



European Migration Network- Migration Core Team

European Migration Network Meeting

Barcelona, April 8-9 2017

In Barcelona, CLC members of 10 different national communities and a member of the Euroteam have met to try to encourage working as an *Apostolic Body* in the migrations field in Europe, strengthening the network and trying to decide its future lines of action.

After a prayer moment, we have a short presentation tour of the participants, explaining the link with the migration issue, and a sharing of our expectations from the meeting.

Participants:

- Maria Morales (Spanish Migration Team) and Adelaida La Casta (Eurolink) from Spain.
- Ulrich Treipl, from Austria
- Claudine Drochon on behalf of the Euroteam.
- Ann Darby from Sweden.
- Katarzyna Artemiuk from Poland
- Patrick and Ingrid Jutz from Germany
- Philippa Dawson and Frances Crowe from UK.
- Laura Scaglia from Italy
- Jenny Zammit from Malta
- Catherine Lemare, Maguy Pellerin and Nicole Amrouche from France
- Agnes Rausch from Luxemburg
- Jose María Molins, from the Spanish Ex-Co, joined the meeting in the afternoon.

The objectives – lines of action:

Maria Morales initiates the work session with a summary of the migrations network history. She explains then the lines of work that emerged at the 2014 migrations network meeting in Luxemburg, defining objectives and actions to develop them. These main lines are:

1. Raising awareness of the reality of migration at European national communities.
2. Favouring discernment and DSSE in national communities to specify their response in this field of mission.
3. Development of projects undertaken by CLC Europe.
4. Advocacy at European level.

After a personal moment of prayer and reflection on how our national community contributes to any of these lines, we go on sharing about the work they are doing in the migration field.

already done or planned...

Migration is a priority for national communities represented e.g. by Spain, France, Luxemburg, Italy, Austria and Malta. In **Austria** and **Luxemburg** they have advocacy activities, as they wrote proposals to the government's representatives about migrant's conditions. **Malta and Italy** work in the welcome of migrants from the sea, as it is a big issue in the two countries. **Malta and Sweden** work in link with the JRS, while in all the other national communities, although they don't join the JRS, the link with the Jesuits Society about migration is very strong. Several communities followed the invitation of Pope Francis to welcome refugees in our houses. We consider that in

almost all the national communities the



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biggest work to do is to change people's hearts and fight against fear and suspicion towards migrants, but also to help migrants to trust European people. Some countries have lot of people working with migrants, not as CLCers, but privately: in that way, even if the national community hasn't an official commitment in this field, they can bring CLC way to face the question.

Finally Claudine gives us two testimonies, coming from CLC **Switzerland** with their prayer proposition to support Syria. She tells us also about Euroteam involvement with the network in Europe as facilitator and being the one sending official communications to all the national communities.

At the frontiers with refugees

In the afternoon we have a Skype call with Eleonora Milazzo, responsible of *At the Frontiers*- Camp in Italy, who explains how the winter shift was in Ragusa and introduces the two new possibilities for summer 2017 in Torino and Reggio Calabria. The intervention is followed by a short sharing of participant's echoes about Eleonora's intervention and some suggestion for the future of the project. We speak then about the actions going on in the other national communities, as the holiday camp in Luxembourg together with Caritas to share with minor refugees. As European network we will support and publicise both proposals.

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On Sunday morning we restart the work session praying for the decision we are going to take about the coordination of the network. Adelaida and Maria explain that Spain was asked by the CLC WExCo to be the coordinator of the Migration Network in Europe for two years and they decided before this meeting that they would prefer if possible to pass on their commitment. They consider that it is important that more national communities should be present in the coordination team in order to guarantee more support. So with the agreement of all the participants and Claudine from the Euroteam, they proposed the constitution of a coordination team composed by representatives of 3-4 different national communities. The presents are asked for their availability (and their communities) to be part of it, and to propose 2-3 national communities that they consider should do it.

After a round of proposals and then discussions (also of the number of members, the way of working with Euroteam,) the Core Team is formed at this moment by Spain, Italy and France (Maria Morales, Laura Scaglia and Nicole Amrouche). Austria and Malta asked to reflect on their participation and gave answer later, Ulrich from Austria accepted to join the core team. Germany and Luxemburg and Sweden show their interest to support the team in logistics and other needs.

We decide to have a special attention also for national communities who couldn't come and showed interest like Switzerland or perhaps Portugal (many young adults came as volunteers in Ragusa for the project) We are also aware that some communities don't want to commit themselves now in this issue.

It's made obvious that communication must be improved. We recommend to use the new European CLC website to share news and information about what we are doing on migration field.

Trusting that this new Core Team will help us to work better and get further as an European Migrations Network, and giving thanks to the Lord, we say goodbye until the next meeting to be defined.



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Annex:

The new Migration Core Team (MCT) had its constitutional meeting in Toulouse at July 9 th 2017; also Claudine was present as the link to the Euroteam. We set the first steps in organizing and coordinating our work.

Our common e-mail-address is: europeanmigrationscoreteam@gmail.com , so for any communication please use this address.

To be more efficient each of us four took over responsibility for the communication with particular national communities:

Laura	Italy	Malta	Latvia	Croatia	Slovenia
Maria	Spain	Portugal	Lithuania	Great Britain and Ireland	Hungary
Nicole	France	Luxembourg	Netherlands	Belgium	
Ulrich	Austria	Germany	Sweden	Poland	Switzerland

In December all of you will receive our next newsletter, we will try to keep you (and us) informed and even more: to keep in touch in order to promote ideas and their realization.

May we grow in our mission and not lose patience - because we will not be alone!

Laura, Maria, Nicole, Ulrich

