for Social Science Research, the Centre for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory University Law School, and the International Centre for Law and Religion Studies, J Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University.

Participants included scholars, practitioners, and civil servants from Europe, North America and Asia. The aim of the Oslo conference was to address ways in which transitional societies can respond effectively to complex legal and regulatory issues concerning religious groups. The papers will be published in both English and Chinese.

doi: 10.1017/S0956618X07000427

Ethno-Social and Confessional Processes in Modern Society

University of Grodno, Belarus, 8–9 December 2006

MARK HILL
Honorary Professor, Centre for Law and Religion, Cardiff University
Chancellor of the Dioceses of Chichester and Europe

The annual conference of Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno had something of an international flavour in 2006. In company with Eileen Barker of the London School of Economics and John Young from the University of Northern British Columbia, my journey to Grodno comprised a five-hour journey from Minsk through cold, dark and seemingly inhospitable plains. However, the welcome was warm, as was the quality of the contributions to this meeting, which covered all aspects of national and cultural traditions focusing, for some of the time at least, upon cults and paganism. Various strains within the Eastern orthodox tradition were readily apparent and the discussion amongst the participants from Belarus and Ukraine was particularly lively. The Republic of Belarus has been slow to open up to discussions with specialists in state regulation of religion, and the support of the Commission for Religions and Nationalities of the Council for Ministers was welcome, as was the contribution from representatives of the district legislature. Funding from the Central European Initiative should ensure the publication of the papers locally.

doi: 10.1017/S0956618X07000439

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0956618X07000439 Published online by Cambridge University Press