Markus DAVIDSEN, 2009

Markus Davidsen received his Prize at the General Assembly of the Coimbra Group in Geneva on 4 June 2009 from HSS Prince Leopold of Arenberg.

Markus Davidsen studied comparative religion at Aarhus University (Århus, Denmark) 2001-2008. As part of his master studies he did an Erasmus exchange semester at Heidelberg University in Germany. He was attracted to Heidelberg because of a large interdisciplinary research programme on ritual, but it was his exposure to the new field of 'religion on the Internet' which set the course for his further academic career.

Back in Århus he wrote his master thesis on Jediism, a new Internet-based religion inspired by the *Star Wars* movies, and since January 2009 he has been doing further research on Jediism and other fiction-based religions as a PhD candidate of Aarhus University, and also carrying out research at the University of Leiden, the Netherlands.