



Curia Generalizia della Compagnia di Gesù  
Borgo S. Spirito, 4  
C.P. 6139 / 00195 ROMA-PRATI (Italia)  
Tel . 06/689.771 – Fax 06/686.8214

November 5, 2004

Dear Young European Jesuit Alumni/ae,

Thank you very much for the message which you sent to me through Mr. Bernard Thompson, the President of the World Union of Jesuit Alumni/ae.

I was delighted to learn from Mr. Thompson that you formed a significant number of the participants at the meeting in Rome, indeed about one-fourth of them.

Your eagerness to organize yourselves, to use your potential and to make an impact on contemporary society is most heartening. I believe it is providential that you made your presence clearly felt at this particular meeting that marks the 50th anniversary of the European Confederation of Jesuit Alumni/ae. Building on the past and drawing on your youthful energy and your creativity, you are the men and women who will lead the Confederation into the future.

I could not help but notice that a good number of you, five to be exact, are from Eastern Europe. Your presence celebrates the rebirth of Jesuit education in a part of Europe where it flourished for several centuries. May I ask you to invite your contemporaries from other Jesuit schools in Eastern Europe to join your ranks? I am thinking particularly of the Jesuit schools in Shkoder, Albania and Osijek, Croatia.

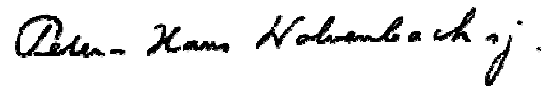
When you were students in Jesuit schools, you learned the importance of striving for the greater glory of God, becoming men and women for others and keeping Jesus Christ at the center of your lives. I encourage you to develop and strengthen the Ignatian formation which you have received. In your continuing growth, please seek the guidance of the Jesuit Counselors who are associated with the various national federations. They are eager to be of assistance to you.

Finally, I ask you to support the many initiatives which the Society of Jesus has undertaken in Europe. To be specific, I understand that next year the congress of the Confederation will be held in Lisbon and that it will be preceded by a pilgrimage intended primarily for young alumni/ae. I am sure that I can rely on you to enlist the support of your friends and colleagues.

./.

Thank you again for your words of greeting and commitment. I send best personal wishes and I pray that God will abundantly bless the good work which you have begun.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J." in a cursive script.

**Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, S.J.**  
Superior General

Zoltan Alakszai  
Joanna Bratek  
Max Kindler  
Simonas Krivoscenka  
Matrynas Lukosevicius  
Olivier Martin  
Tamàs Seres  
David Stewart, S.J.  
Olivier Wouters