

# CANONICAL STATUS OF THE *SUI IURIS* MISSION ON THE EXAMPLE MISSION IN UZBEKISTAN

## SUMMARY

The aim of this article is to explain the canonical status of the *sui iuris* mission. The Code of Canon Law of 1983 does not make reference to this original but independent Church territorial base of a temporary nature, which is a preliminary stage of an existence of the particular Church in areas, where the number of Catholics is not large, and political situation of the area is uncertain. As an example for the presentation of the functioning of this Church structure, *sui iuris* mission in Uzbekistan has been presented, which existed in 1997-2000, and next has been promoted to the rank of an apostolic administration.

**Key words:** the structure of the Church, *sui iuris* mission, apostolic prefecture, Uzbekistan, canonical tradition