



European Confederation of Jesuit Alumni/ae
Confédération européenne des Ancien(ne)s Elèves des Pères Jésuites

Minutes of the Budapest Vienna meeting on March 7th and 8th 2009

Members present:

de Langsdorff Eric (F), Mariano Giuseppe (P) (I), Rebes Enrique (E), Marini Gianpaolo (I), P. Salembier Pierre SJ (F / WU), Wildner Wolfgang (A), Hammerschmied Hans (P) (A), Schindler Sebastian (A), Judo Frank (P) (BN), P. Arts Luk SJ (BN), Cooreman Louis (BN), Agtmael Julie Van (BN), Rochtus Anne (BN), de Roek Vincent (BN), Bayard Alain (P) (BS), Deneef Alain (B / WU), Thürliman Chris (P) (CH), Fábregas Alegret Gonçal (P) (E), P. Meseguer Ruiz Fernando SJ (E), Moreno Javier (E), Ruiz de Eguino Alfonso (E), Puyuelo Mercedes (E), Castillo Rosana (E), Vilalta Javier (E), Camenen Francois-Xavier (F / WU), Perreau Sabine (F), Thompson Bernard (GB / WU), Gabor Nagy (H), Alakszai Zoltan (H), Dudas Zsófia (H), P. Ulrich Kiss SJ (H), Long Gerard (IRL), P. Michael Sheil SJ (IRL), Murphy Thomas (IRL), O'Sullivan Ambrose (IRL), Punzo Francesco (I), Cattano Massimiliano (I), P. Ceroni Umberto SJ (I), Cifola Valerio (I), Kasparaité Lina (LIT).

Excused:

Kottrup Bernard (AL), Knecht Konstantin (AL) (P), Rösch Bernard (AL), von Braunmühl Hermann (AL), Portisch Hans (A), Wolff Alexander (A), P. Gilson Michel SJ (B), Niemeyer Timo (CH), Agnell José Louis (E), Carrera Hervé (F), de Leusse Pierre (P) (F), Delair Serge (F), Rogers Paul (GB), McCabe John (GB), A. Banhegyi (H), B. Barta (H), Juház-Nagy Andrea (H), Lochrin Mark (IRL), Cacchione Ciro (I), Gallinoni Vincenzo (I), Anguissola Marco (I), Arosio Paolo (I), Miselyte Nomeda (L), Maruniakas Ramunas (L), Petrulis Simonas (L), Lukosevicius Martynas (L), Medzvieckaite Ginte (L), Serys Povilas (L), Mikalkenaite Jovita (P) (L), Aidietis Gintautas (L), Gatt Stephen (P) (M), Borg Anton (M), Czech Magdalena (P) (PL), Paczynski Damian (PL), Myszk Lukas (PL), Garrido Filipe (P), Collares Pereira Guilherme (P).

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Welcome

Opening and prayers - thoughts by Father Pierre Salembier P. Ulrick Kiss s.j.

1. Welcome address and presentation of the agenda by Eric de Langsdorff

- *Approval of the minutes of the Vienna meeting*
- *Activity report of the associations and member federations*
- *Key issues:*
 - *action potential of Internet for the organisation of networks*
 - *The World Congress 2009 in Burundi*
 - *Re-election of the bureau and standings for the committee of the World Union.*
- *Mass will be celebrated by Father Janos Lukacs, Provincial of Hungary, in the Jesuit Church, followed by an official dinner at Ybl Palace in the presence of Father Provincial and other Hungarian Jesuits (programme: classical music and opera, statement of young people from the Jesuit college of Miskolc about their social experience).*

Opening by Father Ulrich Kiss s.j. by

- *a reflection about the changing of social paradigm (influenced by the crisis of 1968) of the traditional authority model (in education and at Church level) and the experience of the Hungarian youth movement (of ignatian inspiration),*
- *and prayers.*

After much thought, the younger participants meet in an adjacent room to carry on with the discussion they started during previous meetings and which they reported on (cf report of the Vice-President Youth, Nomeda Miselyte (in 2006), and the report of Frankfurt in October 2007); on their agenda: relevant information for their group, the participation of young Europeans at the World Congress in Bujumbura and experiences made the previous weeks.

2. Round table (brief information about new issues):

Switzerland: *Bernard being absent, Chris Thürlimann gives some information about the colleges of St. Blasien and Feldkirch (Germany) (where the Swiss alumni/ae studied after the Jesuit order was banned in Switzerland); he underlines the alumni/ae assistance projects in the Northern part of India, in Manila (Philippines) and grants for young people wishing to join the company.*

Malta: *For the centenary of the college, the alumni/ae participated at the inauguration ceremony of a statue of St Louis de Gonzague and cooperated at the edition of four volumes about Jesuits; the alumni/ae will celebrate their centenary in 2010.*

France: *There was a mobilization of the alumni/ae for the participation at an important event for the educative communities of the French Jesuit colleges in Lourdes -organized by the Jesuit French Province (2000 participants 1200 of which where pupils) marking the reorganization of the network of the 14 secondary schools under the protection of a national association, the "Association Ignace de Loyola-Education".*

Hungary: *In 2009, 3 anniversaries will be celebrated: the centenary of the Hungarian Jesuit Province, the 20th anniversary of the alumni/ae Association, the 15th anniversary of the secondary school Miskolc; participation to a grant-program (notably for a trainee at the European parliament); planned: to help people in need (do services like: translation of letters, miscellaneous advices, Internet service); implementation of a program intended to help young students to finance their studies in the USA and to find accommodation.*

Belgium (South): *promotion of internet use by the associations to communicate; good representation of the alumni/ae in the colleges; membership is getting more difficult in the colleges: religious motivation is not the same anymore; there is also a need to accept a population which is more differentiated (Muslims), which can restrain certain alumni/ae to get involved...*

Belgium (North): *preparation of the World congress in Bujumbura (information, grants for young people...); the Federation belongs to the ignatian network of the Province; organisation of a congress in November 2009, it is hoped to attract alumni/ae from the business world*

Austria: *The Federation has a new President, Hans Hammerschmied; new meeting which Father Provincial; the withdrawal of father Jesuits from the colleges, makes it more difficult to pass on the ignatian heritage to young generations; the Federation strives to establish better contacts between the alumni/ae of the 3 colleges; good relationship with the Jesuits.*

Italy: *The Federation has drawn up a programmatic charter; the bureau has met the new Father General to explain him the activities of the alumni/ae (grants, cooperation between the colleges, pastoral engagement, help refugees, collaboration Jesuits-lay persons...); a group Employment has been put up in Milano; difficulty to pass on the ignatian spirituality and to renew the generations.*

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Poland: *message of Damian Paczynski (email of 5th March 2009) concerning the project of a football tournament for the alumni/ae of Europe on July 9th and 10th 2010 in Gdynia.*

3. Potential of Internet

As agreed at the Vienna meeting, Alain Deneef makes a presentation via internet of the possibilities given by a social network like Facebook to give life to and manage a alumni/ae network.

Alfonso presents the platform, he was asked to realise for his association of Gijon (Spain).

4. World Congress in Bujumbura

Bernard Thompson, President of the World Union, reminds the challenges of the next world congress and asks the European Federations to continue to communicate on this (by circulating documents written by the World Union and the local organising association, which have been sent by the Secretariat or which can be read online on the Website of the World union) to encourage alumni/ae to register for participation.

François-Xavier Camenen (Secretary of the World Union), who just visited the organisers in Bujumbura, takes stock of the preparation of the World congress by the alumni/ae of the Lycée du Saint Esprit in cooperation with the alumni/ae of Rwanda and Bukavu (en RDC).

Everything seems to be on the right track (security, accommodation and logistics, thematic) to welcome the participants and achieve a great success. The experimentation program for young people is also ready, 5 premises will be provided in Burundi, Rwanda, and RDC.

Father Salembier wishes that the European participation comes up to the expectations and challenges of this event (first World congress on African soil).

The Secretary of the World Union, referring to Bernard Thompson letter, sent to the Union's members during the first quarter of 2009 reminds that the general Assembly of the World Union will be held during the Congress, with the election of the new Committee and the executive board (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer) and for which applications are requested; he invites the Presidents of the national Federations of Europe to assist or to be represented or to give him authority if a person cannot make the meeting.

5. New elections of the bureau of the European Confederation and applications for the Committee of the World Union

The President underlines, that the 4 members of the Bureau have to be elected, (last elections 2005, members mandated for 3 years, deadline expires at the end of 2008 for the election of the President and the 3 Vice-Presidents), two members don't wish to be re-elected, Nomeda Miselyte (Vice-Pdt Youth) and himself.

Father Salembier reminds that traditionally the spiritual assistant of the European Confederation is also the spiritual assistant of the Federation the President belongs to.

After consultation of the outgoing members of the Committee and the Bureau, the President makes the following proposal: President: Frank Judo (Belgium North), Vice-Presidents: Giuseppe Mariano (Italy), Enrique Rebes (Spain) and Vice-President Youth: Zoltan Alaksai (Hungary).

The Committee endorses unanimously and by acclamation each of these proposals, Father Luk Arts (spiritual assistant of the Federation Belgium North) becomes the new spiritual assistant of the European Confederation, Bernard Kottrup (Germany) and Gianpaolo Marini (Italy), stay Secretary and Treasurer (elected for 6 years, deadlines expires in 3 years).

The new bureau will begin its work after the World Congress in Bujumbura in July 2009.

Concerning the two European seats in the Committee of the World Union the applications of Alain Deneef (Belgium) and d'Eric de Langsdorff (France) have been endorsed unanimously.

6. Other information or decisions

Financial report: *Gianpaolo Marini (Treasurer) presents his financial report to 7th of March and asks the federations and associations to pay the subscriptions due for 2008-2009. He also reminds that the European Confederation decided in Vienna to pass a special budget (5.000 Euros maximum), to help young people to register for Bujumbura; this budget will be managed by the President.*

Statutes: *after adoption of the new statutes, they are being registered in Brussels (follow-up by Giuseppe and Frank).*

Next meeting: *will be held in October 2009 (17th-18th) in Zurich (Switzerland) and the following*

one in March 2010 (6th-7th) in Antwerp.

To finish, the President thanks the Hungarian friends, lay persons and Jesuits for their excellent organisation, for the translation/interpreting allowing a friendly meeting; he then invites the members of the Confederation to meet, also young people, first in Bujumbura, in July and later in October in Zurich.

Paris, August 5th 2009

*Eric de Langsdorff
p.o Bernard Kottrup, Secretary*