

## Workshop on **Refugees**

We began looking at the worldwide situation of refugees and internal displaced people like in Colombia where there are three million internally displaced people and in Turkey, where there are two million Kurds displaced from their villages.

In Germany, some friars work with refugees from Kurdistan and Turkey, and with migrants from Turkey.

We saw the realities of refugees throughout the world, in Japan, Ireland.

In the Philippines it is Muslims people from Mindanao. The refugees go to the armed groups, the Franciscans document refugees being with these armed groups because these groups have confidence in the Franciscans.

In East Africa there are People from Sudan, Ruanda, and internally displaced people in Kenya.

In Rome close to the Antonianum there is a soup kitchen giving food to migrants and helping them with clothes etc.

In Milan there is an excellent work of the friars for migrants giving them food and shelter and helping in medical and psychological issues.

In Colombia Franciscans live and work with the internal displaced people helping them to organize them asking for their rights. They help with juridical questions, there is psychological and humanitarian aid provided.

Ecuadorian friars work together with Colombia on refugees.

Mexico is a country where a lot of people from Central America try to get to the United States.

In Bolivia there is a program called OSCAR to help refugees and migrants.

### Recommendations:

We should inform people with prejudices about the situation of refugees

We should document undocumented refugees.

Franciscans coming from the countries of origin of refugees should work in countries refugees go to help them in these countries.

Franciscans should live close to refugees and help them to be in contact with their families in their home countries.

There should be collaboration with FI Geneva on refugees.

Every Franciscan Conference should have a person working full time on migrants and refugees.

We should write letters and protest against the wall the United States want to establish to prevent migration from Mexico.

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