

## EUROJESS 2007 MEETING

30 August 2007 – **EuroJess and Social Centers – looking at the future together** – Short summary

Frank Turner:

- meeting of Social Centers in Clamart (10-12 centers), convened by Mark Rotsaert
- theme: possible relations between the SC, relations between the Social Centers and the Jesuit European Office (OCIPE)
- sense of genuine collaboration between Jesuits and lay collaborators
- striving to "hold together" faith and justice
- good relationship with the wider church
- importance of direct contact with the poor, identify resource persons

Giacomo Costa:

- Vienna meeting of Social (Research) Centers and grassroots actors
- new activities and projects: have to come from individuals

**Questions:**

- Is there any specific element in the work of one's own center that could benefit others, or where support from others would be appreciated?
- how to get "networking"? role of the SJS?

**Ideas:**

- Tobias Karcher: participation in the Venice project (see summary of 29 August 2007) / the chances of interaction
- Giacomo Costa: importance of experiencing the cultural difference (the many ways to perceive faith and justice, religion and politics)
- Pierre Martinot-Lagarde: invite young volunteers/inters from our own institutions; work on meeting persons from the East and from Spain
- Gaël Giraud: does the project has a website?? No.
- age group: 20 – 30/35.
- Daniel Izuzquiza: for the last 15 years, a week long formation of this type took place / also Spiritual exercises with the focus on social justice
- Edmond Grace: groups of civil servants sharing on why to engage in "public service", are there other Centers doing similar things?
- Michael Hainz: three projects
  - publication on the Scribani-Africa-conference – look at the topic of development in migration (maybe together with "Deux Rives")
  - Christian Herwartz: "Retreats on the Streets", 9.-14. October 2007 (age: 18 – 30)
  - teaching courses in the scholasticate?
- Frank Turner: European migration desk (CEP)
- Emmanuelle Piccoli: "Democracy – a good news", November 2007
- Pierre Grech: EU co-financed project involving 30 schools, theatre with professional actors and refugees, DVD (EU directive on discrimination); detention visitors training // trying to reflect on the issue of racism, are there other centers into this?
- Pep Mària: booklets, freely available on the website

- Pierre Martinot-Lagarde: set up a workshop in order to reflect on a European journal, see how far we can go (a journal of its own, or a common journal with localised content), needs to be backed up by many
  - Andreas: would be a great idea, include those centers which do not have own journals
  - Giacomo Costa: what about the deep local roots of existing journals? Italy: weak European perspective / worthwhile to reflect on it
  - Michael Hainz: no paper version, internet platform
  - Giacomo Costa: is there someone to set up such a workshop??
  - Fernando Franco: try as a first step to get an editorial published (twice a year), written by a group of Jesuits/collaborators on a hot European topic, and have it published in all journals
  - Rafael Yuste: this proposal is not new, focus on the specific European topics
  - Daniel Izuzquiza: "Fomento Social" – interesting method for writing editorials
- Tobias Karcher: summer academie on bioethics

#### **Means of communication:**

- Uta Sievers: "Headlines", please send your news in
- Elaine Rudolphi: how to keep the newsletter alive? 4 times a year / a new initial invitation will go out to every EuroJess participant and member
- Anne Furst: put internet links on our respective sites

#### **Workshop on Ignatian advocacy:**

- starting at the Ignatian workshops in Nairobi (World Social Forum)
- workshop in Drongen, July 2007
- proposal: 3,5 day workshop in 2008
- "Entreculturas" has proposed to finance this workshop
- for: Jesuit institutions, Jesuit centers, university departments, NGOs (CIDSE, Caritas networks etc)
- 30-40 participants

*Elaine Rudolphi*