

## Categories of Ecclesial Associations of the Faithful

1. Voluntary association of individuals; no recognition required.

- |                                                                                                                                                                         |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>2. Private Association of the Faithful<br/>(Association acts in its own name,<br/><b>not</b> the name of the church.)</p>                                            | } | <p>Recognized<br/>(means statutes have been <u>reviewed</u> by the local bishop)</p> <p>Praised (by the local bishop's <u>deliberate statement</u>)</p> <p>Formal status (by <u>decree</u> of the local bishop)</p> |
| <p>3. Public Association of the Faithful: (Association acts officially and formally<br/><b>in the name of the church</b> in virtue of its decree of establishment.)</p> |   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

- Diocesan Institute
- Pontifical Institute

### *Associations of the Faithful*

(needs creative implementation & the development of jurisprudence)

Juridic Person requires 3 persons:	Canon 115
Right to Establish:	Canon 215
Common Norms:	Canons 299-311
Public Associations:	Canons 312-320
Private Associations:	Canons 321-325
Special Norms for Lay Associations:	Canons 327-329

**COMPOSITION:** Associations of the Faithful are distinct from Institutes of Consecrated Life or Societies of Apostolic Life. They are not necessarily a way of life. Members may be clerics or laity, or clerics and laity.

**PURPOSE:** May include: Striving for a more perfect life  
Promoting public worship  
Promoting works of the apostolate, etc.

- Christian teaching
- Initiatives for evangelization
- Works of piety or charity
- Animation of the temporal order with the Christian spirit

**BASIC REQUIREMENT:** Statutes      Canon 94.1 Description  
                                                                                 Canon 94.2 Those bound by  
                                                                                 Canon 94.3 Regulation of

(See also Canons 278.2, 309, 322.2, 578, 587, 605, 1257)

**RESTRICTIONS:**

Recognition: requires statutes (Canons 229, 304)

Use of Catholic title requires consent of the competent ecclesiastical authority  
(Canons 216 and 300; see also Canon 312)

Ends whose pursuit are under ecclesiastical authority (Canon 301.1)

- teaching in the name of the church
- promoting public worship

#### CATEGORIES

1. De Facto: praised or commended (Canons 298.2, 299.2)
2. Recognized: (Canon 299.3) Any recognition needs “**statutes reviewed.**”
3. Established (Canons 298.2, 301.1, 312)

## DISTINCTIONS: PRIVATE and PUBLIC JURIDIC PERSONS

### PRIVATE

\* Established by private compact of the members

\* Recognized if statutes are reviewed

\* Right to possess & administer goods

\* Juridical personality only by decree (Canons 310, 322)

\* Temporal goods regulated by its own statutes (Canons 325, 1301)

### PUBLIC

\* Established by competent church authority

\* Recognized if statutes are approved (Canons 299.3, 304)

\* Right to possess & administer goods

\* Juridical personality only by decree (Canons 313, 1257)

\* Temporal goods regulated by its own statutes (Canons 312, 219)

\* Capacity to act in the name of the church and thus a more direct sharing in the mission of the church (Canons 301.1, 313, 116)

#### 1. **The right to associate:** (Canons 298, 299)

BUT competent authority **establishes** them (Canons 301, 312, 322)  
(Approval of statutes does not = public association or juridic person)

A. PUBLIC = juridic person by establishment (Canon 313)

B. PRIVATE = may or not be a juridic person, depending on decree (Canons 310, 322)

#### 2. **Juridic Person** = follow canons on temporal goods (Canons 1254-1310)

PUBLIC: by Canon 1257.1 and by own statutes, Canon 319

PRIVATE: by Canon 310, and by own statutes, Canon 325

#### 3. **Vigilance of Bishop over all associations** (Canon 305)

PUBLIC = direct responsibility regarding: moderators  
chaplains  
property  
suppression, etc.

PRIVATE = oversight only regarding: moderators  
property  
suppression