*Civiltà Cattolica* is not published, owned or operated by the Vatican. Since its foundation in the mid-19th century, the journal has been written, edited and published by a group of Jesuit priests in Rome. In a practice established in the 19th century and followed during the 20th century, however, each issue of *Civiltà Cattolica* was reviewed prior to publication by the Vatican Secretary of State and his staff. In 1999, a longtime member of the Jesuit writer-editor-publisher group published a book about the history and nature of *Civiltà Cattolica*, Author Giuseppe De Rosa, S.J., described the details of the Vatican review process that had been in effect for many decades. Each issue was submitted in draft form to the Vatican Secretariat of State “for definitive approval.” The Holy See’s review and judgment concerned three points:

* Conformity of the articles “with the official teaching of the Church in matters of faith and morals,”
* Conformity “with the policies of the Holy See in relation to States,” and
* Whether it was “opportune” to publish an article in a particular situation.

The review process followed a set schedule. Twice per month, on the Mondays preceding the publication dates of the first and third Saturdays, the director of *Civiltà Cattolica* met with the Secretary of State or his authorized delegee. This audience was for the purpose of the Vatican conveying approval, disapproval or modifications of content. Even after he became Pope Pius XII, Eugenio Pacelli sometimes conducted the *Civiltà Cattolica* audience personally. Thus, even though *Civiltà Cattolica* was not a Vatican publication, it was known to reflect Vatican policy, and Eugenio Pacelli paid close attention to it. *See* Giuseppe De Rosa, S.J., *La Civiltà Cattolica: 150 anni al servizio della Chiesa, 1850-1999* (Rome: La Civiltà Cattolica, 1999), *esp*. pp. 29-30.