

Proposal for Future Activities of Young European Jesuit Alumni/ae and the Coordination Thereof

Existing Context

- There is a lot of young alumni/ae in Europe; in many cases they are active but not coordinated.
- The meetings of the European Confederation could ensure useful forum for idea exchange on the European level.
- There is a certain lack of interest of high schools and Jesuit Fathers' in the existing activities of young alumni.
- Alumni/ae from “New European” countries have potential to render good energy for future activities of Jesuit alumni/ae.
- The most useful level of action is that of local associations.

Basic Preconditions

- There will be no active young alumni/ae if local associations and national federations do not pay considerable attention to gather younger and new ones.
- Every federation should provide the representatives of the young with possibilities to participate in European meetings.
- Young alumni/ae should have a possibility to meet each other once a year or per two years in different state and have their own meeting.

Action plan

Stage 1

- National federations shall find contacts with the young alumni/ae or even active students still at high schools.
- A special website shall be launched to provide with possibilities not only to view it but also create own users' accounts.
- A special contact group that communicates online shall be created and joined by representatives of each state.

Stage 2

- Young representatives from national federations shall participate in the meetings of the European Confederation.

- Alumni/ae shall seek for more interest from their high schools, students, parents thereof and local Jesuit Fathers.
- The online date base shall contain a considerable number of accounts of registered alumni/ae and the website shall become a forum for online interaction.
- The information from different countries embracing various activities conducted both by alumni/ae and Jesuits (also other Christians) is easily spread online.

Stage 3

- Representatives of the young constantly take part in meetings of the European Confederation.
- The young have fine possibilities to participate in different events held in various countries; they are provided with suitable information about it online.
- The young alumni/ae gather together once a year or per two years in different state and have their own meeting. In a longer perspective, it should become a gathering in principle alike to World Youth Day but on the European level. The programme of such a meeting could consist of both spiritual and entertaining parts, as well as proposing evident possibilities to get acquainted with the host country.
- Sport events might be also arranged as it is a good opportunity to attract and gather alumni/ae.

Stage 4

- This practice shall be evaluated and compiled to appropriate documents and issued as best practices or “Young Alumni/ae in Europe”. The document shall provide with the guidelines for future actions, as well it shall consist of some added value for the own lives of alumni/ae (i.e. Jesuit Fathers’ practice, reflections or advices).
- Then young alumni/ae have good opportunitie to act with other groups of young Christians, propose interesting and important events and step-by-step become a stronger and more influential group within the whole society.

Timeline

- Stage 1: until the autumn (2007) meeting of the European Confederation.
- Stage 2: until the spring (2008) meeting of the European Confederation.
- Stage 3: year 2008, and the meeting of European young alumni/ae in summer of 2009.
- Stage 4: starting the autumn of 2009.