

PRESS-RELEASE

PROGRESS OF RENEWAL ON EUROPEAN LEVEL IN 2004

Netherlands, December 31st, 2004. The main activity of the European sub-committee of ICCRS in the year 2004 was to organise the meeting of national representatives in Prague, 9th-12th September. The progress of Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) on the European level was visible in several ways.

MORE NATIONS

1. In the preceding European meeting of national representatives, March 2003 near Budapest, the 60 representatives came from 22 European nations, including Vatican City.

Now, in Prague we came from 28 nations: Austria, Belgium (both Dutch-speaking and Belgique francophone), Bosnia & Herzegowenia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Great Brittan (both England and Scotland), Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Poland, Romania-South, Romania-Hungarian speaking part (Transylvania), Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland (German and French) and Vatican City.

From the international networks of communities, that were invited for the first time, we had representatives of the Sword of the Spirit communities. One of them also represented the National Service Committee of Libanon. We were about 90 persons.

Registered, but finally unable to come were: Belarus, Denmark, Ukraine, the European Network of Communities and the Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships.

MORE YOUTH

2. In the presence of young people that showed the development of the *Youth network European Catholic Charismatic Renewal*, co-ordinated by Christoff Hemberger, the young people's representative in the European sub-committee of ICCRS. As a fruit of this network, several National Service Committees decided to have a young member in their committee or to appoint a person who is responsible for the young generation in the Renewal.

RECOILIATION

3. Progress of CCR in Europe was also visible in the ongoing attention for reconciliation between European nations and tribes. This was also a subject in the European meeting in Czestochowa, 2002, and Budapest 2003.

As homework before coming to Prague the national committees translated, studied and discussed a reader of mgr. Dr. Peter Hocken on *Repenting for the sins of the past*. In Prague fr. Hocken gave a further explanation and answered questions. The whole item will now be published in a booklet.

INTERCESSION

4. Intercession for Europe, especially as a united European effort in the nine days before Pentecost is also an ongoing project in Europe. This *Burning Bush* project, animated by Kim Kollins (member of the European sub-committee of ICCRS) received a strong confirmation by Pope John Paul II at the end of the Pentecost-novena 2004. Many representatives in Prague responded positively to the question of Kim to continue this united effort the next three years.

ECCLESIA IN EUROPE

5. *Ecclesia in Europe*, written by Pope John Paul II as a result of the synod of bishops on Europe, October 1999, was discussed in Prague both as a good diagnose of the present bad spiritual situation of Europe as well as a source of inspiration. The European sub-committee of ICCRS is preparing a booklet, based on the most inspiring quotes from *Ecclesia in Europe* to use in personal prayer-time and in formation programs of groups and parishes all over Europe. It will be presented in Budapest, September 2005.

NEXT MEETING

6. The next European gathering of leaders and intercessors, September 7th-11th 2005 in Budapest, became in Prague another united effort of CCR in Europe. Ideas for the program and the main topics were discussed. National Service Committees and national representatives are invited to send people who come earlier to Budapest to take part in the organization.

Kees Slijkerman,
Secretary of the European sub-committee of ICCRS

This Info-Letter Eucril is free to everybody who wants it. They can sent to keesslij@ision.nl and e-mail with the subject *Eucril* and this message: *yes, put me on the mailing-list of Eucril-English or/and Eucril-Francais*

This *Info-letter* started in 1999 and is issued by the *European sub-committee of ICCRS*,

Chairperson Michelle Moran, e-mail peterandmichelle@ukf.net

Editor: Kees Slijkerman, e-mail: keesslij@ision.nl

European web-site, including old ISSUES of Eucril: <http://www.isidor.se/ccreurope/>