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Vatican II Ecumenical Council Records 4492715

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Description is written in: English.

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Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

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URL: <https://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
Creator:	Union Theological Seminary (New York, N.Y.)
Title:	Vatican II Ecumenical Council records
ID:	4492715
Date [inclusive]:	1962 -- 1980
Physical Description:	2 linear feet 2 linear feet; 2 boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The second Vatican Council, also known as Vatican II, was the twenty-first Ecumenical Council of the Roman Catholic Church, convoked by Pope John XXIII and held from 1962-1965. It was preceded by Vatican I (1869-1870), which was the first council to be held since the closing of the Council of Trent in 1563. This collection contains two scrapbooks of New York Times clippings about Vatican II, and a collection of articles defending Catholic theologian Hans Küng.

Preferred Citation

Item description, WAB: Vatican II Ecumenical Council Records, 1962-1980, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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Biographical / Historical

The second Vatican Council, also known as Vatican II, was the twenty-first Ecumenical Council of the Roman Catholic Church, convoked by Pope John XXIII and held from 1962-1965. It was preceded by Vatican I (1869-1870), which was the first council to be held since the closing of the Council of Trent in 1563. Deliberations at Vatican I were cut short due to the Italian army's capture of Rome in 1870, leaving many issues unaddressed. Still, many were surprised when Pope John XXIII announced on January 25, 1959 that he wished to convoke a new council, saying that he wished to open the windows of the church and let in some fresh air.

The tremendous political, social, economic, and technological changes that had taken place over the previous four centuries led to new theological questions and ecclesiastical challenges, for which the bishops convened at Vatican II sought new solutions. Vatican II addressed the ecumenical issues of Christianity for the first time since the Reformation. Hundreds of representatives from Christian denominations outside the Roman Church were invited to Rome to observe their deliberations. A cornerstone decree of the council is known as the *Lumen gentium*, which represented a major breakthrough for Rome's relations with the Eastern Churches and with Protestant Christian groups, as it recognized a common Baptism, as well as a mutual responsibility for the Church's divisions.

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Biographical / Historical

Hans Küng is a Catholic, priest, theologian, and author from Switzerland who was appointed by Pope John XXIII to serve as a theological advisor to members of the Second Vatican Council. In 1971, he published a book entitled *Infallible? An Inquiry*, in which he rejected the doctrine of papal infallibility, decided during Vatican I. On December 18, 1979, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, under the papacy of John Paul II, withdrew Küng's license to teach as a Roman Catholic theologian, causing a public outcry in his defense. Though the decision was not revoked, Küng remained professor of ecumenical theology at the University of Tübingen until his retirement in 1996.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains two scrapbooks of New York Times clippings about Vatican II, and a collection of articles defending Catholic theologian Hans Küng.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in one chronological series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

XML instance created by Rossy Mendez. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. EAD spot checked and corrected and description updated by Leah Edelman. 2013-12-19 2019-05-20 2021-11-08

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Onsite storage.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The exact provenance of this collection is unknown.

Custodial History

The papers are part of the William Adams Brown Ecumenical Library Archives, which was founded in 1945 by the Union Theological Seminary Board of Directors.

Processing Information

Some material cataloged by Lynn A. Grove on 1988-08-09. Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Acidic items were separated from one another by interleaving with acid-free paper as needed. The finding aid was created by Kristen Leigh Southworth in 2013 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2021.

Conditions Governing Use

Some material in this collection may be protected by copyright and other rights. Information concerning copyright, fair use, and reproduction requests can be consulted at Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

WAB: Robert C. Dodds Papers, 1962 – 1974, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Related Materials

The official documents from Vatican II are held by the Holy See at the Vatican Secret Archives in Rome, Italy. Many of these documents may be viewed online in multiple languages at: http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/index.htm

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Controlled Access Headings

- Councils and synods, Ecumenical
- Vatican Council (2nd : 1962-1965 : Basilica di San Pietro in Vaticano)

Burke Library record group:

William Adams Brown Ecumenical Library Archives

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Collection Inventory

Vatican II Ecumenical Council records, 1962 -- 1980

Physical Description: 2 linear feet 2 linear feet; 2 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This series is open for research.

Arrangement

This series is arranged in chronological order.

Scope and Contents

This series contains two scrapbooks of New York Times clippings about Vatican II, and a collection of articles defending Catholic theologian Hans Küng.

Title/Description	Instances
Clippings from the NY Times Volume 1: Sessions 1-2, 1962-1963	box 1
Clippings from the NY Times Volume 2: Sessions 3-4, 1964-1965	box 2
Articles in Defense of Hans Küng, 1979-1980	box 2

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