



IMCS Pax Romana

Annual Report 2018



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IMCS-Pax Romana Annual Report 2018
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Introduction



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Dear IMCS Pax Romana members,
Dear partners,
Dear readers,

With the start of the new year 2019, it seems important for us to send you our best wishes. We are convinced that the small efforts towards the common good are the most essential to our humanity and that everyone is capable of contributing to them at his level and according to his means. It is in this spirit of active and transformative solidarity that we have reinforced our initiatives around the world throughout the year 2018, subject of the report we are presenting to you. During the last 12 months we have been keen on strengthening the collective movement while focusing our actions on the emergencies of this era, namely pollution, climate change, unemployment, abuse of the vulnerable and social injustice. This explains our attachment to the concepts of active solidarity, entrepreneurship, and sustainable lifestyles. It seemed to us that the current challenges were in most cases opportunities for action that the youth can seize. Consequently, we have relied on our ordinary means of action while making efforts to innovate in the shape and implementation of our different projects, knowing that our ambition was to reach a larger number of youth and have a greater impact.

This report sets out the different activities organized all over the world and the results to which they led. We are happy to end this year with progress in our youth advocacy and representation activities as well as in the strategies drafted to deliver important information to specific targets. It is a chance for us to thank all the movement's partners who have always believed in us and who are supporting us technically and financially. Our sincere thanks to our volunteer teams who assist the international office for communication and contribute to the UN advocacy and other regular or occasional tasks. We also thank all those who in one way or another support the IMCS Pax Romana actions all over the world.

We wish you a good reading!

**Our *donors*,
those who helped
us to realize these:**



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IMCS TRAINING

4th-6th January 2018

During his visit in Togo, IMCS international president Edouard Karoue animated a 3-day training session proposed by the national coordination of IMCS which session covered various topics such as Leadership, Digital Skills, Youth Participation in UN Work, and Community Mobilization.



“It is literally true that you can
succeed best
and quickest by helping
others to succeed.”
- Napoleon Hill



This gave the president an opportunity to have an exchange with almost 70 students about the challenges they are facing, their wishes for more opportunities to gain more knowledge, and their desire to be more proactive in local, regional, and global-level activities and initiatives.





EU-ASEAN *Young Leaders* Forum

26th - 27th February Brussels Belgium

The EU-ASEAN Young Leaders Forum brought together young leaders from across the EU and ASEAN regions, representing a broad range of disciplines, sectors and backgrounds to discuss the future of EU-ASEAN relations. EU-ASEAN cooperation has a long history of over 40 years facilitating trade, investment, development and connectivity. Both regions exhibit a commitment to multilateralism and international cooperation. In an age of increasing protectionism, nationalism, and insular world views, the strategic partnership between these two vase

regions is more important, and yet under more threat, than ever before.

The Young Leaders were tasked with discussing three dimensions of the multilateral relationship: Political and Security Issues; Economy, Trade and Business Exchanges, and Enhanced People-to-People Contacts. The Forum culminated in 10 recommendations made by the young leaders to the institutions and members states of the EU and the ASEAN. These recommendations touched on key issues that affected the future of the EU-ASEAN relationship from the perspective of young people. These proposals included increasing focus on human security specifically that of vulnerable groups of society (including refugees, migrants, and indigenous peoples); to encourage states to re-assess their performance metrics and re-adjust to set more ambitious Sustainable Development targets after each Voluntary National Review of the Paris Agreement Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs); and the establishment of exchange programmes to foster collaboration and personal connectivity (including a work, travel and professionals exchange programme and a student exchange network).

A recurring call from the young leaders present related to the necessity for the EU and the ASEAN to take on a more central role in the resolution of the climate crisis, to stand together as examples to the rest of the world of successful, holistic and sustainable development, that benefits all peoples and societies. The young people call on the member states and the regions to stand as leaders in our fight for a better world.

IMCS was represented at this meeting by Ryan Kelly.



“Old friends, new challenges. Building a reinvigorated partnership”

Visit *partners and* CHAPLAINCIES

27th February- 5th March Netherlands & Belgium

From the 27th of February to the 5th of March, the International team of IMCS Pax Romana organized a visit to the movement's partners. This tour, which is the second of its kind since the inauguration of the team, pursued three main objectives:



1. To reconnect with partners, reintroducing them to the movement and its spirituality,;
2. To share the results of the activities from the previous years and;
3. To exchange around the perspectives of the movement.

This was an opportunity for the international team to discover partners' strategic priorities allowing us to identify potential areas for collaboration.

The first meeting took place in Netherlands at CORDAID headquarters with Mr. Bob van Dillen and Mr. Paul van den Berg. Discussions focused on shared priorities, notably the issue of migration, intervention in vulnerable countries and the need for shared solidarity in these contexts, especially by young people. The meeting, very friendly has concluded with a group picture.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, the international team visited actors involved in pastoral care with students in the country.

The first meeting took place in the chaplaincy of Eindhoven with fr. John Onoja who shared with the team his activities with the students as well as the challenges they face. The international team, in turn, shared with the chaplain the activities that might interest the students of his chaplaincy and wish to deepen this collaboration with him for a greater involvement of young people in the international solidarity dynamic.

The same initiative was repeated with the father John of the Community of Saint John who is also chaplain of the young people of the city of Utrecht. This community of young people in fact shares a devotion to the life of Blessed Piere Giorgio Frassati, a founding member of IMCS. The group had a picture with the Icone of Frassati after a lunch time with the brothers of the community and one young leader.

After these meetings, the team spent a weekend with the little sisters of St. Joseph who were kind enough to host the team for two days before continuing the visits.

On Monday 5 February, the team met the European team of religions for peace, represented by the President Yollande Iliano. This meeting focused on the issue of religious dialogue and youth participation in building bridges between communities. This made it possible to think of future initiatives that could be done in a collaborative framework for both organizations. A prayer session with the leaders of other religious organizations, present in the building, closed the meeting.



"A good collaboration pushes the boundaries of both partners."

-Neil Blumenthal



WSIS Forum 2018

19-23 March 2018, Geneva Switzerland

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2018 gathered together stakeholders and groups involved in 'ICT for development.' The platform facilitates the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines for advancing progress towards the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. The Forum intends to bring together experts and stakeholders for opportunity for information exchange,

knowledge creation and sharing of best practices, fostering partnerships. It also seeks to identify emerging trends and future opportunities in the field.

IMCS was present at the Forum, represented by Ryan Kelly. He spoke on behalf of the UN MGCY in the High Level Policy Session addressing Inclusiveness – access to information and knowledge for all. Points raised on behalf of the UN MGCY involved a call to all stakeholders to recognise and actively overcome the structural barriers that perpetuate the digital divide; emphasising the need for “innovating the delivery” of existing and proven sustainable technologies and knowledge; acknowledging

technology justice as an integral part of development justice; safeguarding transparency to ensure that data practices of states and corporations does not violate civil liberties, privacy, socio-economic rights of individuals, or harm universal access to basic services such as health care and education. The outcomes of the High Level Policy Sessions will feed into the ongoing WSIS process.

Complementing the High Level Policy Sessions, there were various workshops addressing the different dimensions, and advancements in ICT for development. Two such workshops were organised by the UN MGCY: one on the Future of Work and Decent Jobs for

Youth; and a second on ICTs as a tool for promoting resilience and reducing risks. These workshops presented expert knowledge from those in the field and, offered a space of dialogue and debate. Recommendations were formulated in these working groups which will guide the community going forward.



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The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2018 represents the world's largest annual gathering of the 'ICT for development' community.



Ryan Kelly
Ireland



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PRE-SYNODAL *meeting* 'YOUNG PEOPLE, THE FAITH *and* VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT

19th – 24th March, Rome Italy

As part of the preparations on the way for the Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the topic 'Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment' scheduled for October 2018, the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops organized a Pre-Synodal Meeting which took place from 19th to 24th March in Rome.

The purpose of this meeting was to provide the opportunity to as many as possible young people to produce a document, which 'expresses their view on the state of things, their ideas, their feelings and their recommendations, to be presented to the Synodal Fathers'.

The first stage had begun on 13 January 2017 when the Preparatory Document was published. Throughout the Meeting, the preparatory document was the indispensable reference point for the various discussions which took place either in small language groups or in plenary session where

it was shared the work that was done in order to arrive at a collective summary. The Holy Father had the desire this Synod not to be only for young people but most importantly, of young people.

The Pre-Synodal Document was released on the 24th March and it is divided into three parts:

Part One: The Challenges and Opportunities of Young People in the World Today

1. The Formation of Personality
2. Relationship with Other People
3. Young People and the Future
4. Relationship with Technology



5. Search for Meaning in Life
Part Two: Faith and Vocation, Discernment and Accompaniment

1. Young People and Jesus
2. Faith and the Church
3. The Vocational Sense of Life
4. Vocational Discernment
5. Young People and Accompaniment

Part Three: The Church's Formative and Pastoral Activity

1. The manner of the Church
2. Young Leaders
3. Preferred places
4. The Initiatives to be Reinforced
5. Instruments to be used (Multimedia, Gap Year Experiences, The Arts and Beauty, Adoration, Meditation and Contemplation, Testimony, the Synodal Process).

The Meeting gathered more than 300 young people representing larger groups (an episcopal conference, a synod of the Eastern Catholic Church, a Christian denomination, a religion, an association, a group, a movement, different situations in life, many committed and working young people) around the world. There was also participation of 15,000 youth through online platforms. IMCS was represented by its Secretary General, Evelina Manola.

"An attractive Church is a relational Church."



ICAMs meeting

07th-08th April, Paris France



The International Catholic Action Movements (ICAMs) had their annual meeting in Paris from the 7th to 8th April 2018. This meeting sought to enhance exchange among these specific action movements in order to better coordinate our approaches in addressing the challenges faced by the Church and society.

The gathering of this year took place under the topic of the quick transformations in the world. The meeting had the participation of 20 representatives of 10 Catholic action movements.

To introduce the topic Masson Gerard, a sociologist of religion, presented on the theme "Un-believers from here and today". This conference aimed to show the global dynamic of transformation faced by society, pointing out new

ways young people are engaging themselves in the change process. For this sociologist, in France and many other countries, young people are no longer interested in long term commitments therefore these two days of reflection focused on strategies to adapt to these new trends in order to be more efficient in the apostolic mission of these movements.

It was an opportunity to discuss all the challenges related to their missions, share their successes and tools, propose alternatives and plan future collaborations. Particularly, IMCS Pax Romana shared its tools for the campaign on sustainable lifestyles. The meeting was closed with a eucharistic celebration.

Youth *Press* Agency

6th-8th June, Grenoble France



IMCS - Pax Romana

volunteer, Paul Sopon, participated with the volunteers from the Youth Press Agency between 6-8 June 2018 at the Forum international pour le bien vivre. The volunteers' mission was to assure a media cover of the event. Upon his arrival in Grenoble, France, 4th of June, Paul met with volunteers from different countries like Italy, Brazil, South Africa, Vietnam, and France. The first two days were spent to unite the team and understand the tasks that the team had to accomplish in the next 3 days. People from different walks of life like elected representatives, local government workers,

researchers, the voluntary sector, economic operators and committed citizens gathered in Grenoble to question the standard economic indicators.

The preparation for the event started on February 2018, the first online meeting with the founders of youth press agency. The meeting had been organized every month. Paul received a task he had to accomplish at the end of every webinar. The tasks had been very diverse, making them all work individually, in pairs, and as a group. It was a real challenge for all the participants to work in a team considering the distance barrier. All these team-building tasks before the actual meeting in Grenoble made the team more unified, aside letting them develop a sense of trust

and comfortability working with each other.

The Youth Press Agency documented the event by creating videos of the day, taking photos and interviews, making reports, and so much more. All these can be found on the official page of Forum international pour le bien vivre and Youth Press Agency. Paul expressed his gratitude for having the opportunity to be part of a great event where he had the chance to do what Pope Francis invites the youth to do: "to go in the world and spread the gospel," and also having the chance to communicate his faith to others by sharing the teachings of the catholic church.

Second *International* Preparatory Meeting *for* WYD 2019

6th – 10th June, Panama

The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, together with the Panama WYD 2019 Local Organising Committee organised the second International Meeting for World Youth Day 2019, in Panama from 6 to 10 June. Delegates from over 80 countries and 35 international movements were gathered in Panama City in order to discuss the programme and the latest preparations of the upcoming World Youth Day.

The delegates had the opportunity to know how Panama is preparing

for WYD in terms of organization, accommodation, registration, communication, logistics and security. The floor was often given to the participants to express their questions, concerns, observations and comments. Last but not least, thanks to the nice hospitality of the hosts and the program, participants had the chance to get to know the host country as well as its culture.

IMCS was represented by the Secretary General Evelina Manola.



workshop & VISITS

14th-24th June, Kenya & Tanzania

From the 14th to 24th June 2018, the International President of IMCS Pax Romana had a workshop and monitoring visit in Kenya and Tanzania.

14th-18th, Tanzania: As the students from Dar Es Salam were having a gathering on the 15th, the president was invited to give a talk on the 'Spirituality of action'. This program was attended by over 500 students from the zone is named "Overnight program" and took place during all the night. It was time for prayer, learning and celebration that conveyed speakers, choirs and comedians.

The topics addressed by the panel of speakers concerned, professional plan, relationship and fidelity in a couple. Mainly, it was a time provided to the elders from different background to share their experiences with the community of Students.

The president addressed the public on the necessity to be open to the world and enlarge the horizon of experiences and knowledge. For him, the spirituality of the movement should enable the members of the movement to enter in dialogue with their environment to check in which way they can make it better.



The matter of international solidarity has been developed shortly, inviting students to participate more in the International activities proposed by the international office.

He took the occasion to share with participants, the work that has been carried out by the international office on their behalf.

After this day, the president travelled to Arusha where he met the community of Students of this region. The meeting took place after the mass celebrated in a church that is being built by the students group of the Lutheran University.

Indeed, being in a Lutheran university, religious activities are prohibited on the campus, so they decided to collect money themselves to build a church where they can have meetings and Sunday Mass. That is what happened, and they start having masses in the ongoing building, mobilizing a community of Catholics living in the area.

After the mass on the 16th, the student community of Arusha had a special meeting with the international president. His presentation was again on the spirituality of the movement and the necessity for young people to be attentive to their socio-political environment in order to address the signs of the time. He calls for a participation in their community development taking the Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching as guide. A lunch and a cultural visit closed the meeting.

Back in Nairobi the international president, in collaboration with the ICMICA Africa, conducted a delegation of students and professionals for an audience with the Cardinal on the 20th of the month. Many meetings had been organised with the leaders of the two movements in order to prepare the meeting that will take place in Ivory coast in October 2018

Moreover, before he left Nairobi, the IP met with Lowe Kabete Business university students on the 24th June after the morning mass.

26th-28th June, Tallinn Estonia

26th-28th June, Tallinn Estonia

1. Access to services, youth-friendly

5 PILLARS

FROM PUBLICATION "BRIDGING THE GAP IN INDIAN ECONOMY: MAPPING OF BARriers TO SOCIAL INCLUSION OF TDP IN VULNERABLE SITUATIONS"

EDUCATION

- DIGITAL DIVIDE
- LITTLE INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FOR DIGITAL SKILL GAIN

LABOUR MARKET

- EXCESS ACCESS TO INFO
- ANXIETY OF DATA PRIVACY AND SHARING ALL THE TIME
- FAKE NEWS
- DECREASING SOCIAL INTERACTION
- DIGITAL PARTICIPATION
- INCREASED TRANSPARENCY
- WORKING EVERYWHERE (IN WORKING, NEW JOB, VULNERABILITY LOSS, EMPLOYMENT LOSS, IN NEED OF TRUST)

LIVING

- IMMUTATION INCREASES EXISTING FORMS OF EXCLUSION (BURIAL)
- ALGORITHM OF DISCRIMINATION

HEALTH

- VARIOUS POINT OF VIEW

COMMUNITIES

digitalisation and social inclusion of young people. It furthermore offered a space to learn and critically explore digitalisation of the youth field itself. The thematic focus of the symposium was on how social inclusion of young people is or can be affected by digitalisation on questions such as: access to services, youth-friendly services, services for social inclusion; reaching out to young people and the digital divide; resilience and empowerment for social inclusion; discrimination in the digital space, hate speech, cyber-bullying and harassment.

The four themes were tackled in different sessions during the symposium, including in the “future lab” sessions which discussed the “who”, “what” and “how” in terms of policy, research and youth work responses to issues identified through the symposium in order to formulate key messages.

NEED-FOR-
REALITY
CHECK

REFLECT own
future, not only digital
tools & skills

OFF-LINE
YOUTH
WORK

ONLINE
YOUTH
WORK

WE ALWAYS

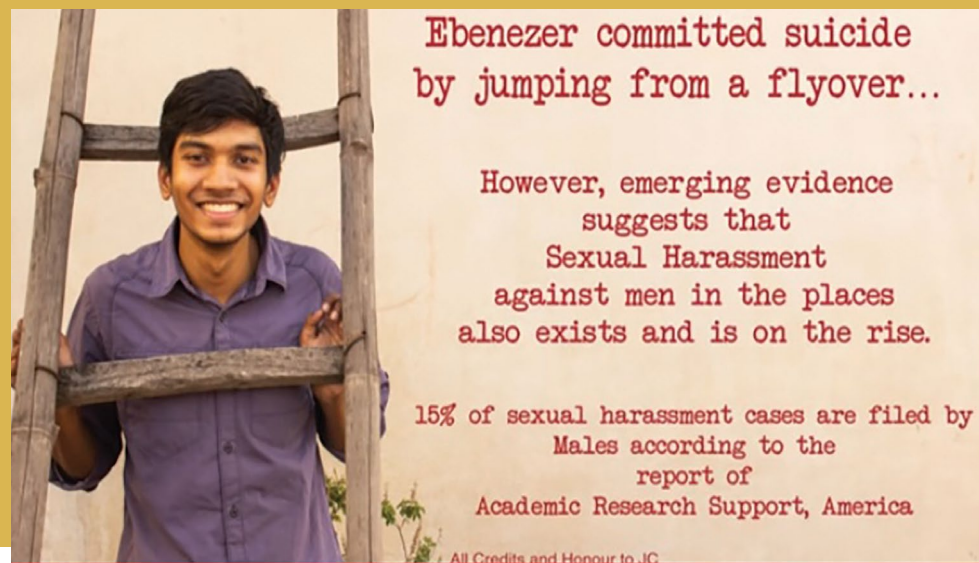
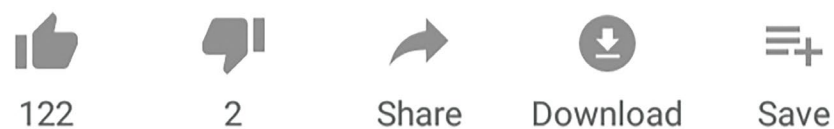
The symposium focused on exploring the intersection between social inclusion of young people and digitalisation, creating a space to learn and explore participants' practices and experiences, and developing future ideas on the role of the youth sector in connecting

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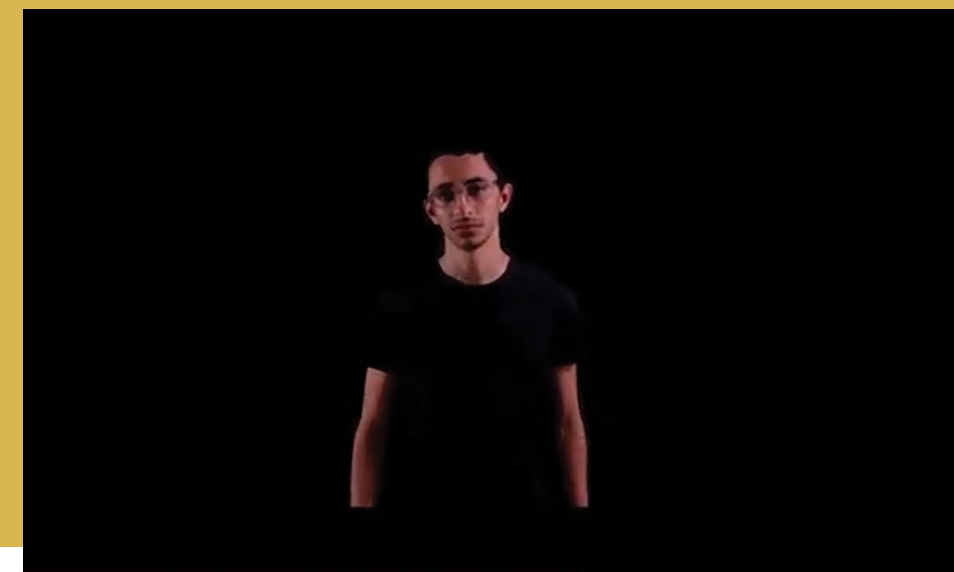
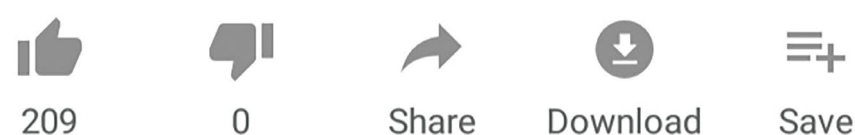
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2.2K views



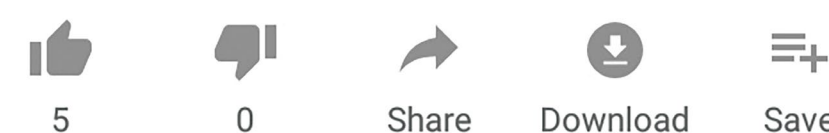
Fallen IMCSLFCSFF 18012

1,577 views



Dark Meat IMCSLFCSFF 18011

91 views



IMCS International Short Film Festival: 'Sexual Harassment: *Moral and Social threat of our time*

Oriented by its social action towards the human rights and sustainable development, IMCS Pax Romana came to understand that people, and particularly young people, hold a very powerful tool that can contribute in bringing good values in our society. That tool is technology and when it is combined with art and is grounded on modern times, can have a real impact on people's perceptions and way of being. Considering the influence media have on people nowadays, IMCS proposed in 2017 an International Short Film Festival aiming to involve young people in spreading values for sustainability.

With the "Change for the Planet" as our main motto and the sustainable development as our goal, last year we launched the first Short Film Festival, asking students to create their short films promoting sustainable lifestyles. Having the experience of conducting the festival internationally last year and seeing the enthusiasm that surrounded the event, this year, IMCS Pax Romana decided to run the second edition of the International Short Film Festival under the topic 'Sexual Harassment: Moral and

Social threat of our time'. Participants were motivated to promote their film as much as they could and one of the successes of the festival is that they managed to reach out thousands of people.

The main goal of the IMCS Short Film Festival was to encourage young students to utilise the media for social cause while at the same time raise awareness and sensitise on the issue of sexual harassment. This festival gave the opportunity to young people to express their views on sexual harassment in all its perspectives and point out the threat it constitutes for our society.

The top three finalists were invited to participate in the IMCS Summer School held in Mexico City from 16th to 26th July. The last day of the Summer School took place the Festival of the project where the films were screened for the audience and the winners were announced. All the films are available on the Youtube Channel of IMCS Pax Romana (IMCS Media).



*The first prize went to Christine Sciortino
The second prize went to Dhilu Thomas
The third prize went to Daved Ibrahim*



IMCS *Summer* School:

Building students' capacities for resilient and sustainable cities: tackling poverty in cities through youth solidarity actions'

16th-26th July, Mexico City

In 2017, IMCS Pax Romana adopted the Summer School concept to reorient its yearly meeting in order to adapt its trainings to the needs of the moment. The results of the Summer School 2017 in Indonesia have been encouraging for the movement. This year the summer school was held in Mexico City under the theme: Building students' capacities for resilient and sustainable cities: tackling poverty in cities through youth solidarity actions and it brought together around 30 students coming worldwide. This summer school was a capacity building project as well as an intercultural exchange opportunity for students from a very diverse sociocultural and political background. As Catholic inspired youth-led organisation, IMCS Pax Romana uses this opportunity to increase participants critical analysis of the current trends of our societies, grounded in the catholic social magisterium.

Focusing on the topic of vulnerability/sustainability in cities and resilience vis-à-vis of disaster, this summer school aimed to empower youth leaders and Catholic students

to understand the challenges facing megacities such as Mexico City and the measures taken to promote sustainability. In order to learn what can be done to minimize and mitigate the potential damage that can be caused by an earthquake and to contribute to the reconstruction of important community centers, participants also had the opportunity to exposure in some of the areas affected by the earthquake. Meanwhile, students shared their experiences and capacities in tackling disparities in urban areas. The Summer School provided also participants a unique learning opportunity from Mexico City strategies for sustainable development and disaster risk reduction and prevention.

Global urban development has rapidly increased in the previous decades. Unfortunately, long term planning accounting for population growth, changing climate, increasing urbanisation, etc.,

has not always been considered in the rapid expansion of the world's cities. In addition to the perpetual socioeconomic disparities that such expansion generates, the violations of basic human rights that are experienced within communities living in these circumstances, these problems are exacerbated following natural disasters. September 2017 was a difficult month for the people of Mexico. On the 7th of September, an earthquake with a magnitude of 8.2 struck the coast of the State of Chiapas. It is considered to be the strongest earthquake to hit Mexico in the past century in Mexico's history. This earthquake seriously affected the States of Chiapas & Oaxaca in the South of Mexico. Twelve days later, on the 19th of September, another earthquake took place in the state of Puebla with a magnitude of 7.1. This second earthquake affected the States of Puebla, Morelos and Mexico City. This was particularly traumatic in the minds of the Mexican people, as 32 previous years, on the same day in 1985, an earthquake caused severe damage in Mexico City, with many areas of the city suffering complete destruction.

Following the IMCS campaign on Sustainable lifestyles, this Summer School Project focused on two key areas: Education for sustainability and Disaster relief in the context of Laudato Si, New Urban Agenda, SDGs and Evangelii Gaudium. Building the capacities of youth, helping them to be open minded and fueled with solidarity spirit is a mission that IMCS Pax Romana has carried since its foundation. It insists to build leaders for change that are critical vis-à-vis of global trends and can use the Catholic Social Teaching as mean for humankind protection in its dignity and freedom. IMCS Pax Romana believes in the power of youth to change the world and use summer schools as an important space for capacity building for catholic students. The summer school in Mexico was a space for participants to learn and to plan actions in a multicultural atmosphere.





1st October, Rome Italy

launch of the book
God's quad

In the context of the Synod on youth organised by the Holy See, IMCS Pax Romana president participated in the launch of God's Quad which took place at BorgoSanctiSpiritus on the 1st of October 2018. This book is a compilation of expériences of students communities from around the world. As the international team of the movement wrote the epilogue of the above mentioned book, the president of the movement was one of the four speakers that hosted the event. The audience was comprised of chaplains, pastoral agents and students.

Consecutively, a statement has been released, highlighting important challenges youth are facing and the necessity for the Synodal Fathers To pay attention to them. It was therefore the occasion to campaign on the proposed statement, asking participants of the Synod to advocate for it.

The international office of IMCS Pax Romana, using the opportunity of the Pan-African Assembly of the movement in Africa (PAA), organised an international coordination and strategic meeting in Abidjan (Ivory coast). This meeting started on the 2nd of October 2018 with the participation of the 2 PanAfrican coordinators the coordinator from Canada, the international

Chaplain and the international president.

This meeting sought to evaluate the functioning of the movement the three past years, reflect on the current trends with the input from the results of the global consultation launched some days before, and to design a strategic plan for the future of the movement.

This meeting identified the necessity to prepare an

integral module on leadership and to provide necessary training programs for national movements in all regions.

Additionally, many administrative and structural documents have been proposed, to be finalised at the World Assembly in 2019.





World *Youth* Forum

3rd November, Egypt

On 3 November 2018, Natalia Alvarez, IMCS UNTT member, was part of a meeting with Dr. Yasmine Fouad, Minister of Environment of Egypt, and Dr. Emad. During this meeting, Alvarez and other youth present discussed potential projects, collaborations, and ideas that encompassed a sustainable approach to environmental issues, specifically in the Arab Region. Minister Fouad informed the group of youth leaders that after the 2018 High Level Political Forum last July in New York City, she has one question: What will be the role of youth in different environmental issues? This question could be approached both locally and/or internationally.

Youth in the meeting expressed ideas to bring awareness to the public on environmental issues, especially during events such as the World Youth Forum. One of the suggestions was that the World Youth Forum should center aquatic activities, like snorkelling and diving, to have a positive environmental effect. Youth Forum participants can engage in trash clean ups while enjoying the natural beauty of the Red Sea. Youth also talked about the importance of education with regards to the environment. Education is a vital pillar to tackle when talking about actions to better the environment. There needs to be a shift in education programs to have focus on environment, more interactive ideas rather than just information sharing, and implement fun upcycling projects in classrooms and communities.

Dr. Emad has been involved

in advocacy and informed the team that there are two types of active: active for themselves, or self-advocacy, and active with others and bringing ideas to the public. All of advocacy approaches have three dimensions: globally, regionally, and locally. Linking it back to your country bring motivation for advocacy. Moreover, with regards to implementation of environmental projects, Minister Fouad listed three pillars that must be taken into consideration: access to markets, environmental alternatives, and the client's willingness to pay. Some faults can be blamed on politics and action, but the public's willingness to follow environmental projects determines the success of it.

Furthermore, Minister Fouad's optimum objective in her position as Minister of Environment is to mainstream the environment and its issues. There have been numerous attempts such as bilateral and multilateral negotiation between donors and stakeholders of environmental funding, legal approaches, and financial and allocations propositions. The environmental sector faces enormous challenges related to the dynamic works. Youth, however, can create effective partnerships through networking. Rather than just organizing workshops, youth needs to create a direct influence in society. Final remarks were made by Dr. Emad where he discussed the importance of UN bodies being integrate, the essential role of young people to advocate for environmental policies, and the hope of utilizing less funds and gaining more results. The

methodology of all actions is the key to having effective results. Alvarez was impressed with this meeting since the Minister of Environment and Dr. Emad were both passionate environmentalists that believe in youth involvement.

Throughout the World Youth Forum, Natalia Alvarez and Carine El Hage, IMCS UNTT members, attended a series of panels during the Forum. The most captivating panel Alvarez attended was held by Jack Harries, a famous UK YouTuber and environmental youth activists. This panel focused on the effects of climate change around the world. Harries presented a slideshow and videos of communities around the world who are being severely affected by the effects of climate change. Jack Harries was one of the few panels hosted by youth at the Forum where he motivated youth participants to make small changes to combat climate change. Other panels held by specialists who were not "youth" were interesting, however, youth can connect more to youth and the things they have accomplished. The World Youth Forum was an interesting experience where youth got to learn about different topics that affect the world and how these could be approached sustainably.



10TH INTERNATIONAL FORUM *of* NGOS IN OFFICIAL PARTNERSHIP *with* UNESCO

26th – 27th November, Moscow Russia



The NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee, in partnership with the Russian Peace Federation and the Russian Sciences Academy, organized the 10th International Forum of NGOs with the theme “Science as a common good of mankind” held from 26th until 27th of November 2018, at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Moscow, with over 300 delegates from fifty-one 51 countries, where Victor Kweku Ayertey of Ghana, Africa, represented the International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS-MIEC).

Having his motivation to join the forum built from the Laudato Si and the Catholic Social Teachings, he believes that living beings were given intelligence which must be used for the improvement of humanity and the safeguarding of the environment, making sure that there exists a harmony between the human dignity and the ecological system.

He made sure that his voice will be added to the voices of like-minded people around him in a resounding call for the development of human lives without the need for societal divisions over race and backgrounds by actively participating in discussions, lectures, and signing up for various calls to action that promotes Science as

a common good of humanity, alongside people from different fields of expertise like Sciences, Arts, Arithmetic, Engineering, and Technology.

From the forum, he learned the importance of the correlations between different fields of studies like Diplomacy, Sciences, Arts, how understanding their different yet interrelated roles will help unlearn the prejudices hindering humankind from an inclusive development, and why the roles women, children, and the future generations play matter in a humanitarian dimension of development.

One notable learning he had from the forum was that if young people were given the proper opportunities and resources, they can make significant and sustainable contributions and impact wherever they find themselves, as supported by the Global Youth Index 2018 research, making it clear to him that while the knowledge and resources from different fields of studies are not available and accessible to everyone, regardless of the background and demographic counters, we will never truly have the opportunity to make a harmonic progress for both the humankind and the environment.

IMCS GLOBAL *Initiative planning meeting*

28th November – 8th December, Manila Philippines

During the IMCS Pax Romana evaluation meeting conducted in Ivory Coast in October 2018, participants were concerned about the need of rejuvenation of Catholic students’ action in a more relevant way to the current socio-economic political context in the global level. Following the evaluation meeting decision to address the above need, a planning session for IMCS Global Initiative was held in IMCS Asia Pacific coordination based in Manila, Philippines from 28th November to 8th December 2018. Planning session was conducted with the participation IMCS full time regional coordinators Maria Hajamiharisoa (Pan African region), Ravi Tissera (Asia Pacific region), and IMCS alumni John Shanth Kumar (Director – Youth Empowerment in Action for Humanity, India), Anne Beatrice (Director – North South Initiative) who are experts on areas such as youth action and human rights. Planning session was conducted under the theme of “Globalising Students Catholic Action - Empowerment, Action and Solidarity”.

Through the global initiative several training and study sessions are planned to be conducted by IMCS Pax Romana in national, regional and international levels to achieve the following specific objectives.

1. Strengthening the IMCS Movement Internally
 - a. Capacity Building: To facilitate capacity

building activities of Catholic Tertiary Students providing opportunities for self-development and growth in critical and ethical leadership.

b. Movement Building: To facilitate the growth of Catholic Tertiary Student movements in countries in which they do not currently exist, uniting all Catholic Tertiary Students around the world in the mission for peace and justice.

2. Enhancing Networking and Collaborations between Grassroots and Global Movements

a. Ecumenism and Inclusivism: To empower students to recognize the multi-religious and multi-cultural realities of the world and to equip them with adequate formation to

respect, preserve and celebrate them.

b. Internationalism: To stand in solidarity as a global family, alongside like-minded organizations and individuals, with the vulnerables of our world.

3. Developing Spirituality of Social Action

a. Advocacy: To serve as a voice for the members of IMCS and the vulnerable of our world advocating for justice and the common good.

b. Spirituality of Action: To provide opportunities for members to understand and grow in their faith, living out our evangelical mission to live as Christ did, in the service of one another through our actions and words.



INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON *the Global Compact for Migration*

8th – 9th December, Morocco

On the 8th and 9th of December 2018 the UN Major Group for Children and Youth, through the participation of its member organisations and partners organised the first ever Migration Youth Forum to coincide with the Intergovernmental Conference on the Global Compact for Migration. The aims of the forum were to firstly build the capacity of the youth participants to engage with and advocate for migration issues in their own societies and at the international level, while also bring to voice of youth to the international stage engaging with key stakeholders including UNICEF, the International Organisation for Migration, Save the Children, etc. IMCS was represented at the Youth Forum in the persons of Ryan Kelly from Ireland, a member of the organising committee and Angelico Bemena from Madagascar, a funded participant.

The Forum opened on Saturday with address given by distinguished speakers including Ms Louise Arbour the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for International Migration, Laura Thompson the Deputy Director General of IOM and, Laurence Chandy the Director at Data, Research and Policy at UNICEF. Following this the participants divided into working group to address migration through various thematic frames including gender, integration through sports and arts, migration and climate change, and decent work.

The output of these working sessions was summarised into a final address to be delivered during the official closing ceremony of the Intergovernmental Conference.

As the world of Migration is an exciting, yet challenging area in which to work nowadays, the youth forum, organised by the UNMGCY was a forum who amass young people in the world to solve problems that migrants and refugees meet. The strength of the forum was that it brought together young people who are either migrants themselves or who are from communities

affected by migration, bringing their history, their backgrounds, their expertise and their knowledge together to exchange and discuss. To make the forum more organised and more interesting, many workshop had been planned to build and complement one another: Human trafficking, Labour and decent Jobs for migrants, Climate change Migration, Migration and Health, Gender and Migration, Migration Policy (the impact of Narratives) ; Migration (trends, challenge and opportunities), Integration through Sports,

Integration and advocacy through the arts, Advocacy through social Media, Exchange through non-formal Education, virtual and physical communities for Migrants.

The International Movement of Catholic Students as a movement of students who fixed a target to share justice and peace in the world by helping poor have an important responsibility toward migrants to help them to face and solve their various problems.

Most people are not yet conscious about their responsibility toward an other, especially young who have the full power to do something and to change all wrongs in the world. This Youth Forum helped make the participants more conscious about the real migration issues and gave them a new vision to help them to contribute in the resolution of these last. All catholic youth should be more informed about migration.



Youth Forum

Migration Week, Marrakech 2018



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