingdom | **Vatican City**

**Other territories:** Akrotiri and Dhekelia<sup>2</sup> | Faroe Islands | Gibraltar | Guernsey | Jan Mayen | Jersey | Isle of Man | Svalbard

**Unrecognised countries:** Abkhazia | Nagorno-Karabakh<sup>2</sup> | South Ossetia | Transnistria | Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus<sup>2</sup>

Geographical notes: (1) Partly in Asia; (2) Entirely in Asia but having sociopolitical connections with Europe.

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