

Article 150 [Theological Universities and Faculties]

- (1) The churches shall be entitled to provide education and further education for their clerics in their own ecclesiastical universities.
- (2) The theological faculties in universities shall remain.

Conclusion and Transitional Provisions

Article 182 [Continued Validity of State Treaties]

Previously concluded treaties, in particular the treaty with the Christian churches of 24 January, 1924 shall remain in force.

2. Constitution of the Land of Brandenburg

of 20 August 1992 (Law and Ordinance Gazette [GVBl.] of Brandenburg Part I p. 298), last amended by Act of 7 April 1999 (GVBl. Bbg. I p. 98)

First Main Part: Basic Provisions

Article 2 [Principles of the Constitution]

- (1) Brandenburg is a free, democratic Land based on the rule of law, social welfare, peace and justice, the protection of the natural environment and culture, which strives towards cooperation with other peoples, and with its Polish neighbour in particular.
- (...)

Second Main Part: Basic Rights and State Aims

Article 12 [Equality]

(...)

- (2) No one may be placed at an advantage or disadvantage because of his/her race, origin, nationality, language, gender, sexual identity, social origin or position, disability, religious, ideological or political conviction.

Article 13 [Freedom of Conscience, Faith and Confession]

- (1) Freedom of conscience, of faith, and the freedom of religious and ideological confession shall be inviolable; their undisturbed exercise shall be guaranteed.
- (2) No one shall be obliged to disclose his/her religious or ideological conviction. The authorities shall only have the right to enquire as to affiliation to a religious community where rights and duties depend thereon.
- (3) No one may be forced to participate in a religious or ideological act or to use a religious form of oath.

(4) If a citizen is unable to carry out civic duties because they conflict with his/her conscience, the Land should provide him/her with the opportunity where possible to render other duties imposing a similar strain. This shall not apply to taxes and public dues.

Article 14 [Sundays and Holidays]

(1) Sundays and holidays recognised by the state shall be protected by the Land as days of rest from work.

(2) The traditions linked with Sundays and holidays shall be respected.

(3) Details shall be regulated by a law.

Article 21 [Right to Political Participation]

(...)

(2) Each person shall have the same right to access to public offices in line with their suitability, qualification and specialist performance unless otherwise stipulated for the exercise of sovereign powers. Dismissal or disciplining because of activities in civil initiatives, associations, religious communities or parties shall be inadmissible .

Article 28 [Principles of Upbringing and Education]

Upbringing and education shall have the task of promoting personal development, independent thought and action, respect for the dignity, faith and convictions of others, recognition of democracy and freedom, the desire for social justice, peaceableness and solidarity in living together between the cultures and peoples, and responsibility for nature and the environment.

Article 30 [School System]

(...)

(6) The right to establish independent schools shall be guaranteed in accordance with article 7 para 4 of the Basic Law (Grundgesetz). The organisations shall have the right to a subsidy from public funds.

Article 32 [Universities]

(...)

(2) The right to establish independent universities shall be guaranteed.

(...)

(4) In order to train their clerics, the churches shall have the right to establish and maintain their own institutions similar in nature to universities. The same shall apply to religious communities. The allocation of the chairs at the state theological faculties shall be effected in agreement with the churches.

Article 36 [Legal Status]

(1) There shall be no state church.

(2) Churches and religious communities shall regulate and administer their affairs independently within the limits of the law that is valid for all. They shall confer their offices without the participation of the state or the civil community.

(3) The Land recognises the public assignment of the churches and religious communities. They shall remain corporations under public law insofar as they have enjoyed that status in the past. Other religious communities shall be granted the same rights upon application if their constitution and the number of their members give assurance of their permanency and if they do not contradict the principles and basic rights of this Constitution named in article 2 para 1.

(4) Churches and religious communities that are corporations under public law shall be entitled to levy taxes from their members on the basis of the civil taxation lists.

(5) Associations whose purpose is to foster a ideological creed shall have the same status as religious communities.

Article 37 [Property and State Payments]

(1) The right to own property and other rights of churches, religious communities and their facilities shall be guaranteed with regard to their property for purposes of worship, education or charity.

(2) Benefits by the Land and the bearers of municipal self-administration to which the churches and religious communities are entitled in accordance with the law, a contract or other legal titles may only be dissolved by agreement. Where such agreements relate to the Land, they must be confirmed by a Land law.

Article 38 [Cure of Souls]

In homes, hospitals, prisons and similar public facilities, as well as the police, religious services, cure of souls and other religious acts by the churches and religious communities shall be facilitated in line with actual need. article 13 para 3 shall apply.

Third Main Part: The State Organisation

Article 88 [Oath]

On assuming office the Prime Minister and the Ministers of the Land Government shall take the following oath before the Land Parliament:

»I swear that I will dedicate my whole efforts to the well-being of the people of the Land of Brandenburg, promote their welfare, protect them from harm, exercise the office transferred to me according to the best of my knowledge and ability and without bias, that I will preserve and defend the Constitution and the statutes, perform my duties conscientiously, and do justice to all.«

The oath may also be taken with a religious affirmation.