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Foreword

As at 1st January 2012, JEO-OCIPE (Brussels) has been restructured as the Jesuit European Social Centre (JESC), following a decision of the Conference of European Jesuit Provincials (CEP) at their plenary assembly in Czestochowa (Poland) in October 2011. This decision was taken in order to strengthen the relationship between our work in Brussels and Jesuit social apostolates in Europe. As a result the offices in Budapest and Warsaw became social apostolates of their respective provinces. JESC itself will be a separate legal entity, apostolically under the aegis of the CEP, while Strasbourg will retain its status as a lay foundation in Alsace.

Operationally, JESC works in three areas: European Affairs, Advocacy & Projects, and Social Coordination on behalf of the Conference of CEP.

The first area, European Affairs, was the traditional activity of OCIPE, and the provincials wished to continue it. We maintain an institutional presence in Brussels in face of the European Union institutions. We also maintain close relations with ecclesial institutions, such as the Commission of Episcopal Conferences of the EU (COMECE); the representation of Protestant, Anglican and Orthodox Churches (CEC) and with catholic religious congregations also working in Brussels. We should specifically mention the monthly online journal 'Europe Infos', produced together with COMECE (<http://europe-infos.eu/>), which comments on EU policies in Christian perspective. The Church's social teaching is a fundamental instrument for this analysis.

The second area for JESC is 'Advocacy and Projects'. We hope that this sphere of work will develop, and that demands for our services increase as we deepen our relationship with Jesuit apostolates. Their work and commitment may eventually become advocacy initiatives in Brussels or be transformed into projects for international collaboration. Currently we are conducting an advocacy on corporate social responsibility in the exploitation of mineral resources in Africa; we coordinate an international ecology network that publishes the newsletter 'Ecojesuit' (www.ecojesuit.com) and we also participate in the European Integration Forum, a consultative body of the European Commission on the integration of migrants into the European Union.

The position of Social Coordinator of the European Conference of Jesuit Provincials has now been transferred to JESC in order to have a more structured support and to foster synergies with other Jesuit works. The Social Coordinator has no executive powers. His role is to encourage and promote the social apostolate among Jesuits in Europe. This apostolate takes place in quite diverse ways: directly with poor and marginalised people such as as asylum seekers, migrants, minors and minorities; through a long tradition of reflection done in social centres and published in recognised journals; and in promoting social ministries related to countries outside Europe of the kind carried out by Jesuit 'mission offices', as well as NGOs and volunteer programs that help us to extend our solidarity beyond European borders.

General Affairs

1. Legal Status

The Jesuit European Social Centre (JESC) is an 'Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif' under the Belgium law since 29th March, 2012.

2. Staff

Claude Debbichi – *Administration, Accounts*

Elaine Rudolphi – *Webmaster (till September 2012)*

Emmanuelle Devuyst - *Advocacy Officer*

Frank Turner SJ - *Secretary, European Affairs*

Hervé-Pierre Guillot SJ - *Policy Advisor (till June 2012)*

José Ignacio García SJ - *Director*

Marie-Pierre Jacobson NDS - *(deceased, July 2012)*

Henri Madelin SJ - *Representative OCIPE Strasbourg*

Stephen Rooney - *Policy Advisor (from September 2012)*

Thorsten Philipp SJ - *Policy Advisor (till August 2012)*

Sister Marie-Pierre Jacobson n.d.s., volunteer in OCIPE and in JESC, since September 1992, died in July 2012, aged 91.

She was French, a Sister of Sion, for many years Principal of a School in France, and also for several years a member of the General Council of her congregation. Open to everyone, and open to everything that could bring together peoples, one of her lasting passions was reconciliation, which she sought to promote everywhere. We will miss her deeply, and we pray that she is now taken even more deeply into the love of God, in the fullness of eternal life.

1. Focus Areas

1. Europe in Crisis

Our work in this field is carried out by participating in seminars and conferences in the European Parliament and European Commission, in the think tanks of Brussels to which we have access, and by writing and commentating.

The economic and financial crisis has highlighted major ethical questions such as the tension between (a) the solidarity between nations for which the EU stands, and (b) member states' own responsibilities for prudence and good management.

2. Social Inclusion

The economic and financial crisis, with its dramatic impact on public finances, has threatened 'Europe's social model', which relies on the achievement of sufficient economic growth to sustain social benefits, at a time when tax revenues are lowered and public spending necessarily raised by rising unemployment, the demographic realities of ageing populations, etc.

3. Catholic Social Teaching and Europe

Catholic Social Teaching (henceforth 'CST') has many aspects and is therefore not a single theme but a perspective in which we approach several different themes.

One main stream of discussion concerns the methodology of representing in the secular sphere a tradition of thinking which unites a foundational revelation, a revelation which, by definition, non-Christian political actors cannot fully accept, with a grounding in reason. In principle, 'reason' would be a shared reference point. However recent popes have meant by 'reason' the human rational faculty open to the transcendent: whereas political reason operates by critical debate, the careful analysis of contrary positions, etc. This is not the method of Catholic Social Teaching.

4. European Citizenship

Whereas the culmination of this work would occur in January 2013 as an event within the European Year of Citizens, the intellectual work was carried out in 2012, through two strands:

- a. An academic strand coordinated by JESC which, in association with a group of senior professors in Leuven, formed an informal group the 'JESC Association for Active Citizenship'. Three working groups, each moderated by one of the professors, prepared extended papers on the institutional, ethical and educational aspects of 'active citizenship'. By 'active citizenship' we mean a conception that emphasises citizens' responsibilities for contributing to the quality of EU political life, no less than the rights that accrue to them. From the three papers, Frank Turner distilled a single 'position paper' for presentation at a conference that took place in January 2013 at the European Economic and Social Committee. Documents can be found at <http://www.citizenship-education.eu/>.
- b. An alumni strand focused on Strasbourg.

2. Partnerships and Networks

1. EU Institutions

- a. The 'Dialogue Seminars' that take place under the provisions of Article 17 of the Treaty of Lisbon, between the EU institutions (in practice, the European Parliament and the European Commission) and organisations from civil society, both communities of faith and non-religious humanist movements.
- b. The European Parliament 'Intergroup' on 'Poverty and Human Rights', a relatively stable group which spans the political spectrum.
- c. The personal contacts that tend to bridge the intellectual and pastoral dimensions: these contacts are intrinsic to our mission to support politically engaged Christians in integrating their faith with their political responsibilities.

2. COMECE (Commission of Bishops' Conferences of the EU)

JESC works with COMECE in several ways, most visibly with the monthly journal (now entirely online) Europe Infos. (For the archive, including a complete record of JESC's articles, see

<http://www.comece.eu/europeinfos/en/archive>) The journal normally consists of an editorial plus some seven other articles, to which different members of JESC contribute.

3. Caritas Europe and CIDSE

These two networks represent Catholic lay organisations devoted to social justice. Whereas Caritas Europe focuses both on poverty within Europe and development and humanitarian emergencies outside, CIDSE is an umbrella organisation of Catholic agencies working specifically on international development and solidarity.

For some years, Frank Turner has worked with both agencies as a consultant: discussing how best to make use of CST in EU advocacy; the relationship between the Church's Magisterium and organisations' own professional competence; and has worked with CIDSE on how best to handle questions of gender in Catholic development work in the light of Vatican sensibilities.

3. Programmes /Events

- a. Presentation on spirituality to the international staff-team of BICE (Bureau International Catholique des Enfants). March 2012. Frank Turner.
- b. Presentation 'Religious representation in the public secular sphere', Luxembourg, April 2012. Frank Turner.
- c. 'Social Justice - a Value for Christians?'. Study day by the Faithful Companions of Jesus. May 2012. Frank Turner.
- d. Three public lectures at the 'Lane Center' of the University of San Francisco on 'Religious Ethics in the Global Discourse'. July 2012. Frank Turner.
- e. Study weekend on European issues for the Marist Brothers of Europe, in Mindelheim, Germany. October 2012. Frank Turner.

4. Communication/Publications

Review	Title	Date	Issue	Author
Europe Infos	Re-imagining imprisonment in Europe	October 2012	N° 153	JIG
Europe Infos	The 'mid-term reshuffle' of the European Parliament'	April 2012	No. 148	HPG
Projet	Recension de Rouet, Gilles (dir.), 'Citoyennetés et nationalités en, Europe, articulations et pratiques', Paris, L'Harmattan, 2012	30.03.2012		HPG
Projet	Recension de Chopin, Thierry ; Foucher, Michel (dir.), 'L'état de l'Union. Rapport Schuman 2012 sur l'Europe'. Publication de la Fondation Robert Schuman, Paris, Editions Lignes de repères, 2012.	30.04.2012		HPG
'Aus Politik und Zeitgeschichte" : Beilage zur Zeitung „Das Parlament“'	Geld anders einrichten	26 March 2012	No. 137	PK
Europe Infos	Crise économique : réinventer le travail	janv-12	N° 144	HM
Etudes	CR Book of Luuk van Middelaar : Le passage à l'Europe, Gallimard, p.851-852	June 2012	Tome 416	HM
La Croix	Monthly articles : Le Vatican pour une solidarité planétaire Creuser son puits	17/02/2012		HM
La Croix	Déplacer nos frontières	10/05/2012		HM
La Croix	Creuser son puits	05-06/05/2012		HM
Europe Infos	The protection of human rights in the face of terrorism	May 2012	N° 149	JN
Europe Infos	The social model and subsidiarity	November 2012	N° 154	SR
Europe Infos	The referendum on Scottish independence and EU membership	December 2012	N° 155	SR
Europe Infos	The European External Action Service and Africa	1/01/2012	No 145	FT

Review	Title	Date	Issue	Author
Thinking Faith (online journal of the British Jesuits)	The UK and the Eurozone	1/11/2012	Dated 11 January 2012	FT
Europe Infos	Divisions in the EU (Editorial	February, 2012	No 146	FT
New Blackfriars (Journal of the British Dominicans)	'Catholic Social Teaching and Europe'	March, 2012	Vol. 93, no. 1044, pages 230- 245)	FT
Europe Infos	The Social Market Economy under new Threat	April, 2012	No 148	FT
Europe Infos	Economic Turmoil & European Politics' (Editorial)	June 2012	Nº 150	FT
EcoJesuit	Sustainable Development - What we are Learning	120621	- - - -	FT
Europe Infos	Managing banks that cannot manage themselves	July-August, 2012	151	FT
Europe Infos	The EU, the USA, and the global economic crisis (Editorial	September 2012	152	FT
Europe Infos	The Dilemmas of Regulating Banks	October 2012	153	FT
Europe Infos	The Eradication of Poverty in a Time of Crisis (Editorial)	November 2012	154	FT
Europe Infos	The European Union's Grim Economic Forecast	December 2012	155	FT

1. Focus Areas

1. Corporate Social Responsibility (Conflict Minerals and Transparency)

The short-term and medium-term objectives of the project are to raise consciousness among both politicians and the general public of the social, economic and environmental challenges of managing natural resources in a just and sustainable way. In the medium-to-long term, we seek legislative changes at the European and global level covering the access to natural resources, corporate social responsibility (CSR) and the financial transparency of companies, and an enhanced policy coherence on the part of the EU itself between its development and trade policies: all of these aims translating into changed practice of the companies in Africa.

For some years, European civil society organisations have defended the idea of a European regulation to promote transparency within the mining sector. The USA's passing of the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of July 2010, popularly known as 'Dodd-Frank', underlines the usefulness of pursuing this objective. Among many other provisions this Act seeks to prevent US corporations from profiting by the exploitation of 'conflict minerals'. Dodd-Frank has given a new impetus to civil society advocacy at the EU, since it now appears that legal control of transnational corporations is truly achievable. At the same time it is important to avoid the unwanted side-effects of Dodd-Frank. That law limits itself to a preventative function, and does not include any proposals to favour those most affected, the local artisanal miners, who gain no more than survival wages and often in terrible conditions. The position of the European Commission has evolved significantly, at least partly because of the pressure of civil society representations. At first it was opposed to any such initiative (relying, instead, along with most member states, on a voluntary framework). Now the Commission is studying more openly the possible form, aims and content of such a regulation

2. Partnerships and Networks

- a. The core partnership of the Natural Resources Project was the triangle between CEPAS (Centre d'Études pour l'Action Sociale) Kinshasa, the United States Jesuit Conference and JESC. Each office works locally with other organisations and networks.

- b. The Belgian Network on Natural Resources.
- c. The European Coalition for Corporate Justice.
- d. The Africa-Europe Faith and Justice Network (AEFJN)
- e. EURAC (<http://www.eurac-network.org>)
- f. The Global Ignatian Advocacy Network (GIAN). GIAN decided to take, as one of its themes the governance of natural resources, the goal of which is better to coordinate and strengthen the advocacy work of Jesuit-related organisations worldwide on this issue. During a one-week seminar in London in September 2013, a position paper was adopted and two common priorities were identified: transparency and accountability.
- g. The network Jesuit African Social Centres (JASC): Our medium-term project consists of:
 - To provide training module on the norms of the OECD and the EU relating to the governance of natural resources;
 - Propose a practical module on the functioning of European institutions in Brussels and instituting specific advocacy on topics of interest;
 - Organise an advocacy mission on natural resources to the EU (institutions, member states, industry and civil society) with selected representatives of the African social centres;
 - Jointly develop a map of European mining companies in Africa and their investments

3. Communication/Publications

Review	Title	Date	Issue	Author
Europe Infos	Les initiatives législatives américaines et européennes sur les 'minerais du sang'"	May 2012	n° 149	ED
JESC Newsletter	La situation des creuseurs artisanaux au Kivu	juil-12	n° 18	ED
En Question	La responsabilité sociale des entreprises dans le secteur extractif	sept-12	n° 102	ED

Advocacy and Projects – Ecology

1. Focus Areas

1. Communications & Awareness: The main activity of JESC related with ecology is the editing of the electronic newsletter Ecojesuit (www.ecojesuit.com) every two weeks, both in English and Spanish. This done jointly with the ESSC from Manila (Philippines). As co-editors we are responsible for providing content and assuring the translation into Spanish.
2. "Water for all". This has been the topic chosen by GIAN-Ecology for the next two to three years. Besides promoting awareness on this issue among the Jesuits in Europe a small working group on this issue has been set up: José Ignacio Garcia (JESC), Jaime Tatay (Spain) and Sebastien Carcel (France).

2. Partnerships and Networks

1. GIAN - Ecology: this is an international network of Jesuit institutions involved in environmental issues. The network is coordinated by JESC. The main activity is to publish the newsletter Ecojesuit. The network decided at the last meeting of the core group, held in Chicago in November 2012, to focus the next three years on the issue of water.

As members of GIAN-Ecology we participated at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+20 (July 2012). Besides an important effort in communication (daily publication of Ecojesuit during the week of the Conference) we had the opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the Jesuit Social Centres of Latin America.

3. Programmes /Events

'The Church and the Environment': a conference organised jointly by JESC and Centre Avec at the Chapel of the Resurrection (Brussels) on 31st May 2012 by Thorsten Philipp SJ.

4. Communication/Publications

Media	Title	Date	Author
Ecojesuit	Rio+20 Special Edition : Agreement's draft: frustration or satisfaction	21.06.2012	JIG
Ecojesuit	Rio+20 Special Edition : First reading of The Future We Want	25.06.2012	JIG
Ecojesuit	Good intentions are not enough	30.06.2012	JIG
Ecojesuit	Ethics and sustainability	14.08.2012	JIG
Ecojesuit	Editorial : Moving the ecological agenda: An emerging commitment to water	15.11.2012	JIG
Ecojesuit	Editorial : Food as a human right is at risk	30.03.2012	JN
Ecojesuit	Rio+20: Great opportunities ahead, church NGOs say	31.05.2012	JN
Ecojesuit	In the core of the Church's green zones: Empowerment	18.01.2012	ThPh
Ecojesuit	Sustainability and participation	14.06.2012	ThPh
Ecojesuit	Editorial : Europe cannot not act: Adapting to climate change	30.09.2012	SR
Ecojesuit	Tackling aircraft carbon emissions	15.11.2012	SR
Europe Infos	Green thinking in the new EU budget	April 2012	N° 148 JIG
Europe Infos	Rio+20 and the EU	May 2012	N° 149 JIG
Europe Infos	Rio+20, not exactly 'the future we want'	July-August 2012	N° 151 JIG

1. Focus Areas

1. The integration of migrants: Migrant populations represent around 4% of the EU population. The integration of this population is a challenge for the social cohesion of the European countries: the full development of migrants' capacities, and the positive acceptance of migrants in the receiving countries. Integration is not only an economic issue but deeply social and cultural. Religion can play a positive role in the integration of migrants.

2. Partnerships and Networks

1. Servicio Jesuita a Migrantes (SJM, www.sjme.org): this is the network of Jesuit Spanish organisations working with migrants. JESC offers several services to the SJM, such as the preparation of reports for several public consultations opened by the European Commission related with migration, and the representation at PICUM (Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants, www.picum.org).
2. The European Integration Forum (EIF): JESC is a registered member of the EIF, which provides an opportunity for civil society organisations to express their views on migrant integration issues and to discuss challenges and priorities with the European institutions (<http://ec.europa.eu/ewsi/en/policy/legal.cfm>).

1. Focus Areas

1. Direct service to people: the social ministry of the Jesuits in Europe is oriented to work closely with people in poverty and who are marginalised. The Social Coordinator of the Conference of European Jesuit Provincials, José Ignacio García SJ, has among his priorities to support the work in this field of Jesuits, collaborators and of Jesuit institutions.
2. Reflection: the Jesuits in Europe have a long tradition of reflection on social issues, through journals and Social Centres. Support for these efforts is one of the priorities for the Social Coordinator of the Conference.
3. International cooperation for development: the Mission Offices of Jesuit provinces, and several Jesuit-related development NGOs keep alive among Jesuits in Europe the commitment to poor populations in the global South. Besides the crucial issue of fundraising, Mission Offices and NGOs have added activities on education and advocacy.

2. Partnerships and Networks

1. Social Delegates of the Conference: There is an annual meeting of the Social Delegates of the European Jesuit Provinces, which has the purpose of reflecting on the social ministry in Europe and promoting collaboration among provinces.
2. Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat, Rome: the Secretariat is the office of the Assistant to the Jesuit General Superior on social ministries. The Social Coordinators of the Conferences gather once each year to discuss the challenges of the social apostolate at regional and global level.
3. The 'Commissio Mixta': this is a commission formed by the Jesuit Conferences of Europe and Africa. The Social Coordinators of both Conferences have defined a common programme of action that includes support for capacity-building, for funding to run the network of social centres in Africa and a project of support to JRS-Malta with the participation of a Jesuit from Europe and another from Africa.
4. Eurojess: this is organisation which arranges meetings for Jesuits and collaborators involved in social ministries and the social sciences. JESC

is member of the Steering Committee that organises a Congress every two years.

3. Programmes /Events

- a. Meeting of the Social Delegates of the European Jesuit Provinces, Malta, April 2012. Fifteen Social Delegates from all over Europe participated.
- b. Meeting on "Communities of solidarity: community life style". Madrid, November 2012. 22 Jesuits and two lay collaborators attended the two days meeting.

The Jesuit European Social Centre (JESC) is a work of the European Conference of Jesuit Provincials.

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