

ORDO FRANCISCANUS SAECULARIS

Consilium Internationale

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To all National Councils of OFS and YouFra

To International Councillors of OFS and YouFra

Object: Formation concerning the Presence in the World

Dear brothers and sisters,

During this year, the Commission of the CIOFS Presidency Presence in the World will present on a monthly basis, a series of formation forms to help the fraternities and each member to deal with and try to accomplish the challenges proposed by the Conclusions of the OFS General Chapter in 2011, held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and summarized in the final document as follows:

“This Chapter has understood that our mission in the world today consists of living and witnessing to a life characterized by fraternal love because, as we reflect on our vocation, we conclude that indeed it consists in being authentic Christians and Franciscans. In this task, knowing the Church’s Social Doctrine is indispensable, ecumenism is a necessity, and family values are a priority. Franciscans must be agents of social transformation.”

A serious ongoing formation should enable fraternities to be open to the human realities (family, work, community building, ecology, etc..) so that they will be able to project outward in a social context that is challenging and which is characterized by violence, hunger, poverty, and the suffering of millions of people. This formation, however, must also be aimed at becoming aware of the proper administration of the Order’s financial and human resources.

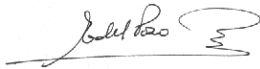
Each monthly form will consist of four sections including: a brief theoretical teaching, references to some sources, organizations and websites that are relevant to the topic, the description of an practical example, and finally a few questions designed to encourage the dialogue within the fraternity and/or some suggestions for practical actions. The forms will be

elaborated both by the members of the Commission Presence in the World itself and by some collaborators.

The Commission is currently composed of : Attilio and Rosa Galimberti (Coordinators, Italy), Ma. Consuelo Núñez (Councillor of the Presidency, Venezuela), Ana Maria Olmedo Ramos (Guatemala), Fr. Amando Trujillo Cano, TOR (General Assistant, Mexico), and Lovro Sučić (Collaborator, Croatia).

We are confident that all National Councils will welcome this new service with interest. We also hope that, thanks to this support, the OFS fraternities and each OFS and YouFra member, will be helped to live fully the articles of the Rule and the the GGCC, that deal with these issues in the chapter regarding the Form of Life.

We extend fraternal greetings to each of you,



Encarnación del Pozo
Minister General OFS



Attilio Galimberti
Coordinator Commission Presence in the World
On behalf of all Commission members