

**Acta Apostolicae Sedis [Acts of the Apostolic See– Acta Sanctae Sedis [Acts of the Holy See]** This is the official bulletin of the Holy See. The series was founded by the constitution *Promulgandi* (29 September 1908) of Pope Pius X, with the first issue being published on 1 January 1909. It includes essentially all papal documents and those of the various organs of the Roman Curia, and is deemed to count as their official publication or promulgation, 'unless, in particular cases, another method of promulgation shall have been prescribed (Code of Canon Law, can. 8 #1, where it is also said that the laws included in the *Acta* come into force three months after the date of their publication, except when a law by its very nature does not bind immediately or when a delay, 'vacatio', for a defined period, is explicitly provided for). The *Acta* also function as the 'diary' of the Curia, in that the journal published regularly, and in chronological order, a record of the principal audiences granted by the pope, of nominations to posts and honours conferred, and of the deaths of cardinals and bishops. This series of *Acta Apostolicae Sedis* (the usual abbreviation is *AAS*) is not to be confused with the *Acta Sanctae Sedis* (usually abbreviated as *ASS*) founded by the Roman ecclesiastic Pietro Avanzini (1832-1874), and authorized by Pius IX to publish, from 1865 on, the acts of the Holy See, though without official and normative standing, even though it was printed by the press of the Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith with the long title *Acta ex iis decerpta quae apud Sanctam Sedem geruntur in compendium opportune redacta et illustrata* [Acts culled from the activities of the Holy See and conveniently presented with illustrations in a compact form], subsequently abridged to *Acta Sanctae Sedis* ['Acts of the Holy See']. On 23 May 1904 the series was declared by rescript of the same congregation to be 'authentic and official' so far as subsequent issues were concerned. In practice it ceased to exist at the end of 1908, giving way as explained above to the *AAP* which started on the following year.

([http://www.vatican.va/archive/atti-ufficiali-santa-sede/index\\_it.htm](http://www.vatican.va/archive/atti-ufficiali-santa-sede/index_it.htm)).

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