

## Contents

<i>Preface and Acknowledgements</i>	<i>page ix</i>
<b>Introduction</b>	1
<b>1 Nature As a Source of Validity for Religious Law</b>	15
1.1 Divine Law in the Abrahamic Religions	15
1.2 Landmarks of Catholic Natural Law	34
1.3 The Recent Foundation of Canon Law	53
<b>2 Questions from a Canonist's Point of View</b>	59
2.1 The Church in a Plural Society	60
2.2 Canon Law Positivism	68
2.3 The Participation of the People of God	79
2.4 Limits of Obedience and Compliance	91
2.5 Consequences	105
<b>3 Canon Law between Nature and Culture</b>	116
3.1 Leaving Natural Law Behind?	116
3.2 Universality, Historicity, Culturality	132
3.3 The Culturality of Global Canon Law	144
3.4 Canon Law between Unity and Plurality	156
<b>4 Consequences for Developing the Law</b>	174
4.1 The Legislation of the Global Church	174
4.2 The Local Reception of the Law	209
<b>5 Conclusion</b>	236
5.1 A Final Remark	236
5.2 Summing Up: Fifty Theses	238
<i>Bibliography</i>	245
<i>Index</i>	267