

Instruments of Peace Led by the Spirit



*International Franciscan (OFM) Congress
Vossenack, Germany 2000*

Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC)

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Preface

Rome, September 2001

Dear Brothers,

Fraternal greetings of Peace and good!

This is an English version of the materials presented at the International Congress in Vossenack, Germany in October 2000. We have translated most of the principal presentations and experiences. Translation work is a time consuming and tedious process and for this reason we are only now making this book available. The office is also publishing a Spanish language version.

This book does not include the whole memory of the Congress. A separate document has been prepared for the archives of the General Curia, as well as the JPIC Rome Office, which contains all documents relating to the preparation, the meeting itself and follows up work. The archive document contains materials in the original languages.

The keynote addresses were made on globalization and challenges for us as Franciscans. The main themes of the first week: Ecology, Human Rights, Refugees and Peacemaking were examined from three perspectives; a general overview, a Christian and Franciscan perspective and a concrete example. The second week examined our lifestyle, ministries and formation process with regard to JPIC.

The book is divided into eight sections, which does not follow exactly the order of the Congress. The first section contains articles relating to JPIC in the Order today, followed by a series of reflections on and challenges to JPIC from our sources. The third section has reflections relating to JPIC and formation followed by a section on Human Rights. We have made a compilation of presentations related to lifestyle and experiences. Finally, we present the Congress Documents, some annexes and final words.

We would like to thank all those who participated in the Congress as delegates, those who prepared presentations, those who helped with secretarial work, translations and especially to the brothers and staff in Vossenack for their wonderful hospitality.

Peter Schorr OFM
President of the Congress



Francisco Ó Conaire OFM
Coordinator of Congress



Introduction

September 2001.

The material in this English volume is a compilation of talks and other relevant information presented at the OFM International JPIC Congress held in Vossenack, Germany in October 2000. The original talks were presented in many languages. We have had most of them translated. Unfortunately, there are some not yet translated. We have decided to distribute what is available as of May 2001.

We hope these texts and information will be useful for initial and ongoing formation, a supplement to the JPIC Manuel, “Instruments of Peace” now published in seven languages.

We are asking each Conference and Province to publish and distribute this material according to its needs and possibilities. The JPIC Rome office will not make a publication. Feel free to use these texts in any way you find beneficial. They can be published in provincial bulletins, newsletters, as well as photocopied without copyright difficulties!

JPIC Office, Rome.

