

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2024-A136
Title: Translating the Catechism
Proposer: Standing Commission on Formation and Ministry Development
Topic: Book of Common Prayer, Language Translation, Liturgy

Directly Related: (Attached)

None

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

2022-A024 Create a Task Force on Translation and Interpretation

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2022, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#).

A136 - Translating the Catechism

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Standing Commission on Formation and Ministry Development

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Requests New Interim Body: No

Changes Mandate Of Existing Ib: Yes

Directs Dfms Staff: No

Directs Dioceses: No

Directs Executive Council: No

HiA: No House Assigned

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: No Committee Assigned

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

That the 81st General Convention recognizes the need for access to the catechism in the Book of Common Prayer in languages beyond English, Spanish, French, and Haitian Kreyol and directs the Task Force on Translation and Interpretation to facilitate the professional translation of An Outline of the Faith, commonly called the Catechism to Arabic, Dutch, Georgian, German, Italian, Korean, Mandarin, and Russian; and be it further

Resolved, that said translations be made available digitally; and be it further

Resolved, that the sum of \$50,000 be appropriated for the completion of these translations and their distribution.

Explanation

The 1979 Book of Common Prayer has been translated from English into Spanish, French, and Haitian Kreyol. However, there are Episcopal congregations that include additional language communities who cannot access a basic statement of Episcopal belief and practice, which can serve both evangelistic and formational purposes.

The amount requested is commensurate with the amount of work required for professionally translating a text of approximately 4500 words into multiple languages and to enable digital availability.