



ORDO FRANCISCANUS SAECULARIS

Consilium Internationale
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Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

To all YouFra National Councils

For information
To all OFS National Councils

Dear brothers and sisters,

May the Lord give you peace!

The last few months have been very important for the OFS and YouFra. We have celebrated the Second YouFra International Assembly in Croatia, August 17-23, 2014, during which we shared our experiences and discussed some issues important for YouFra fraternities. At the conclusion of the Assembly, we elected new YouFra international councilors who are members of the YouFra International Coordination Team for the period 2014-2017. Although we are sure that you already know their names, we would like to present them to you in this letter. The newly elected YouFra international councilors and their substitutes are:

AREA	INTERNATIONAL YOUFRA COUNCILOR	E-MAIL
Asia-Oceania	Jenifer Josephine Christla (India) – councilor	crisjoster@gmail.com
	Arlene Tilos Naya (Philippines) – substitute	arlene.naya@yahoo.com
Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean	José Carlos Mancinas Casas (Mexico) – councilor	josekman05@hotmail.com
	Judith del Rocio Vidales Tinajera (Mexico) – substitute	rocio_arejanit@hotmail.com
South America	Marcos Ezequiel Villagra (Argentina) – councilor	ministrojufraargentina@hotmail.com
	Shirley Liz Ramirez Leon (Paraguay) – substitute	leonley12@gmail.com
Central and East Europe	Joanna Sochor (Poland) – councilor	asia.sochor@gmail.com
	Božica Ivanković (Bosnia and Herzegovina) – substitute	bozicaivankovic1@gmail.com
Western Europe and North America	Ghislain Knepper (France) – councilor	ghislain.knepper@gmail.com
	Katia Dâmaso (Portugal) – substitute	katiadamaso@gmail.com
Africa	Michat Legrand-Raout (Mauritius) – councilor	lemichat@yahoo.com

The newly elected CIOFS YouFra Presidency Councilor and YouFra International Coordinator is Andrea Odak (andrea.odak@gmail.com) from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Andrea was elected during the OFS General Chapter in Assisi in November 2014. In the near future, the CIOFS Presidency will appoint a Fraternal Animator and a General Assistant, both of whom will form part of the YouFra International Coordination Team.

After the First YouFra International Assembly in Barcelona (Spain, 2007), the Second one was a precious gift for our fraternities and our fraternal life. You can read what the representatives of more than 20 national YouFra fraternities have determined in the **Conclusions of the Second YouFra International Assembly**. The Conclusions are enclosed with this letter. Please take these recommendations and guidelines to heart and share them with your fraternities. They will help us build better relationships among ourselves, as well as helping us to be faithful heralds of God's kingdom, just like St. Francis.

Another important event was the XIVth General and VIth Elective Chapter OFS celebrated in Assisi, Italy, November 1-9, 2014. YouFra participated in this major event with great joy and dedication. We enjoyed the opportunity to share our ideas, recommendations and observations with the members of the General Chapter. It was a time of grace for us to be actively present at this Chapter with the members of the OFS. We would like to express our gratitude to our former OFS General Minister, Encarnación del Pozo, for all her love, time, joy, patience, dedication and wisdom that she has given to Franciscan Youth during her wonderful service to the Order.

And last but not least in importance, we want to inform you is that we have designed a **new YouFra webpage**, which should prove to be more attractive and interesting for young people. You can visit this webpage at www.ciofs.org/youfra. However, in order to have a good webpage, it is important that you send us information to post about the life of your national fraternities. Also, we would like you to contribute news, events and national projects on a regular basis so that the webpage will be both formative and informative. There is also the possibility that the webpage could include interactive materials. This webpage is still in process and needs to be improved, but this can only be done with your help, so please assist us. We believe this webpage can be a useful tool for the new evangelization.

Finally, we want to thank all who have helped YouFra grow to this moment in time—our former General Minister and CIOFS Presidency councilors, YouFra international coordinator and YouFra international councilors. Our thanks to all of you who have supported YouFra with your prayers and concrete service. We ask you to continue to pray for the success of our future work and efforts.

We wish you a blessed new year, filled with the grace of our Lord. May He accompany us and help us on our Franciscan journey!

Tibor Kauser,
OFS General Minister



Andrea Odak,
CIOFS Presidency councilor
YouFra international coordinator



Attachment:

- 1) Conclusions of the Second YouFra International Assembly