

DSE-CE meeting Slovakia, Dunajska Luzna, 19 November 2011

Shortened version. The full version was sent to general prioresses of the participating congregations: Croatian, Hungarian, Slovak, Czech.

Participants:

Kongregácia Sestier Dominikánok Blahoslavenej Imeldy – Srs. Justina and Edita OP
Árpádházi Szent Margitról Nevezett Szent Domonkos Rendi Nővérek Apostoli
Kongregációja – Srs. Hedvig and Alberta OP
Kongregacija sv Andela Cuvara – Srs. Slavka and Jaka OP
Česká kongregace sester dominikánek – Srs. Miriam and Krista OP

1. Information for Sister Sara, the European coordinator:

- What do we as a region think about the **suggestion to change the setting of the European coordination council of DSE**. The idea is to have younger delegates (45 years old as the highest) and not necessarily sisters in charge in their congregations.

Yes, we agree with the idea and we have sisters in our congregations who can be delegates for our region.

- Connected with it: the English speaking zone suggested to have **two European Areas** – see the last part of *“Report of the English speaking zone of DSE – June 2011”*.

Probably not.

From the discussion: It seems to go against the idea of connecting young European Sisters. On the other hand, having two European coordinators would strengthen Europe within DSI. The other continents are much more united than Europe and the majority of Dominican sisters still live in Europe. There is a large difference between the north and the south. But it is the same as in European Union, we just have to deal with it.

- Who do we suggest as the **candidates** for the next **International Coordinator** and especially as the next **European Coordinator**.

International Coordinator (2013): Sr. Viviana Ballarin.

European Coordinator (2013): Sr. Helen Alford, Sr. Viviana Ballarin, Sr. Madeleine Fredel, Sr. Ginevra Rossi.

- What **specific, creative ways of preaching** exist in our region and which of them can be presented during the DSI General Assembly.

“Touch of beauty” - Slovakia.

If dominican family: mission weeks – Czech Republic.

- What can be our **contribution to the DSI newsletter** in March and/or October 2012 about “Dominican women preaching”.

Social teaching in business – Hungary, Sr. Laura will write the article.

Radio Maria – Croatia, Sr. Slavka will write the article.

Touch of beauty – Slovakia, Sr. Edita will arrange the article.

Hospital chaplaincy, radio programmes (Dominican family: OP cafeterias, mission weeks) – Czech Republic, Sr. Krista will arrange the article.

Children camps – each congregation can write about them.

Articles for the Newsletter can be sent directly to Santa Sabina with CC for sr.sara@bethanie-op.org and krista@dominikanka.cz, so that they know that it works. The deadline is 2 months before, because they have to work on translations in Rome.

- Do we have a **sister** who can participate the **Earth Summit** in Buenos Aires in June 2012 and are we able to support the European representative by some **money**?

Our region is not able to support it financially.

Sr. Elisabeth OP from another region is going there: she is about 68 years old, a geologist, very interested in "Earth questions", and speaks English and Spanish fluently and French and German quite well.

She is interested in reporting about the summit afterwards wherever she is invited to go.

- Do we agree with the idea that **Europe does not need its own J & P co-promoter?**

We are not sure and want to discuss it again after the meeting with Sr. Toni Harris OP, the international promoter for J&P coordinator, in July 2012.

It touches the past of our congregations. The second volume of Sr. Helen Alford's book (Preaching Justice) is mainly about persecution of Dominican Sisters.

But it also touches our present at least in two ways:

- There are still Dominican sisters persecuted in the world and it would be nice to have a person to follow this kind of information and spread it among our sisters.
 - And we live in societies that are not friendly to elderly and sick people...
- Do we have any suggestions on **DSI communication?** How do we use the **DSI website** and its internal parts? **DSI newsletter?**

We would like to thank to those people who do this work. We hope to find ways how to use it more...

Only several sisters have been given the login to the internal part of the DSI website till now, but the information is going to be spread among everybody.

DSI newsletter: only Croatian sisters translate it. The others mainly "only" watch the pictures. But it is worth translating...

DSI publication "Shaping our future" available in different languages.

2. Some information to be spread

- Date of the next **DSI General Assembly: May 9 – 16, 2013**

- **May 31** as a special day connecting **Dominican apostolic Sisters and Nuns.**

In our region, there are nuns only in the Czech Republic. The Czech sisters are going to visit them. There could be a common meeting sometime in the future, not in 2012.

- Possibility to enter the internal section of www.dsiop.org

See more higher.

3. Within our DSE-CE region:

- Information about the **workshop in July 2012**

- Place: Olomouc, Czech Republic, priest seminary with a large capacity (more than 120), the workshop can be open to all sisters interested.

No age limit, all European sisters who can speak English can be invited, especially those who live in our region (Romania, Russia, Albania, Slovenia).

- Speakers and topic: Sr. Helen Alford and Fr Francesco Compagnoni OP.

Sr. Toni Harris is also coming to inform us about J&P and spend one or two days informally with the sisters.

- Date: probably the third week of July, Saturday 14 – Sunday 22.

Changed: arrival on Sunday, July 15 in the afternoon, departure Saturday, July 21.

Each congregation will be asked to prepare liturgy for one day.

– **Logotype for DSE-CE**

Several suggestions from the Czech sisters. All sisters will be asked once more to create something (by their prioresses general), send it to Krista. And our logo will be chosen in Olomouc in July.

- Would it be useful to **coordinate translations** of Dominican texts into Slavonic languages? Give information about translated texts (both free and with copyright), intentions to translate something, suggest texts to be translated...? If yes – how?

It concerns only Slovak and Czech sisters, Croatian language is too different... Edita and Krista will think about it.

- **DSE-CE website** dsece.weebly.com

Each congregation will try to find a person who can do it. There will be a workshop for these sisters in Olomouc.

Till that time: also the other congregations can send similar “articles” about their communities to Krista to become part of the common website (see Slovak and Czech communities, later also Croatian).

4. Others

- Do we have another sister who can attend the meeting of young sisters in January? (Sr. Barbara can't go there)

Sister Justina will ask Sr. Adriana from Slovakia. If she is not free, we can try sister Barbara from Croatia.

What is the solidarity fund used for?

The answer from Sr. Sara: The solidarity fund is not used for (Dominican) sisters in need, I must say. If you want to support sisters in distress, like a time ago in Haiti or in Japan, there are ways to contact them directly, also with help from DSI or me. Do you have a code for the special space on the website? You can ask for it in the DSI office, and then you can reach the catalogus online, very helpful sometimes to make contacts!

- What about a meeting about financial issues? Trying to find ways how to get money for our congregations?

Let us think about it and discuss it again in Olomouc in July or later...

A course of fund-raising? And inform ourselves how do we do it in our congregations...