



IMCS-MIEC
PAX ROMANA

2010

IMCS Annual Report

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International Movement of Catholic Students - Pax Romana

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Introduction

About IMCS - Pax Romana

IMCS-Pax Romana is a global movement. It is strong in Africa and the Asian-Pacific region. In the past, Latin America has played a leading role in the movement. Extension into Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and the Caribbean countries is now needed to revitalize the movement on the continent. In Europe IMCS has adapted to the political developments in Eastern Europe. It is well positioned to find new ways of relating to students in 'secular' Western Europe. In the Middle East, IMCS is engaged in inter-religious dialogue as well as working with migrant and minority students in at risk situations.

As a movement, we believe in 'investing' in students as 'social capital.' The holistic formation of students contributes in the long term construction of civil society. This is particularly evident in many developing countries but also in the 'developed' world there is continuing need for the formation of citizens who work for social justice and the building up the common good.

As a key member of many local and global networks, IMCS-Pax Romana has a strong multiplier effect, allowing it to have an impact well beyond its members. Representation is undertaken by students; it is students, not others 'speaking in their name', who represent the voice of students at the UN, UNESCO, World Bank etc.

As a Catholic faith based movement IMCS is not 'literalist' or fundamentalist. It promotes peace building, social cohesion and respectful inter-religious dialogue.

Mission, Vision, Values

As a Catholic students' movement, IMCS' primary mission is the evangelization of the student milieu by helping students to get involved as social actors in the unification of people, in the university, in the Church, and in the world.

Since 1949, IMCS-Pax Romana has been advocating on behalf of its members as a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the United Nations Department of Information (DPI), and United Nations Education Science and Culture Organization (UNESCO). IMCS is also active with regional intergovernmental and international bodies, such as the International Labour Organization and the World Bank to voice the concerns of youth.

IMCS-Pax Romana represents Catholic students within the church as an international association of the lay Catholic faithful with a special relationship to the Pontifical Council for the Laity and the Secretariat of State of the Holy See. Inspired by Jesus' teachings and the Gospel values, IMCS encourages students to live a "Spirituality in Action" which bridges students' intellect to their service with others through praying, reflecting, and acting on issues which affect society at all levels.

It is a Catholic faith based movement that works exclusively with university and tertiary education students across the world. Founded in 1921, under the name Pax Romana, in order to promote peace at a global level, IMCS promotes the holistic formation of students by involving them in social action, representation and community building.

It links together over 80 national federations of university students. It is not tied to any one methodology or historical 'culture'; it is flexible and adaptable to local situations and new developments. This has allowed it to change and develop over the years.

IMCS-Pax Romana is democratic. It is run by students, for students. Regional coordination teams and the international secretariat are elected by students and are accountable to them.

The work of the International Team

The IMCS-Pax Romana International Team works closely with IMCS regional coordinators, national movements as well as partners and friends to support the work of students around the world. In 2010, a part of the ongoing process of supporting IMCS national movements, the Team responded to many different initiatives and issues from the global movement. Added to this, in order to give clarity and focus to their work, the International Team worked on two main themes during the year: governance and arms.

Good Governance and Disarmament

Participatory Structures

Over the past two decades the strength of African civil society has been increasing and consolidating. However, in many places, it is unable still to consistently participate in the political and decision-making process. In past decades, the continent has experienced an increase in the occurrence of democratic elections as a means of regime change. The existing structures for democratic participation are not necessarily permanent and often are far from being effective. More needs to be done to promote good governance and wider civil society participation in Africa.

The ‘imposition’ of democracy as dictated by external forces (former colonial powers, international agencies and financial institutions) has proven to be ineffective in the development of the African civil society. Perhaps it is because this form of democracy has not been developed organically. On the other hand, NGOs play a major role in building participatory structures in Africa from the bottom-up. They aim to educate people on their political rights, providing them with skills to demand answers from their governments, to expose and challenge corruption, and monitor government spending. The challenge is how to ensure that participatory structures are permanently embedded into the governance of each state.

Senegal

Following independence from France in 1960, Senegal was ruled for four decades by the same political party. However, a rare smooth transition of power in Africa took place in after the election of Abdoulaye Wade in 2000. He is Senegal’s third president since gaining independence. This was Senegal’s second peaceful transition of power, and its first from one political party to another. Senegal has been commended for its growth as a democracy.

Out of 4,971,157 eligible voters for the 2007 elections, 3,472,712 cast ballots. In other words, the elections has 70.6% voter turnout. Aside from participating in elections, however, other structures of participation remain few in number. The Senegalese civil society, although large, lacks overall coordination and has little influence over decision-makers. There is a clear need, therefore, to call for the establishment of these participatory structures and for formation in coordinating civil society’s participation in national governance.

Within this continental and national context, IMCS Pax Romana held an international formation session with the theme “Students, Participatory Structures and Good Governance: Theory, Formation and Training”. Held in M’bour, Senegal from 02 to 07 August, the formation session focused on the understanding the principles of good governance and the practice of subsidiarity. By promoting greater participation of our membership in democratic political processes within our own national federations, we can educate though a living example.

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It was noted that greater effort needs to be made in the promotion and understanding of “governance.” With students understanding how governance works in an inclusive manner, we were able to identify the different avenues vis-à-vis national political structures, religious organisational structures, and international systems, in which young people can affect change for the promotion of Human Rights.

During the formation session, the Catholic Social Teaching of the church were used to develop the theme further.

Follow up in Tanzania



The International Team participated in the 10th Pan-African Assembly, which was held at the Canossian Spirituality Centre in Arusha, Tanzania from 06 to 09 October 2010. Following on from the formation session in Senegal in August earlier that year, a number of workshops were conducted specifically on the topic of corruption in Africa and its relation to the perpetuation of poverty on the continent. Workshops such as “The

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Rudiments and Strategies to Fight Corruption: The Role of Students and Citizens in Anti-Corruption Campaigns in Africa” gave student leaders practical tools to use in their national movement campaigns. In order to reinforce the methodologies developed, a theological approach was used to make the connection between the Gospel call to justice and actions taken by student groups.

National movements and partner movements from the following countries participated: Ghana, Botswana, Ethiopia, Bukina Faso, Kenya, Mauritius, Malawi, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Sudan, Togo, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Netherlands, Lesotho, and Madagascar.

South Asia Programme



One of the Sub Regional Programmes of IMCS Asia Pacific South Asia Program was held on 23rd to 30th November, 2010 in St. John Vienne Pastoral and Animation Center, Godavari, Kathmandu, Nepal. The theme of Governance and Participatory Structures enabled the Students leadership to reflect on the situation of marginalized people. 36 students leaders from Nepal, Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan participated in the this formation and capacity building programme

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AICUF National Convention

The Catholic Student Federation of India (AICUF) held its 5th National Convention in early June 2010. Some 500 students from all over India gathered at Loyola College, Chennai for the 4 day event. The main theme of the Convention was 'Students, to Act and to be Political'

AICUF celebrated its 85th anniversary during the Convention.

IMCS International President Mehul Dahbi and Fr. Chris McCoy from the International Team attended.

International Council

The IMCS International council took place alongside the formation and study session held in M'bour, Senegal 2-7 August 2010 (see earlier part of this report). Delegates reviewed the life of the movement, reflected on our common work and made plans for the World Assembly in 2011.

Advocacy and Representation

2nd Forum of the Catholic-inspired NGOs

The Second Forum of Catholic Inspired NGOs was held in Rome 12th -14th February. This was a follow up Forum to bring together organisations working with different Inter-Governmental structures such as UN, UNESCO, ILO, FAO, etc. The First Forum which was held in December 2007 had brought many proposals for coordinating the advocacy and lobbying work of catholic inspired NGOs. This 2nd Forum provided an important space for Catholic NGOs to plan a number of common actions. The Forum, in which more than 100 NGOs participated, saw the need to start and strengthen some networks. The Forum agreed to work towards collaborative common actions rather than establishing 'fixed structures'.

Synod of Bishops on the Middle East

A thematic workshop on the Middle East Synod took place from 6th to 10th of October 2010, in Domus Mariae in Rome. This workshop was organized by Pax Romana with the participation of other Catholic inspired movements such as IYCW, Pax Romana (IMCS and ICMICA), IYCS, FIMARC, MIJARC, MIDADE. It was supported by Caritas France (Secours Catholique).

This workshop enabled Christian lay people (professionals, intellectuals and students from the Middle East or other regions) to make a contribution for to the Synod. After a careful study of the Lineamenta and the Instrumentum Laboris, consultations were carried out in number countries of the Middle East by the movements represented.

Human Rights Council

IMCS Participated in the 16th Session of Human Rights Council held in March at UNHRC in Geneva. Pax Roman organised a training and internship programme for young professionals engaged in promotion and protection of human rights. The Internship focused on the UN Human Rights mechanisms such as the Periodic Review of the States, Special Rapporteur etc. IMCS joined the meeting of International Dalit Solidarity Network to strengthen the advocacy and lobbying on the issues of Dalits and other marginalised groups.



International Year of Youth

In December 2009, The UN General Assembly proposed an International Year of Youth (YY) to take place from 12 August 2010 to 11 August 2011. The theme, “International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding,” aims to reach across generations, cultures, regions, and civilizations and promote the ideals of peace, respect for human rights and solidarity. More about the IYY: <http://social.un.org/youthyear/index.html>

IMCS Pax Romana hopes that this year will help focus on youth development and to provide an impetus among youth organisations to form partnerships in order to achieve the internationally agreed Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The global launch of the IYY took place on Thursday, 12 August in the United Nations General Assembly. IMCS Pax Romana was given the honour of addressing the Assembly on behalf of young people. (We were the only youth NGO to speak at this event.)

Our representative, Miss Maya SAOUD of the Melkite Association of Young Adults, addressed the assembly amongst other eminent personalities, including H.E. Ban Ki-Moon, the UN Secretary General. Pax Romana's statement is available on the UN website: <http://social.un.org/youthyear/docs/Pax-Romana.pdf>.

World Youth Conference

As part of the International Year of Youth, the government of Mexico organised a World Youth Conference (WYC) which took place in Guanajuato, Leon, Mexico from 23 to 27 August 2007. There were three major components to the WYC: 1) Governments Forum, 2) Legislators Forum, and 3) Social Forum. The main subjects treated were: poverty and exclusion; employment; education, technology and innovation; gender equality; social justice and human rights; international migration; citizens' participation and advocacy; and global cooperation.

IMCS Pax Romana was invited by the Government of Mexico together with several other youth NGOs to assist with the planning (and development of the themes) of the Social Forum. The WYC was attended by 112 government delegations, 27 ministers, and 213 NGO delegates from 153 countries, 18 agencies of the United Nations, and 5 regional inter-governmental organisations.



At the Social Forum a process was developed to include the maximum participation of young people in the development of the NGO statement. The statement, which included recommendations that were developed and voted upon by the delegates, was delivered

to the Legislators Forum and the Governments Forum. The final statement of the WYC was agreed by the participating delegations in the Governments Forum and the Mexican Foreign Ministry agreed to present these recommendations during the general debate of the UN General Assembly.

The Mexican government selected several Pax Romana members to represent their countries: Egypt, India, Jordan, New Zealand, United States of America, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

UNESCO

UNESCO has number important inter-governmental structures which enables the participation of civil society. Pax Roman has been very active youth NGO at UNESCO. Our primary focus has been Education, Poverty Eradication, Youth, Inter cultural dialogue.

Joint Programmatic Commission (JPC) on Youth

Through many programmes, conferences and meeting we worked to build stronger participation of youth in the developmental issues. IMCS Pax Roman is one of the coordinating NGOs of this commission. With the JPC we organised a training workshop on the theme 'Gender Sensitivity'

The year 2010 was a preparatory year for the upcoming UNESCO Youth Forum, which happens once every two years. Pax Romana has maintained good working relations with the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See in prioritizing issues concerning education and culture.

UNESCO's 184th Session of the Executive Board Committee on NGO

Pax Romana participated in this important event of UNESCO. IMCS was invited to make an intervention on the theme 'Violence in the Schools and Universities'. Mehul Dabhi highlighted on the importance of addressing the issue of structural violence. He highlighted the problem of easy access to arms and weapons by youth and urged the need for arms control.

Europe - Latin America and Caribbean Youth Summit

The 1st European Union – Latin America and Caribbean Youth Summit, held within the Spanish European Union (EU) Presidency, took place in Madrid, Spain from 07 to 09 May 2010. It aimed to make visible the challenges young people face and to reinforce the role of youth cooperation as a useful tool to undertake global issues. The Youth Summit brought together 260 youth delegates of youth organisations which worked toward a final

declaration which was then presented to the 6th Heads of State and Government meeting, which immediately followed the Youth Summit.

Pax Romana was represented by Miss Camila JARA Aparicio of the Asociación de Universitarios Católicos in Chile. She shared with the other delegates IMCS Pax Romana's experience and expertise. Participating in this Youth Summit allowed our Latin American Coordination to reinvigorate its efforts towards bridging the divide between the rich and the poor and to defend the rights on indigenous peoples.



Additional Highlights

European Committee



The European Committee 2010 met in Vilnius, Lithuania, 16th -19th September. It had to address many of the challenges faced by Regional coordination. The committee which was

represented by more than 10 countries took some brave decisions. One of the most significant is that the JECI-MIEC regional coordination office will be re-opened with a full-time European Coordinator in Brussels by the beginning of the 2012.

A number of activities were planned for 2011:

- a) **9.-13. March**, Kaunas, Lithuania: *Colloquium / Theological Session*
- b) **17.-24. July**, Cologne, Germany: *Joint activity with the IMCS World Assembly*
- c) **12.-18. September**, Corfu, Greece: *European Committee*
- d) **November/December**, Strasbourg, France: *Study Session with the Council of Europe*

JECI-MIEC Summer Week



Held in the city of Cluj-Napoca in Romania, the JECI-MIEC Europe's Summer Week 2010 focused on "Learning to Live in MY Y/OURope". The summer week secondary and tertiary students (Catholic and Orthodox) provided a space for learning through non-formal education methodologies. Some of the specific topics treated were consumption and waste, tools for inter-cultural dialogue between young people, and leadership development.

IMCS Pax Romana Secretary General, Christopher D. Malano, was a part of the pedagogical team of 3 young women and 2 young men. Participating students came from the member national movements from the following countries: The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal, Poland, Romania, Ukraine, and United States of America.

In the final statement, the members challenged the Church to promote dialogue "not only at the clerical level, but also by the everyday faithful." Additionally, they called upon "people of faith and no faith, not to be judgmental, but to be patient listeners." They also called upon the governments in Europe to put their trust in young people by investing in their "efforts and potential to create a new Europe, based on liberty and solidarity."

To read the full statement and view photos of the Summer Week 2010, please follow this link: <http://www.jeci-miec.eu/category/activities/summerweek-2010/>

10th International Youth Forum of the Pontifical Council for the Laity

Organised by the Pontifical Council for the Laity, the 10th International Youth Forum took place in Rocca di Papa from 24 to 28 March, 2010. The central theme of the Forum was "Learning to Love." The reflections and discussions centered on vocation, marriage, sexuality, family, consecrated life, and the priesthood. The Forum gathered 250 youth participants between the ages of 20 and 30 years from 90 countries and 30 international movements, including IMCS Pax Romana.



The Movement was officially represented by Miss Peggy Carolina TOLOZA Avendaño of the national movement in Chile, Asociación Universitarios Católicos (AUC). This topic of love was particularly relevant to Miss Toloza (the major earthquake in Chile centred on her hometown.) To ensure that she represented the global movement, Miss Toloza conducted an international consultation with the members via our website and the social networking sites such as Facebook. With the input she gathered from the members, she was able to focus her representation on the need to focus on the need to understand love as means to overcoming the different kinds of suffering of the world, such as poverty, hunger, and marginalisation of vulnerable groups. She writes in her reflection:

*“Esta escrito ‘Ama a tu prójimo como a tu mismo’ pero muchos no saben interpretar o tomar conciencia de esta frase clave , si todos supiéramos que es en verdad el amor no existiría el sufrimiento en el mundo, pero tristemente hay mucha gente que nunca ha dado ni sentido amor.”***Networks and Partners**

International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations (ICMYO)

With support from the Finnish Ministry of Education, the 28 participating organisations of the International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations, including Pax Romana, met in Helsinki from 03 to 06 June 2010. The meeting focused on youth participation and global democracy as a means of accomplishing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It also focused on coordinating efforts to prepare for the World Youth Conference – Mexico, which would take place later in the year. The ICMYO meeting focused on how individual youth organisations can engage their membership at the local and national levels in the promotion of the International Year of Youth

Europe-Arab Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations (EACMYO)

The Social Sector / League of Arab States (LAS) in collaboration with the Council of Europe, European Youth Forum, Italian Youth Council and the Tunisian Union for Youth Organisations organized the Third Euro-Arab Coordination Meeting for Youth Organization (EACMYO). It took place on the island of Sicily, Italy on 25-30 July 2010. The goal of this coordination meeting was to promote dialogue and partnership between European and Arab youth organisations and to further develop stronger institutional cooperation with youth organisations. Special training was given for youth organisations focusing on foundational leadership skills. IMCS Pax Romana was represented by Mr Andrea Iurato, a national team member of the Federazione Universitaria Cattolica Italiana and a member of the National Youth Council of Italy.



International Young Catholic Students (IYCS)

IMCS continued to work closely with IYCS during the year. Our international secretariat offices share a common space and this enables regular contact between the two teams. Both Movements have Europe, Middle East and South America as 'common regions.'

International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs (IMCICA)

IMCS and IMICA are the two branches of PAX ROMANA. We share a common history. The two International teams were in regular contact during the year and worked closely together especially in the area of representation at the United Nations and UNESCO. The International Teams of both movements had met in the April. The priorities and joint working strategies were worked out.

Group of 8

This loose network for 'strategic alliance' among the social action movements and organisations continued. The network is known as the 'Group of 8'. Using the opportunity of the 2nd Forum of Catholic Inspired NGOs, G8 met and agreed to do a joint workshop prior to the Synod of Bishops on Middle East.

Given the changing relations between the developmental agencies and the social action movements it is important to strengthen and activate this network and make it more viable. IMCS is willing work towards rejuvenating this network to strengthen our common actions for social justice and transformation.

Team-Life

The members of the international Secretariat met regularly during the year; the chaplain visited the Paris office each month for 4-5 days to work with the team. Due to pressure of work, travel commitments and limited financial resources we were unable to make time for a retreat this year.

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Financial Report

MOUVEMENT INTERNATIONAL DES ETUDIANTS CATHOLIQUES DEPENSES 2010			
1* SECRETARIAT INTERNATIONAL			43 080,74
- Salaires et cotisations sociales secrétariat			30 390,55
- Charges et entretien bureau			7 732,26
- Communications (Téléphone-courrier-internet)			1 928,81
- Fournitures et matériel			1 651,54
- Audit comptable			816,90
- Accueil visiteurs et divers			249,50
- Services bancaires			311,18
2* EQUIPE INTERNATIONALE			8 437,81
- Cotisations sociales			1 979,52
- Charges et entretien logements			6 161,29
- Formation Équipe Internationale			297,00
3* ACTIONS INTERNATIONALES - PROGRAMME GLOBAL			51 054,78
- Asie-pacifique			3 639,93
- Afrique			4 230,31
- Amérique du Nord			2 745,72
- Amérique Latine			3 186,18
- Europe			2 506,74
- Moyen orient			885,60
- Aumônerie internationale			1 045,65
- Forum ONG Catholiques			1 062,96
- Nations Unies			3 206,54
- J.M.J.			639,60
- Relations internationales			2 568,85
- Planification stratégiques			934,80
- Publications			1 004,25
- Site Internet imcs.miec.org			454,48
- Sessions de formation et Conseil International			22 943,17
TOTAL Dépenses			102 573,33

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MOUVEMENT INTERNATIONAL DES ETUDIANTS CATHOLIQUES			
M.I.E.C. - PAX ROMANA			
RECETTES 2010			
1 - SUBSIDES			25434,55
<i>CAREME SUISSE</i>			20803
<i>FONDATION PIE XII</i>			4631,55
2 - AUTOFINANCEMENT			2040,16
<i>Cotisations</i>			1249,2
<i>Dons amis du MIEC</i>			324,14
<i>Produits financiers</i>			466,82
3 - PROJETS SPECIFIQUES			69367,16
<i>CCFD (Migration International 2009-2010)</i>			12000
<i>CCFD</i>			23000
<i>CORDAID</i>			10000
<i>DIOCESE SAINT-HYACINTE (Canada)</i>			3000
<i>MISEREOR</i>			1000
<i>MISSIO</i>			5000
<i>SECOURS CATHOLIQUE</i>			5000
<i>TROCAIRE</i>			2000
<i>Participation Mouvements Nationaux</i>			3165
<i>Reprise provision activités internationales</i>			5202,16
TOTAL RECETTES			96841,87
EXCEDENT DEPENSES 2010			5731,46
		Total	102573,33