



JECI-MIEC Newsletter

June 2016

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For any contact concerning this Newsletter please send an e-mail to office@jeci-miec.eu.

Your contribution, comments, information are most welcome at any time! Visit also www.jeci-miec.eu for updated news.



Dear friends,

The first half of 2016 is already over. Lots of different issues on local, national and European level keep us – some of us more, the others less – in suspense. Let's pray that all things come to a good end!

Nonetheless we present you in this Newsletter the things that have happened in this first part of the year on European level as well as in local movements of JECI MIEC.

The last part of this Newsletter is a preview to our European Congress that takes place in Slovenia from 10th to 18th September.

We were and still are sad and shocked when we heard about the death of Elias. He was a member of JEC Syria and got killed by an attack at the beginning of February in Aleppo. Our thoughts and prayers are with him, his family and everyone else that is endangered by such attacks.

Enjoy it and have a nice summer!

Yours,

SIMON FISCHER
JAN SZYPULSKI
MIRIAM RÖCKER
TINA HOCEVAR
FRANCOIS CHATELLIER
(European Team 2016)

**JEICI-MIEC Newsletter****June 2016****Europe faces migration wave, EKFE leads by example**

It is said that somebody's home is where his heart is. Has anyone of us ever wondered where the hearts of refugees are? It is well known that lately, many Syrians, Iraqis, Afghans etc are leaving their motherland, looking for a better, peaceful future, in which they will be able to continue their lives and raise properly their children.

Millions of refugees of our age are struggling right now to escape the hard situation that war has caused; a war made by powerful humans without the sense of humanity. All these human beings talk about democracy, while, at the same time they are on the "backstage" of every military conflict and civil unrest. They make wars, bomb nations and then pretend that they are willing to help the thousands of migrants who are stuck on the borders of foreign countries.

Let's take Greek borders for example. At the moment, approximately 28.000 refugees have been encamped on the northern borders, while there are also 21.000, scattered in the rest of the Greek territory. In the makeshift tent camps, just a few meters from FYROM's borders, on the Greek side with the rain pouring down the last few days, it is in the aftermath that refugees cannot keep their temper, expressing deep anger concerning the conditions they are enduring

and in a fury about the wire fence that blocks their progress deeper into the promised land of Europe.

However, refugees are not only angry, but hungry, cold and ill, too. They are very weak, having got - and still getting- through so much misery and suffering. Daily, various NGOs are arriving in the camp lodges to provide nursing care and the essentials. There are also local residents close to the borders, who share their houses with large families in great need.



Motivated by the whole situation that prevails in Greece, EKFE Greece has launched a project in cooperation with the organization **"Save the Children GREECE"**, offering a helping hand to families that are hosted in Athens, spending time with the young members of those families. The main purpose of this article is not to show the action that EKFE is taking, but to raise awareness to all of you and motivate you, as organizations and individuals, to think of bright ideas that could help easing refugees' pain.

Against this humanitarian crisis, we CAN hold out our hands to refugees! We can help the accomplishment of various actions (events, exhibitions etc),

gather warm clothes, food, blankets and other essentials, plan visits of solidarity to the refugees' camp. But first of all, we MUST make this fight, against the causes that give life to migration, our own business!

Ioanna Vidali

■

**JECI-MIEC Newsletter****June 2016****International Meeting in preparation for WYD 2016**

Since Francis announced that the next World Youth Day will take place in Krakow, intense preparations have been taking place in all of Poland. The meeting of young people will begin in four months.



Camila Aparicio, the former secretary general of IMCS(MIEC) and Jan Szypulski (Team Member) took part at International Meeting in preparation for WYD from 25th till 29th November 2015.

With 200 delegates from different countries and organizations we had opportunity to visit all the



places where main events are going to take place and to see how much work has already done the local organizing committee.

We are glad that great Youth Jubilee is coming and hope to meet you all in Cracow. Don't miss this great celebration of catholic youth taking place from the 25 to 31 of July.

Jan Szypulski ■**EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM COUNCIL OF MEMBERS (COMEM) Brussels (Belgium), 15-16 April 2016**

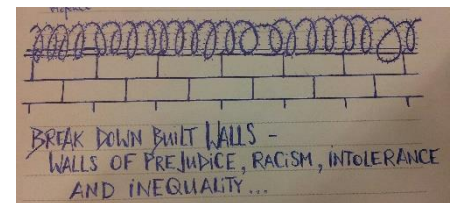
European Youth Forum's Council of Members (COMEM) took place in Brussels. Official delegates at COMEM to represent JECI-MIEC were Simon Fischer and Francois Chatellier.



Evening before the COMEM European Youth Forum celebrated 20th anniversary. To mark this milestone we had a fruitful discussion with Vice-President of the Commission Jyrki Katainen, Commissioner Tibor Navracsics and the Swedish Minister for Upper Secondary School, Adult Education and Training Aida Hadzialic.

Board members of the European Youth Forum have presented their

past work and some plans for the future. Official delegates had opportunity to participate in discussions at the Thematic squares which covered different topics like Recognition of Non-formal education, migrations, UN Resolution on Youth, Peace and Security, Social Entrepreneurship, etc. Later on the Youth Forum's members adopted four policy papers and resolutions: Resolution on Youth Autonomy and Inclusion, Policy paper on Equality and Non-discrimination, Resolution on Quality Standards on Youth Policy and Resolution on the EU Foreign Affairs Council conclusions of 15 February 2016 on non-extending restrictive measures for the Republic of Belarus.



During COMEM new campaign »We are youth work« has been launched.

Tina Hočevár ■



European Committee 2015 in Rome elects European Team 2016

From the 7th to 13th September the JECI-MIEC European Committee 2015 took place in Rome. Thanks to all the helping hands of FUCI and MSAC Italy everything around this meeting went perfectly and thanks to all the people attending it was a good work and a fruitful week.

32 people from 14 different countries (including three guests and three internationals) participated this important event, brought in their perspectives, knowledge and competences and made this whole meeting very special.

We congratulate the new elected European Team 2016 being composed of Miriam Röcker (KSJ Germany), Tina Hocevar (Drustvo SKAM Slovenia), François Châtelier (JEC Luxembourg), Jan Szypulski (KIK Drum Bun, Poland) and Simon Fischer (AKH Germany), who is confirmed in his office.



The European Team 2016: (LH) Jan, Tina, Simon, Miriam and François (c) Photography by Johan Vanhove, 2015.

Read now the impressions of Tina Hocevar (Drustvo SKAM Slovenia)

from the European Committee 2015:

This years the European Committee was held in Rome from 7th to 13th of September. For me this was the first time to be an official delegate at the JECI-MIEC European Committee, so I was curious about how this week would be. And it turned out to be busy, a lot of reporting, co-deciding, seconding and also fun.

About the working part – firstly we have listened to member organizations' updates on their work and there has been a lot of impressive work done by everyone. The European Team presented us what they have been doing, we went through the finances and we also made some plans for the next year. So there was a lot of work to do. Therefore, we spent all days in the conference room, which was not always easy, but we managed it successfully thanks to joint prayers, coffee breaks, Simon's determination to work, Jacque's fine music selection and overall good atmosphere created by the participants. We also had elections for the new European Team 2016 and I am happy to be part of that team. I am really looking forward to working with such great people (Jan, Simon, Miriam, Francois) and for the good of JECI-MIEC.

And about the fun part – getting to know all participants was fun and it was fun spending time with them. Johan had always some interesting stories to tell, Francois never forgot to put his thumbs up while taking a photo, Simon had serious working mood on, Mihaela can sing very good and she sang us very nicely during the closing Mass, Joao learned to never again make a bet with Jacques, Martin

baught stones on auctions, Romana was all the time happy and spreading the good mood and more and more interesting and fun facts about the participants. We had social evenings (MO's bazar, cultural bazar, talent show, etc.) and we had a city tour to explore the impressive history and beauties of Rome. Spending all this time together we became good friends and also developed some ideas for the future cooperation among MO's. Together we have created memories that I'll keep forever, because nice memories are ones to be remembered and not forgotten.

My overall impressions are very positive. Hosts and organizers made a special effort to organize the European Committee 2015 and they have done a great job. I came home full of new ideas, I have learned more about the JECI-MIEC and member organizations, I am impressed by the work of everyone, I have met great people that inspired me and I am really looking forward for the next European Committee!

God be with you,

Tina Hocevar

■



The KSJ National Meeting aka The KSJ Buko

The BUKO 2015 took place from the 27th of December to the 30th of December in Bonn, Germany. There was a lot to do during those days: besides discussions, motions and reports we had a market of possibilities, a Christmas market we arranged together, the separated conferences (females and males) and an extra meeting for networking between the dioceses.



Unfortunately we had to say goodbye to our dear National Chaplain Holger Adler SJ. But we are happy to welcome our new Clerical National Leader Julia Koesters. She was elected with a clear majority in the first run. One highlight at the BUKO 2015 was probably that one of our members got baptized at the closing mass. This was for all of us a very touching and spiritual moment.



MIRIAM RÖCKER

Transmission of Memories meeting

On the weekend from the 13th to the 15th of November, the outgoing and incoming European Teams gathered in Munich (Germany) for a Transmission of memories meeting. While full attendance was not possible, both teams were still strongly represented with Clement Maury Romana, Mysula from the former European Team, François Châtellier and Miriam Röcker



from the new European Team and Simon Fischer and Jan Szypulski from both teams.

While our heart and prayers were with the victims from the tragic events which occurred in Paris, all participants were fully devoted to make the most out of this meeting. As a result communication was good and resulted in a fruitful exchange of information. Tasks were attributed for the new European Team and the advice and guidance provided by the outgoing team resonated strongly and empowered the newcomers to strive for ambitious achievements in the upcoming year.

Francois Chatellier

Preparation Meeting for the European Congress in Slovenia

In the evening of the 3th of June the European Team gathered unfortunately without Tina Hočvar, who was in Barcelona at that time, in Ljubljana to prepare the European Congress in September. We all got picked up by the nice people of SKAM who welcomed us in their capital city.



After a lovely evening together on Friday we met again for a productive work day on Saturday. Getting picked up in front of the hotel we made our way to the office of SKAM to discuss the course of events and prepare the European Congress, write the Newsletter and talk about the Statues.

Unfortunately we already had to say goodbye on Sunday morning again but we are really looking forward to the European Congress in September.

MIRIAM RÖCKER



JEI-MIEC Newsletter

June 2016

Use of washing machines

A lot of people don't know how to use a washing machine properly and that is why we decided to write a short tutorial about "How to use a washing machine". First you should check that you got a water connection to your washing machine. Second you should be sure that you also have an electrical connection. Now you are ready to start washing your clothes.

1. Step: Put your clothes in the washing drum
2. Step: Close the door.
3. Step: Put laundry detergent in the designated place
4. Step: Turn the washing machine on
5. Step: Choose the right program for your laundry
6. Step: Press start.

YOURS TRULY, THE EUROPEAN TEAM ■

All gather for the European Congress 2016

In parallel to this newsletter your movement should have received an invitation to the European Congress taking place from the 10th to the 18th of September in Slovenia.

Being composed of a study session and a Committee session this event taking place every four years is one you shouldn't pass on.

The study session presenting the perfect opportunity to exchange and inspire collective action

amongst different youth movements from all over Europe. Packed with informative content, this part of the event will provide value for individual participants and their movements alike.

The second part of the event, the Committee, is all about you. It is your opportunity to give your perspective on the work of the European team and provide feedback for the upcoming years. Furthermore it is also your opportunity to yourself candidate for the European Team or European Coordinator if you are interested in being involved in the bigger picture of European Youth movements.

Don't miss it!!

EUROPEAN TEAM ■

PREVIEW



European Congress 2016 in Slovenia

As you now have read, the European Committee 2015 takes place from 10th to 18th September in Slovenia. For this occasion the offices of our Member Organisations already received the Calls for Delegates, Executive Board, European Coordinator, etc.

We are looking forward to this event!

EUROPEAN TEAM ■