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CONTACT

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www.ofm.org/jpic

pax@ofm.org



www.facebook.com/ofmjpica



+39 06 68491218



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1. EDITORIAL, MINING AND ICJPIC

Dear brothers and sisters of the OFM-JPIC offices, and of the Franciscan Family, and friendly organizations, a warm greeting and fraternal wish of Peace to all of you from the General Curia's JPIC Office. Now we are offering you the new issue of "Contact Newsletter" which corresponds to April, May and June. During this year, we have prioritized the topics proposed by the International JPIC Council to be lived out as an option of our work for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation:

"We also present you the problems that MINING is causing all over the world. The minerals of the earth bring us many goods, but too often mining techniques, eviction and people's loss of power, soil and water pollution, the corruption and arrogance of many mining corporations, and the unfair distribution of mining wealth, impel us to question its true value. Again and again we hear from our brothers how much damage mining causes, and also of their tireless struggle to achieve justice for all in this extractive industry. We encourage you, brothers and sisters, to be in solidarity with the poor and with the land to reverse this imbalance "(CIJPIC - 2016)

1. EDITORIAL, MINING AND ICJPIC

In this issue we wish to elaborate on the theme of mining extraction and its negative impacts on many communities. We are sharing the work being done in El Salvador, Brazil, Indonesia, and Australia on this problem. In addition, we include the Rome Office own activities on the Order's animation service. We are pleased that a more systematic work has begun on the Custody of Morocco JPIC Office and the Custody of the Holy Land JPIC Office as well.

You are invited to read and share our Contact Newsletter, which allows us to be connected and to know the various initiatives around JPIC values within the Order's entities, such as the great Laudato si' pilgrimage that Latin America is experiencing. We know that there are many more initiatives in the Order, and that is why we ask you to kindly send your news and pictures, in order to share them with all the brothers and sisters who read our Newsletter. The next Contact number will be issued at the end of September; the core subject will be "New Lifestyle". Please send your contributions by the 20th of that month.

Fraternal greetings,
May our good God bless us all!

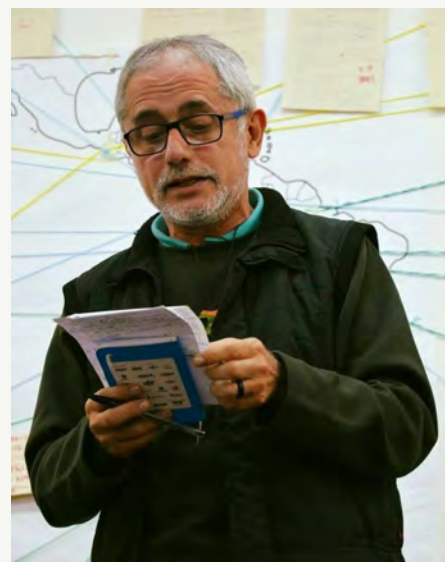
Br. Jaime Campos F., OFM
JPIC Office – Rome



2. A REPORT ON MINING PROJECT

General Considerations

Proposed in 2014 and launched in February 2015, the *JPIC & Mining Project* has three main motivations: (1) the increasing involvement of JPIC animators from many religious congregations in environmental justice issues, in particular the negative effects of mining, such as human rights violations and environmental impacts in various parts of the world; (2) in 2012, the Franciscan international delegation present during the People's Summit at Rio + 20 assumed mining as one of the three areas of work to be proposed for the JPIC; (3) In 2013, the Integrity of Creation Working Group (ICWG) of the Inter-Congregational Religious Commission of JPIC in Rome initiated an inter-congregational survey on the religious life's presence in mining issues.



Initially the project was to collect and provide information and analyze data from the mining research and to suggest instructions to JPIC promoters (Franciscans and other congregations) working on mining issues, in Rome.

With the development of the *JPIC & Mining Project*, its goal became clearer. As a result of our contacts with affected communities, groups and networks involved in the mining struggles, our project has evolved to seek ways to engage JPIC promoters in these groups and networks and to provide a service to the existing struggles and their articulations throughout the world.

In these two years of *JPIC & Mining Project* we found that, at the international level, there are different readings and analysis of the mining reality. Different ways of seeing and reflecting the mining issue, its environmental impacts, human rights violations and concrete alternative searches. There are numerous forms of organization, struggles and resistances. There is a growing need for sharing these different views and struggle and organization realities to face the advance of mining in the territories. There is an urgent need of experiences exchange among affected communities and populations, resistance movements and organizations.

2. A REPORT ON MINING PROJECT

In view of this the *JPIC and Mining Project* assumed as task: together with international networks that deal with mining issues from the reality and perspective of the affected, create a global articulation among these networks. For this, an agenda of communication and information exchange is being built through the internet. Four international

meetings have already been held "online" via Skype, with participation of networks from Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe. An articulation and planning is under way for the first half of 2018 to promote a thematic meeting, a kind of World Thematic Social Forum on Mining.

Currently the *JPIC & Mining Project* is being coordinated by Franciscans International, a NGO at the United Nations in Geneva, with the follow-up and involvement of the Integrity of Creation Working Group (ICWG) of the JPIC promoters located in Rome and the Romans VI Group (the JPIC animators of the different branches of the Franciscan Family).

Br. Rodrigo de Castro Amédée Péret, OFM



JPIC animator Provincial—Brazil

3. AUSTRALIA, REFLECTION ON MINING

They have eyes but do not see (Psalm 135)..... Multi-National Mining Companies

Mining and other resource extraction businesses are a multi-national industry. The decision makers live in one country and make investment decisions in another. They sometimes are unaware, or don't want to be aware, of the effects of their decisions. Good people are sometimes making poor decisions because they are only looking at numbers and laws. They are not seeing people or the environment that their decisions effect.

The high standards, enforced by law in their own "first-world" country, decision makers will ignore when it gets in the way of profit in a developing country. They will act lawfully. They industries may follow the written law but not care for the common good.

They will ignore the fact that a government of an economically poorer country may be desperate to find funds and employment for their people. This recipient government may do anything for the investment. They may feel they trapped and have little freedom of choice if they want to develop economically. In this situation the long-term disadvantages of their decisions, on people and environment, may not justify the short-term benefits of the mining or extractive industry. That is even before we consider the possibility of corruption.

The governments of countries regulating mining and extractive industries have a choice but so do the directors of multi-national corporations and the investors that fund them. They can choose to have high-standards. They can choose not only to follow the law of the land but go beyond it to minimise harm to people and the environment. They can choose not to make profits at the expense of desperate people.

The Verona JPIC International called on the Order to stand in solidarity with the poor and the earth to seek justice. One way we can do that is to ensure we open the eyes of directors of Multinational Resource companies and Bankers to the effect of their decisions on the people and the earth. To respond to their actions we, as an international brotherhood, need to act together.

The Holy Spirit Province, which covers Australia and New Zealand in which there are many headquarters of mining companies and other extractive industries. We would like to be able to open the eyes of the directors of these companies, and those that invest in them, to the suffering experienced by the people effected by poor mining and extractive industry practices. If you have information about the poor practises of these companies let us know the details jpica@franciscans.org.au and we will see if we can help raise awareness. Let the decision makers hear and see the people and the land.

May the Lord open their eyes and soften their hearts.

Br. Joe McKay OFM
Member of JPIC Committee, Holy Spirit Province

4. EL SALVADOR, PROHIBITION OF MINING



First of all, receive my cordial greeting wishing you Peace and Good with Justice and Love for Creation.

As a provincial JPIC animator of the Province of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Central America and Haiti, I am very pleased to share with you an excerpt from the "Mining Prohibition Act" in Salvador, issued by the Official Gazette, on April 4, but still waiting for the presidential enactment until its publication yesterday May 9. According to legal regulations, this law will come into force after 8 working days of its publication by the Official Gazette, so we anticipate there is no turning back:

DECREE No. 639
ALL METALS MINING PROHIBITION ACT.
Statement of objective

Art. 1. This law has the objective to ban all metals mining on the soil and subsoil of the territory of the Republic.

Scope of the Ban

Art. 2. All Metals Mining Ban includes the activities of: exploring, extracting, exploiting and processing, either surface mining or underground mining. The use of toxic chemicals, such as cyanide, mercury and others, in any metallic mining process is also banned. In the case of small-scale artisanal mining for family subsistence, craftsmen and "güiriseros" will have a two-year term, counting from the date this law comes into force, to move to another productive activity; for this, they will have the support, counseling, technical and financial assistance by the Salvadoran State.

4. EL SALVADOR, PROHIBITION OF MINING

As many of you know, this is the outcome of the efforts of many organizations, among them El Salvador's JPIC, which strenuously struggled during 11 years in different ways at local and international levels. The extremely appropriate action of the Archbishop, who understood it was the right time to give the theme a new course, backed by Catholic and other Christian organizations, along with the lay organizations, was the crucial action, since in an unprecedented march headed by himself and other members of the Hierarchy, led the delivery of 30,538 signatures collected in just eight days in support of the project submitted on the 8th of February, and defined before the society the will of almost all the representatives, and assured them they would not lose face in front of the population.

To share with you my happiness that comes from having accompanied the marginalized people, and, as in this case, besieged by mega-enterprises like Oceana Gold (Australian-Canadian) and Pacific Rim, both of which were doubly defeated on this terrain, since firstly they had promoted before the CIADI, subsidiary of the World Bank, a fine of initially 314 million dollars for, according to them, breaking the deals, deals "fraudulently" agreed with the late former president Francisco Flores; and after losing it, they were forced to paying the Salvadoran State the minimum \$ 8 million dollars corresponding to 60% of the procedural costs, by decree of October 14, 2016; and then, 5 months and a half later, they received another setback because, mainly against them, this banning law "All Metals Mining Prohibition Act" is adopted in El Salvador".

Wishing you all the best

Br. Domingo Solís, OFM
JPIC animator Provincial



5. VISIT TO THE CUSTODY OF MOROCCO



Between March 25 and April 01, I was able to visit the brothers of the Custody of the Protomartyrs of Morocco. Invited by the Custodian, Bro. Manuel Corrullón, OFM and I visited 5 out of the 6 fraternities of the Custody. We held meetings with the brothers of each fraternity to search together for ways to deepen the experience of JPIC values in Moroccan lands, and at the end of the meeting we spent a day with the JPIC Commission and the Franciscan Sisters of Mary. In this sense, it is possible to see a greater awareness of JPIC values in the brothers' work both within the fraternity and out in serving to the cultural centers and the parishes entrusted to the brothers.

Currently, the custody has an animator, Bro. Natale Fiumanò, OFM and a commission composed of one brother from each fraternity. Last year, Bro. Natale participated in the Conference of the Parties (COP22). During this year, they have held some meetings to deal with certain issues, such as migration, which is very present in the national reality. They have begun a process of collaboration with the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Mary. Likewise, they are searching for the possibility to promote the JPIC values within the Cultural Centers, particularly the care of the common house.



Br. Jaime Campos F., OFM
JPIC office—Rome

6. MEETING OF THE MODERATORS ONGOING FORMATION OF COMPI



COMPI, Meeting of Moderators for Ongoing Formation

The meeting of the Italian Conference of Minister Provincials' Moderators for Permanent Formation was held last Tuesday, April 5. On the occasion, one of the themes that the brothers wished to deal with was the issue of migration in Europe, particularly in Italy. Invited by Bro. Antonio Scabio, OFM, General Definitor, during the morning journey we shared some reflections about the document "Guidelines for OFM Pastoral Work with Immigrants in Europe" prepared by the Office

From the experience and reflection of the participants of the meeting, a dialog was held to look for some concrete form of making available for the Conference brothers some materials that may be helpful in reflecting on the theme within the fraternities, and also available to action towards pastoral work.

Br. Jaime Campos F, OFM
JPIC office—Rome

7. INTERNATIONAL JPIC COURSE 2017



From May 8 to 14, International JPIC Course 2017, “The Slavery of the 21st Century – New Threats to the Human Dignity” was held at the Pontifical University Antonianum. The course consisted of two parts, the first was open to all the participants and the second only for JPIC animators. Forty-eight participants took part in the first part which highlighted structural problems of our modern society that suppress humanity from the viewpoints of labor, immigration, human trafficking, and so on. The course offered not only theoretical lectures, but also the opportunity to listen to the vivid testimonies of professionals working with the poor in the field. For example, Fr. Thomás Gonzales, the director of the “La 72” in Mexico, a shelter home for refugees and Sr. Gabriella Bottani of “Talitha Kum”, a network of religious congregations to help the victims of human trafficking, gave impressive talks. The second part of the course covered the necessary information and tools for JPIC animators. The whole course was completed with the pilgrimage of Assisi to recall the spirit of St. Francis in JPIC animation

Br. Rufino Lim OFM
JPIC office—Rome

CONFERENCE	Num. of participants
CONFRES	2
COMPI	6
ESC	2
EAC	5
COTAF	2
SAAOC	3
AFRICAN	8
NORTH-SLAVIC	2
SOUTH-SLAVIC	0
CUSTODY OF HOLY LAND	0
BRAZILIAN	1
CONO SUR	2
BOLIVARIAN	0
MEXICO, C. AMERICA & CARIBE	4

8. MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTS OF CONFERENCES

The annual meeting between the Minister General, the General Definitory and the Order Conference Chairs took place in May 15 – 17; it was carried out at the General Curia. During the last day, a time in the schedule was devoted to sharing among the Formation and Studies General Secretariat, the General Secretariat for Missions and Evangelization... and the JPIC Office.

JPIC Office was accompanying by delivering information to the Conference Chairs on the 2017 JPIC Course, giving thanks for the support reflected in the great number of participants in the course. Also, it was told that the 2018 JPIC Course will be held in Mexico, as a form of bringing near and favoring the work of the Order at regional level. Besides, it will coincide with the celebration of UCLAF's Anniversary.

Likewise, word came about other commitments and encounters, such as the next JPIC International Council that corresponds to 2018, JPIC Continental Encounters of the Americas and of Asia, which will be held in September and October 2017 respectively. Also there was mention of the 2015 General Chapter's decision n. 12 about the responsibility of the Conference Chairs to monitor the implementation of the ecological program in the entities. Finally, the advance of the Laudato si' Pilgrimage, shared by entities of three Conferences in Latin America, was offered.

Br. Jaime Campos, OFM
JPIC office—Rome



9. VISIT TO THE CUSTODY OF HOLY LAND

Br. Jaime Campos, the Director of the JPIC Office of the Order has visited the Custody of Holy Land for animation work as well as pilgrimage. Having willingly accepted the invitation of the Custos, Br. Jaime came to get acquainted with some of our realities, in which the friars work for justice, peace and the care of creation. Accompanied by Br. Giorgio Vigna, the animator of the Custody, he admired how much our schools and parishes are doing to educate children and youths and to defend and promote the rights of



migrants arrived from different parts of the world, disregarding whichever religion they may belong to. The meetings with representatives of Palestinian and Israeli society were also held. They offered their vision of the complex problems underlying the abuses and violence experienced here every day and how difficult it is for everyone to retain hope in a near future of reconciliation and peace. The meetings were heavy and intense but effective. The meetings with the Comboni Missionary Sisters of the Mt. Olives and the director of the Mosaic Center of Jericho gave a few surprises. Since the sisters lived right next to the separation wall, the meeting gave us a chance to see and touch it and above all we could understand the impacts on the lives of the population (even children!).



As an opposite sign, the experience at the Mosaic Center, a small but important social and artistic reality that, educating and engaging young Palestinians in beauty, is like a window open to the hope of human redemption.

There was not only work, but also pilgrimage. Br. Jaime was able to stay in some of our sanctuaries for the first time, and to listen to the “Fifth Gospel” of the stones so well guarded by the devotion and the patience of the Franciscans.

9. VISIT TO THE CUSTODY OF HOLY LAND



The highlight of the visit in the Custody was May 30 (Tuesday), when Br. Jaime encountered the friars in the fraternity of St. Salvatore. In the morning he met with a large group of friars who had come from far away. It was presented to them that justice, peace and care of creation are not some values or commitments that are added to the being and to the life of the Friars Minor but that which belongs intimately to their Franciscan vocation itself. In the afternoon, more “aimed” meetings followed: with the Secretariats for Formation and Studies and for Evangelization. These moments were important to apply these values better in main areas of our life and action. The visit finally ended with works with the appropriate JPIC Committee, which was able to identify some lines of forthcoming commitment for a large-scale project.

We give the special gratitude of the Custos and all of us to Br. Jaime for his fraternal presence and his effective contributions to the mission of the Custody of the Holy Land.

Br. Giorgio M. Vigna, OFM
 animator of the
 Custody

JPIC



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10. VISIT TO THE PROVINCE OF INDONESIA

Meeting with the students

A meeting with 32 friars of temporary profession was held at the Provincial Curia in Jakarta. Two student friars made a short presentation about initial formation on JPIC in the Province first which was followed by the presentation about JPIC works of the Rome office and various other Provinces. The formation of JPIC values is firmly integrated in the course of initial formation. The student friars keep close themselves to the poor and the needy, and are conscious of ecological practices in everyday life. JPIC is giving them a deeper perspective to the Franciscan lifestyle.

Meeting with JPIC commission

A meeting with the Provincial JPIC commission was held at the JPIC community in Jakarta. The Province has not only JPIC office but also an independent JPIC community. The JPIC commission consists of five friars and two lay workers. The animator, Br. Peter Aman made a presentation about the works of the office. The



main areas are advocacy, ecology & 'Eco-Pastoral', animation and social charity. The most impressive parts are advocacy and 'Eco-Pastoral'. The main issues for advocacy are mining problems, palm oil plantations and human trafficking. The office has done great job especially regarding mining issue in various islands. The friars have actively assisted and supported the local people victimized by mining corporates.

Visits to the mining sites and the victims

I have visited five remote villages in two islands, Flores and Timor that have been badly affected by the exploitation of mining industry. All the mines were of manganese which is an important ingredient for batteries and steel.



There were striking similarities in their cases or the common mechanism of extractive industry. All the villages were very small and poor. In some of the villages, there was not even electricity nor proper roads connected to them from the nearby local road. The mining corporates would come to them with permits for mining operation issued by local governments.

10. VISIT TO THE PROVINCE OF INDONESIA

Normally the corporates would be accompanied by police forces or sometimes by military. Then they would grab vast land for digging which belongs to the local people. Having been taken away their land, some villagers often become workers in the mines. Usually lands, forests, and water resources are exploited severely. But the



saddest result of all is the broken local communities itself. The global capital attacks on the most vulnerable parts and devours the rich resources of Mother Earth harming the helpless people around. And it hinder the eye sight of the consumers from the realities behind convenience of modern civilization.

The friars have done great job in advocacy for these villages. Mining operation is stopped temporarily in most of the mines. Still there is a strong possibility of reactivating the mines. Even then, most of those villagers were animated and empowered by the friars.

Visit to the Eco-Pastoral center



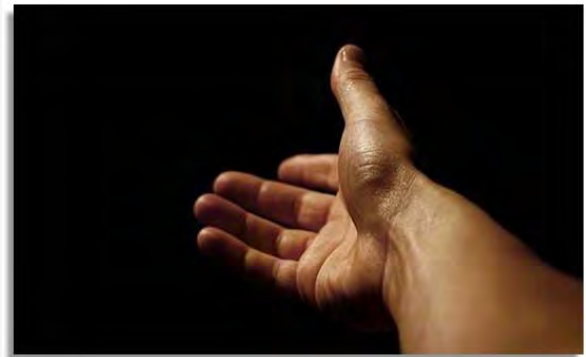
The most impressive JPIC work of the Province was 'Eco-Pastoral'. It started in 2000 when there was the economic recession in Asia. Br. Mike Peruhe and other local youth in Pagal district, Flores Is. took up a new initiative for ecological agriculture. Now the center has 14 staffs(including 2 friars) with various projects and programs. Cultivation of grains and vegetables is not the only work of the center. It has various

programs, such as development of organic fertilizers, preservation of forest and water resources etc. It runs the three month training course 4~5 times a year. Groups of 30~50 students participate in the course from April until September. It also gives JPIC courses animating and empowering local farmers. In general, the Eco-Pastoral center is a unique example of incarnation of Franciscan ecology into a society.

Br. Rufino Lim, OFM
JPIC office—Rome

11. WELCOMING TO THE GENERAL CURIA

During last year's JPIC International Council, held in Verona, Italy, one of the themes discussed was Migration, which was then included in the statement of the encounter to be dealt with by the whole Order from the JPIC Offices. In this spirit, the members of the International Council wrote a letter to Fr. Michel Perry, Minister General, requesting that, as a fraternal sign and following Pope Francis' call, the General Curia fraternity should assess the possibility to welcome immigrants.



The Minister General submitted the request to the General Definitory. A Commission was appointed, composed by Fr. Sandro Overend, Guardian of the General Curia, the general Definitors Fr. Kevin O Laoide, Fr. Nicodeme Kibuzehose and the director of the JPIC office, Fr. Jaime Campos. The commission's objective was to study the possibility to offer a concrete response to the request.

During the following months, information about the matter was gathered, Rome Astalli Center Foundation was contacted, and a proposal was submitted to the local Chapter. The fraternity agreed to welcome two migrants. Along the year, details were polished, such as the preparation of the room and the kitchen. At the same time, a collaboration agreement with Astalli Center was developing.

On June 01, two migrants arrived to live in our fraternity. They are Bakary Sissoko, born in Mali, 26 years old, who works and studies, and Baker Sadiq, born in Iraq (Iraqi Kurdish), musician and student of cultural mediation in the Community of San Egidio in the Trastevere District. Both have the asylum status granted by the Italian Government and are in the process towards an autonomous life. In this sense, the collaboration and welcome agreement has a defined term of one year. After this time, the fraternity will evaluate if it is possible to repeat the action in the next years by welcoming other people.

With this small action, the fraternity of the General Curia wants to join the Pope Francis' call, amid this crisis that we are undergoing as humanity. We join other fraternities and projects of the Order where the brothers are already working and offering welcome, companionship, listening, food and empathy with those who, in many occasions, had to leave by force their lands, as pilgrims and strangers. We encourage other fraternities of the Order to enter this dynamics of welcoming in fraternity and minority.

Br. Jaime Campos F., OFM
JPIC office—Rome

12. SPAIN, SEMINAR ON INTEGRAL ECOLOGY

Seminario de ecología integral Madrid, 16 y 17 de junio

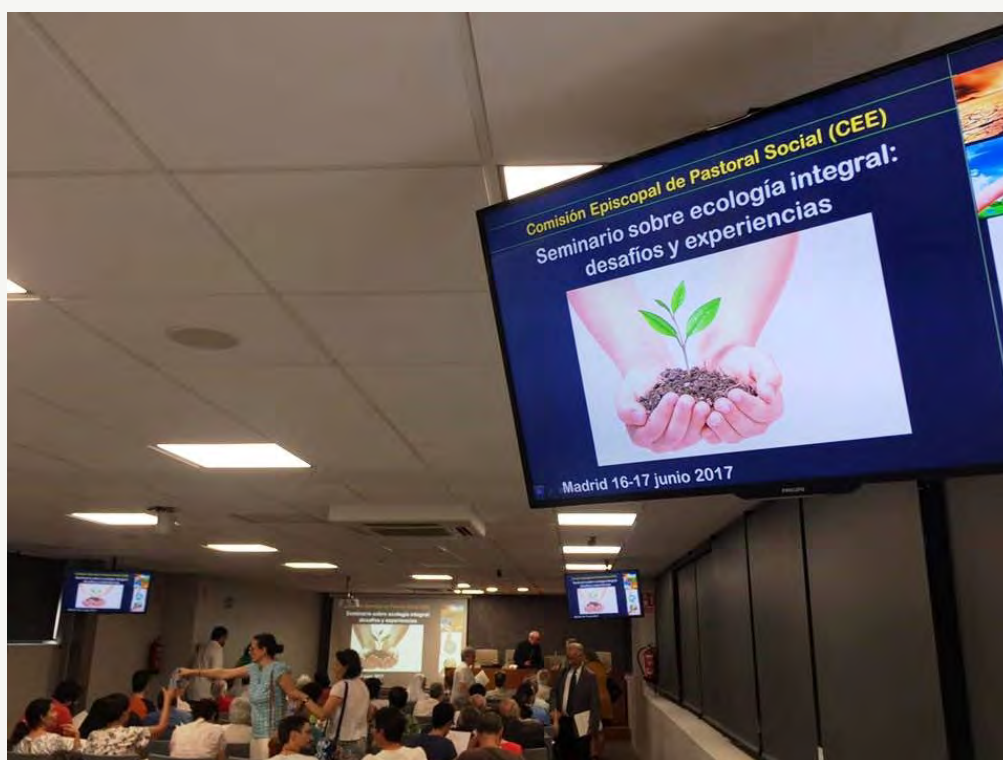
The Seminar on Integral Ecology, that had an attendance of 80 participants from all over Spain, had the following objectives:

1. To present the most important challenges that are being posed for the achievement of an integral ecology
2. To deepen the theological and pastoral foundations that inform an integral ecology
3. To learn and foster ecological initiatives that generate a change of lifestyle and behaviors favorable to an integral ecology (Action guidelines)

The program of this seminar responded to such objectives with the assistance of experts in environmental matters posing the most relevant challenges in the agro-food model, energetic system and in the face of the destruction of natural resources.

The reflection lines were drawn from Pope Francis' Encyclical *Laudato si*; they are necessary to support the Christian commitment to an integral ecology, to live a spirituality based on the respect for the created. Also, in this seminar pastoral resources were offered aimed towards an ecological conversion (materials, action programs) in a pastoral proposal launched by Fr. Vicente Felipe, JPIC animator of the Immaculate Conception Province of Spain and Br. Jaime Campos of the OFM General Curia JPIC Office.

Excerpted from the Ecological Seminar Conclusions



13. CROATIA, JPIC SEMINAR



The Franciscan Institute of the Culture of Peace in Split, Croatia, organized a JPIC workshop for different religious communities in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, 18 – 21 of April 2017. The goal of the workshop was to clarify what JPIC entails and the connection it has with ‘right relations’ and reconciliation at every level; to show that JPIC is a way to live the gospel and promote the Kingdom of God today; to appreciate the integral connection between contemplation and action; to build capacity in JPIC animation; to encourage JPIC networking; to present the Croatian and Bosnian & Herzegovinian context and some models of the JPIC work of the Franciscan Institute of the Culture of Peace.

The workshop was led by Francisco Gearóid ÓConaire, OFM, who for long periods was General Secretary of the OFM-JPIC Commission, and of the joint commission of the leadership of both women and men’s religious institutes (UISG/USG), both based in Rome. The themes of the workshop were: The Story of the Universe – situating the human person within the creation process; creation in the Bible, the life of St. Frances, theology, social teaching of the Church, in particular in the Encyclical *Laudato Si* as the basis for spirituality - contemplation and action; advocacy and networking in JPIC on local and international level. An analysis of the perception and reception of the social teaching of the Church in Croatia and Bosnia & Herzegovina was led by Bože Vuleta, OFM, as well as its exemplary implementation by the Franciscan Institute for the Culture of Peace, particularly within its campaign to keep *Sunday’s Work Free* and its advocacy against the privatization of waters.

The fifteen participants evaluated the workshop extremely positive and helpful stressing particularly their thanks for the insight into the JPIC spirituality and the work done by the Franciscan Institute for the Culture of Peace.

Br. Bože Vuleta, OFM
JPIC animator Provincial—Croatia

14. LATIN AMERICA, LAUDATO SI' PILGRIMAGE

A simultaneous “Laudato si’” pilgrimage of Saint Francis and Saint Clare icons began in February in Mexico and Chile. During 8 months the icons will visit about 19 Latin American countries, calling the Franciscan Family to promote Pope Francis’ Encyclical on the care of the common house. Below, we share the experience of the brothers of the Province of the Most Holy Trinity in Chile and of the Province of the Holy Gospel in Mexico.



Chile

The beginning of 2017 was marked by the presence of the Pilgrimage Icon of the Americas. On February 10, the pilgrimage started right from the southernmost fraternity of the Order in the city of Castro, where various activities were carried out, culminating together with the celebration of the Feast of the Christ of Cahuach. Later, the icons of Francisco and Clare continued their route through several cities of Chile: Angol, Concepción, Los Ángeles, San Francisco de Mostazal, Rapel de Navidad, Santiago and La Serena, with various activities, highlighting the planting of more than 250 native trees, formative meetings on Global Warming, New Lifestyle, Care for Creation and the Encyclical Laudato Si’, as well as liturgical and Eucharistic celebrations.

We give thanks to all of the brothers and sisters who helped in the accomplishment of each of the activities, and to all attendants. The pilgrimage in Chile came to an end with the handing over of the Icon to the Franciscan Family Brothers of Argentina in Mendoza, on April 01. Undoubtedly the pilgrimage left relevant challenges for the care and custody of the creation, and the promotion of Justice and Peace in our communities and presences. More activities were carried out: new tree plantations in Concepción, La Serena, Angol, and in a near future en Temuco; there were formation requests in Santiago, at the Franciscan Center and at Alameda San Francisco Parish as well.

14. LATIN AMERICA, LAUDATO SI' PILGRIMAGE



Br. Máximo Cavieres, OFM
JPIC animator of the Province

Mexico

The celebrations of the 493th anniversary of the arrival of the first friars to these lands, held in the cities of Puerto de Veracruz and La Antigua, Veracruz, on May 6-7, allowed to spread with great joy this aspect of our charisma that leads us to see Saint Francis in its fraternal relationship with creation, no longer in a merely romantic way but in the socio-economic and cultural complexity and in its global dimension that entails the problem of care for the environment.

There is a growing concern about the problem of global warming that is affecting us; it is to be noted that we are already being witnesses to the climate change and its negative impacts. The feeling and concern mainly of the Secular Franciscan Order is seeing in JPIC a space where we can work this aspect of our spirituality. The regional councils and the national council are reacting to the signs of the times that demand from us an attitude of mercy and compassion, but above all of ecological justice that have led them to approach the JPIC animators for advice in forming their JPIC commission. As a JPIC animator, I truly see a hopeful picture in the transforming force of the SFO and in its commitment to be, like Saint Francis, brothers of the universe. Cardinal Amigo's lecture motivated even more the desire and the commitment to make ourselves present and to begin an articulated work with

14. LATIN AMERICA, LAUDATO SI' PILGRIMAGE

the civil society because at least they got in touch with the local organizations that work in this area.

Br. Samuel López, OFM
JPIC animator of the Province

More Photos:

MEXICO

Initiation of the pilgrimage

https://www.facebook.com/samuel.lopezpadilla.3/media_set?set=a.10154470833071099.1073741951.622566098&type=3

Pilgrimage of America in the cities of Mexico

https://www.facebook.com/samuel.lopezpadilla.3/media_set?set=a.10154558048276099.1073741971.622566098&type=3&pnref=story

Pilgrimage of America in Orizaba, Veracruz

https://www.facebook.com/samuel.lopezpadilla.3/media_set?set=a.10154556404646099.1073741958.622566098&type=3&pnref=story

Pilgrimage of America in Oaxaca, Oaxaca

https://www.facebook.com/samuel.lopezpadilla.3/media_set?set=a.10154556401386099.1073741957.622566098&type=3&pnref=story

Pilgrimage of America in Morelos and State of Mexico

https://www.facebook.com/samuel.lopezpadilla.3/media_set?set=a.10154557887371099.1073741968.622566098&type=3&pnref=story

Pilgrimage of America in Puebla.

https://www.facebook.com/samuel.lopezpadilla.3/media_set?set=a.10154557857091099.1073741967.622566098&type=3&pnref=story

Pilgrimage of America in Veracruz.

https://www.facebook.com/samuel.lopezpadilla.3/media_set?set=a.10154556512896099.1073741961.622566098&type=3&pnref=story

CHILE

<https://www.facebook.com/laudatosiamerica/?fref=ts>

ARGENTINA

<https://www.facebook.com/FamiliaFranciscanaDeArgentina/?fref=ts>

<https://www.facebook.com/franciscanosenargentina/?fref=ts>

https://www.facebook.com/pg/OFS-en-Argentina-328551143871259/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1352540998138930

URUGUAY

<https://www.facebook.com/ofmjpjpic/posts/1051494694994590>

PARAGUAY

<https://www.facebook.com/OFSParaguay/>

GUATEMALA

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100017223633868>

EL SALVADOR

https://www.facebook.com/JPICElSalvador/?ref=br_rs

NICARAGUA

15. ROMANS VI MEETING



Romans VI meeting was held on April 24 and June 27. In the April meeting, Romans VI invited personnel from FOCSIV, an NGO based in Italy who gave a presentation on “Catholic Divest/Reinvest Movement”. Realized the urgency and the necessity of action on climate justice, Romans VI discussed on how to articulate its proposal of “Divest/Reinvest movement” to CFF. Later a Skype meeting with FI followed. A few updates on the preparation for COP23 in Bonn were made and both parties shared ideas about Franciscan participation in the international climate conference. In the June meeting, there was further updates on this topic. And also there was a proposal made on “Energy for All” campaign. The basic idea of the campaign is the divestment from fossil fuel industry and the reinvestment to renewable and clean energy especially for underdeveloped countries. It aims energy democracy or “Clean Energy for All”.

Br. Rufino Lim OFM
JPIC office—Rome



16. JPIC CONTINENTAL MEETINGS



GENERAL INFORMATION 5th CONTINENTAL JPIC MEETING

Participants

JPIC Animators of the Entities of the Americas, other friars, lay JPIC collaborators.

Objectives

- To deepen reflection on the Migration phenomenon, on the struggle against mega-mining, and on the proposal for a new lifestyle.
- To listen to the appeal of the Earth and the cry of the poor in the JPIC dimension.
- To grow in the commitment, from praxis, in the work of JPIC Animation in the entity, and in the collaboration at regional level.
- To form and encourage those in charge of JPIC according to the JPIC General Office's guidelines.

Schedule

Arrival - Thursday, August 31, 2017

Departure – Friday, September 8, 2017

Cost

Thanks to some negotiation by the Rome Office, it was possible to get some resources, and so a good part of the cost has been subsidized; then, the contribution for this meeting will only be used \$250,00 (two hundred and fifty American dollars), for accommodation.

Site

Regina Minorum Seminary

Air Terminals

Presidente Juscelino Kubitschek International Airport, Brasilia City – DF
Goiania International Airport – Goiás

Information

For practical participation aspects (arrival schedule) and other elements, we request you please to contact Fr. Benedito Lemes S., OFM, at email address: freibe-neofm@hotmail.com

For other requirements and information, you can also write to our Rome JPIC Office, to: Fr. Rufino Lim, Fr. Jaime Campos at the email address: pax@ofm.org

17. INTERNATIONAL DAYS

July

17 World Day for International Justice

August

9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People

23 International Day of the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition

29 International Day against Nuclear Tests

September

1 World Day for the Care of Creation

1 ~ Oct. 4 Season of Creation (<http://seasonofcreation.org/>)

16 International Day for Preservation of the Ozone Layer

18. AGENDA OF ROME OFFICE

September

1 ~ 8 American Continental Meeting, Brazil (Rufino & Jaime Campos)

9 ~ 12 Animation Committee, Brazil (Rufino Lim & Jaime Campos)

13 ~ 16 A visit to SEFRAS, Province Inmaculada, Brazil (Jaime Campos)