



ON THE FREEDOM OF WORSHIP IN THE DIPLOMATIC MISSION: SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS RULE IN A PERIOD OF RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

This article analyses the evolution of the principle of freedom of worship in the diplomatic missions, moving from its birth as the prerogative (not the “privilege” as almost unanimously affirmed by scholars) of the chief of the mission to practice his religion in a chapel, the so called “right of chapel”. After the historical evolution of this prerogative, thus, the author analyses the most recent legal practice of this instrument making some considerations on its significance in this period characterized by religious intolerance. In particular, the author reflects on the possibility to consider this prerogative as a customary rule and explores its relations with the right to freedom of religion. Finally, he makes some reflections on the possibility to reconsider this rule in this period of developing fundamentalism.