



Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat of the Society of Jesus

ENG June 2015

...to exchange social justice and ecology news, stimulate contacts, share spirituality and promote networking...

Narrative

World championship of street soccer

Augusto Dotto (BRA)



The Integral Sport Program - PEI (Programa Esporte Integral) is one of the social projects of the Citizenship and Social Action Jesuit Network. It is a program located at Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos - UNISINOS, a Jesuit University in south of Brazil. From July 1 to 14th 2014, 7 teenagers of PEI participated in the World Championship of Street Soccer that took place in the city of São Paulo. The youngsters - accompanied by 4 educators of the Program - were selected based on their experience in the activities and also due to their leadership profile in their groups and communities.

The youngsters that represent PEI are between 15 and 18 years old. 4 girls and 3 boys have already followed a long path in the Program (most of them have taken part in it for 4 years). They are residents of the community served by the 3 action nuclei. They returned from the World Championship with the mission to disseminate the life experience and learning, principally in the group of teenagers, where they already are a reference to the others. [Read more...](#)

Flashnews

Global - European Parliament voting against the use of conflict minerals

An EU wide campaign has resulted in the European Parliament voting in favour of mandatory measures to eradicate the presence of conflict minerals in the supply chain. Among the



organizations involved in this battle were some European Jesuit organisations, such as [Alboan](#), [Jesuiten Mission](#) and [Jesuit Missions](#). This has been a very important achievement, since, this regulation could benefit thousands of poor people in some of the most fragile and conflict-ridden countries in the developing world. [To learn more...](#)

Latin America - Spiritual walk and meeting of indigenous people



Members of the Jesuit Indigenous network in Latin America participated in the [Spiritual walk and meeting of indigenous people](#) that brought them from El Salvador to Mexico denouncing the environmental damages they are suffering and the discrimination they are exposed to in their own countries. They finished with a [declaration](#) where they demanded governments, as well as social and religious groups, to defend their rights.

USA - Commentary on Washington Post by Fr Timothy Kesicki



On the beatification of Archbishop Oscar Romero on 23rd May 2015, Fr Timothy Kesicki, President of the Conference of US and Canada, wrote an [article](#) on the Washington Post in which he reflects on the situation in Central America today. Fr Kesicki invites the American government to address the root causes of migration and to provide direct assistance that builds the capacity to address humanitarian need, instead of funding the militarization of the borders between the U.S. and Central America.

Global - Newsletter from Edujesuit



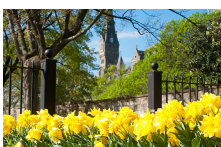
[Edujesuit](#), the website from the Jesuit network advocating for the right to education (GIAN on Education), launched its first newsletter with news and contents update. They present a report on primary education in the world and show how to join the Global campaign for education. They also include a couple of editorials. The first one reflects about the difficulties in achieving the Millennium Goal on education. The second invites the Ignatian family to network for the right to education. [To read the newsletter and to subscribe...](#)

Asia Pacific - Migration network meeting



A meeting of the Migration Network in Asia Pacific took place in Jakarta, from April 21 to 23. The previous meeting had resulted in an action plan, and, one year later, the group gathered to see if it had actually worked and what lessons could be learnt from the first year of collaboration. There was clearly a stronger sense of purpose and eagerness. The group agreed that communication had been the most challenging action in the plan. Face-to-face interaction remains the most productive means of communication. [Read more...](#)

USA - Georgetown University divests from coal companies



In accordance with the university's mission and existing sustainability practices, Georgetown's board of directors have passed a [resolution](#) stating that the university will not make or continue any direct investments of endowment funds in companies whose principal business is mining coal for use in energy production. "The work of

understanding and responding to the demands of climate change is urgent and complex... It requires our most serious attention", says President DeGioia. [To learn more...](#)

Global - Working for alternative ways of development



From 20 to 28 of April, 60 persons from Jesuit institutions - universities and social centers - coming from the Latin America, Africa, Europe and the US gathered together in Loyola and Bilbao to discuss about how to promote a more humane economy. The conclusions showed the importance of [alternative models of development](#), sustainable livelihoods and inclusive public policies. You can also see some of the [photographs](#) of the meeting. [To know more...](#)

Australia - The need for a compassionate refugee policy



The recent pushback of Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi immigrant workers by Indonesia, Thailand, and Malaysia has made it a call to the Jesuits of the region. The challenge of an inhumane policy that has popular support has been felt particularly in Australia. Jesuit Social Services, together with other Catholic organizations, is trying to support asylum seekers, inspire more people to become involved in their defense, provide relevant resources, and create connections between different groups around the country. [To learn more...](#)

Ireland - Chronic overcrowding in prisons must end



Several critical objectives have not been met in the Irish Prison Service's Strategic Plan 2012-2015, according to the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice. Their Advocacy Officer, Eoin Carroll, says there has been "no meaningful reduction of chronic overcrowding in Mountjoy, Cork and Limerick, no cell share risk assessment, no specific strategies for older prisoners or for prisoners on protection". [To learn more...](#)

Munich - New Center for environmental ethics and education



The [Munich School of Philosophy](#) officially opened its new Center for Environmental Ethics and Environmental Education in Munich on Monday, 4th of May. Its task is to examine, among other things, the ethics of resource management and the international justice in addition to the basics of environmental ethics. The Center is part of the Institute for Sociopolitical Research at the College. In the future there will be offered lectures and a close collaboration with the Adult Education Centre in Munich.

Spain - Report on human trafficking



Human trafficking is unfortunately becoming a present-day issue. To raise awareness on this reality and to move to action, the Jesuit Migration Service in Spain has released the report "[La trata de seres humanos: el negocio del comercio con personas](#)" (Trafficking of human beings: business trade with people). Poverty and lack of economic opportunity make people potential victims of traffickers associated with international criminal organizations. They are vulnerable to false promises of job opportunities in other countries; women and children are particularly vulnerable to trafficking for the sex trade; it also includes persons who are trafficked into 'forced' marriages or into any form of forced labor.

