Louis also recruited two scholars, Marsilius of Padua and William of Ockham, to support his cause

- Marsilius of Padua, *Defender of Peace* (1324)
  - stressed the independence of secular rulers
  - piety expected of clergy and duties confined to spiritual activities, not ruling
  - pope depicted as a subordinate member of society over which the emperor ruled supreme

- National Opposition to the Avignon Papacy
  - England opposed the Avignon Papacy as they saw it intimately attached to France, England’s enemy in the Hundred Years’ War
  - *Pragmatic Sanction of Bourges* (1438)
    - agreement that recognized the right of the French Church to elect its own clergy without papal interference
    - prohibited the payment of *annates* to Rome
    - limited the right of appeals from French courts to the Curia in Rome

- Wycliffe and Hus
  - Wycliffe and the Lollards
    - Wycliffe and his issues
      - Oxford theologian and a philosopher of high standing
      - he became a major spokesperson against the secularism of the papacy
      - advocated apostolic piety
      - anticipated Protestant criticisms of the medieval church by challenging papal infallibility, the sale of indulgences, and the dogma of transubstantiation
    - The Lollards (Wycliffe’s Followers)
      - preached in vernacular, distributed translations of the Bible, and advocated clerical piety
      - Lollards were popular with the nobility and gentry who could potentially gain from a weakening Catholic Church
  - After the English Peasants’ Revolt in 1381, an uprising filled with egalitarian principles that could find support in Wycliffe’s teaching, Lollardy became a capital offense in England by 1401.

- John Hus
  - Czech reformer and professor at the University of Prague
  - supported vernacular translations of the Bible and criticized several aspects of the sacrament of Eucharist
  - he was excommunicated in 1410 and Prague was placed under the interdict
  - Council of Constance
    - Hus declared a heretic and executed in 1415
  - Hussites revolted following Hus’s execution and gained significant religious reforms and control over the Bohemian church