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## Agenda JPIC

**05– 08 of May,**  
Meeting of the ESC  
JPIC (USA)

**14– 18 of June,**  
Meeting of the EAC  
JPIC (Japan)

**21-27 of June,** Con-  
ference on Formation  
and JPIC, SAAO  
(Malaysia)

**28– 30 of June,**  
Meeting of Inserted  
Fraternities of Europe  
(Germany)

**13-25 of August,**  
Seminar of Franciscan-  
Clarean Spirituality  
and Mission of Peace,  
(Colombia)

**12-16 of October,**  
Animation Committee  
(Spain)

**17-23 of October,**  
European Congress of  
JPIC (Spain)

**2-7 of December,** Af-  
rican Congress (South  
Africa)

**7– 15 of December,**  
International Council  
of the OFM JPIC  
(South Africa)

## EAC

In March, a year after the beginning of the war against Iraq, the Friars participated in different manifestations for peace. In Japan, together with "The Inter-religious Service for Peace", they held a prayer for Peace. About 120 people met, among them there were religious leaders and followers of different religious confessions. This increased hope that more people

would seek peace rather than war.

One activity of extreme importance was the denunciation that the Friars of the JPIC Commission of Japan made against an initiative of the Japanese Ministry for Justice to show on its web page an express invitation to help the government to identify the people without documents that are recognised legally.

The denouncement was promoted in February-March in conjunction with the Catholic Commission for Migrants, Refugees and Human Mobility and, on the international level, with the help of Franciscans International, Geneva. In this way the act became a truly international campaign against racism, xenophobia and discrimination.

## COMPI

With the topic of "New forms of poverty and the ethical use of economic and financial resources", the JPIC Commission of COMPI held its National Assembly in Bonorva, Italy from the 19th to 22nd of April. During this formative meeting for the JPIC animators, Domenico Rosati, of Caritas Italiana, exposed the various ways of understanding poverty in general, but in a particular manner within the Italian reality. Behind the statistics

and classification of poverty, there lie the following questions: Is poverty or inequality increasing in society? Or, perhaps, is poverty or insecurity increasing? The requirement to construct a culture of solidarity, of requiring social security, etc., is also growing up around this situation.

In the second moment of reflection, under the direction of Br. Giancarlo Lati, ofm, Bursar General of the Order, there was an assess-

ment of the economic systems from the perspective of Christian social ethics and the social teaching of John Paul II. The proposal of a community economy, of an ecology-friendly trade and of an ethical banking system suggested a profound revision of the use of our economic and financial resources, as well as a conversion according to the new times, from our option of Franciscan minority.

## Brazilian Conference

The JPIC Service of the Brazilian Conference held its ordinary meeting in Salvador, Bahia, from the 20th to 22nd April. The guideline for

the meeting was to analyse the advances in the commitments taken on during the Continental Meeting held in San Luis Rey, U.

S.A., in 2002. First of all, it was decided to hold the Continental Seminar on ALCA from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> November of this year; the

place has still to be decided. Besides, seeing the urgency for it to have a topic of some importance for our pastoral activity, the invitation will be extended to the Franciscan Family.

The JPIC course, which had been held during various years, will be convened again for the purpose of continuing

the animation of the Friars. It has always been a very important experience of formation and motivation. The richness of the meeting is founded on the methodology that encourages dynamic union between personal experiences, sensitivity and the theoretical content in a climate of fraternal sharing so that the results have been

very favourable.

The Conference will host the II International Meeting of JPIC 2006. Another of its commitments is to hold some seminars on Franciscan Non-violence to stimulate and animate the Franciscan Week for Peace, which was taken on as one of the priorities of the Franciscan Family of Brazil.

## West Slav Conference

The JPIC Commission held its meeting in the Friary of Borki Wielkie, the novitiate of the Province of St. Hedwig, Poland from the 27<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> April. The hub of the work was the Project of the Commission for the three-year period 2004-2006, approved two days previously by the Conference of Ministers Provincial.

During the meeting there were some experts to explain the life conditions of the forests so that they could understand government policies. Besides analysing the Final Document of the General Chapter 2003, the participation of Friars in the coming European meeting in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, was prepared. They have begun to distribute their Bulle-

tin, "The JPIC Informant", to all the Friars of the Conference by e-mail. They agreed to continue collaborating with the West Slav Conference of the OFMConventuals. They will distribute a CD with all JPIC material that could serve the Friars as a resource for the animation they are carrying out.

## ¡Act now!

We cannot remain silent during this new phase in the war against Iraq since the conflict is becoming an indescribable dehumanisation. We therefore invite you to participate in the different initiatives against the War and the Torture of Iraqi prisoners. For further information, visit the websites:

<http://web.amnesty.org/pages/irq-torture-eng>

[http://ns3810.ovh.net/~fiacat/fr/article.php3?id\\_article=146](http://ns3810.ovh.net/~fiacat/fr/article.php3?id_article=146)

<http://www.nodo50.org/paremoslaguerra/>

<http://www.geocities.com/neworder2013/NolecompremosaUSA.html>

**International Day of Workers:** 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004

**International Day of Conscientious Objectors:** 15<sup>th</sup> May 2004

**African Liberation Day and the Week of Solidarity with all peoples of all colonised territories:** 25<sup>th</sup> May 2004

**World day without tobacco – non-smoking day-** 31<sup>st</sup> May

**International Day for the innocent child victims of aggression:** 4<sup>th</sup> June

**World Environment Day:** 5<sup>th</sup> June

**African Refugee Day:** 20<sup>th</sup> June.