



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ECOLOGY

CHALLENGES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE COMING YEARS¹ :

1. Developing an Apostolic Plan that will give direction to SJES interventions.
2. Promoting greater collaboration between SJES and all other apostolic Secretaries of the General Curia (Higher Education, Secondary and Pre-secondary Education, and Faith - Formation).
3. Building stronger links between SJES and each Province's Social Apostolate Director.
4. Improving the SJES communications service, including regular reporting on activities and plans.
5. Renewing the GIAN leadership initiatives and clarifying their way forward.
6. Exploring ways for the Society of Jesus to be a more articulate and significant voice in global advocacy forums (JCoR, Ecosoc-UN); promote and deepen alliances within the Society and with other religious institutions and civil society groups.

December 2024: presentation of the SJES 2025-2027 APOSTOLIC PLAN

THE MISSION OF THE SJES: To assist Fr. General in the governance of the Society of Jesus and promote discernment, collaboration and networking among all apostolic areas of the Society of Jesus, emphasizing social justice and integral ecology.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS 2025 - 2027

1. Survey and report on the state of the social apostolate in the Society of Jesus (time frame: 2025 - 2026).
2. Formation/training on social leadership: Catholic Social Teaching, magisterium of the General Superiors of the Society of Jesus; offering internship experiences.
3. Build solid relationships with religious congregations, Vatican offices, diplomatic missions, and civil society organizations, and encourage Jesuits to do the same at the regional and local levels.
4. Enhance the impact of GIAN by participating in broader forums (JCoR, Ecosoc-UN).
5. Develop a Strategic Communication Plan (SCP) to share our work and plans, especially with youth audiences.
6. Promoting and supporting the work of the PCCP.

HIGHLIGHTS / 2024 - 2025:

1. Visited social projects in 14 provinces: Kenya, Malawi, Zambia (GIAN-IE core group meeting), Zimbabwe, Indonesia (JCAP social delegates meeting), Timor, Australia, Ranchi, Dumka, Patna, Mumbai, Karnataka, Madurai, Chennai. Participation in the meeting of social delegates and directors of social centers of CPAL in Cuzco, Peru.
Opportunity for great learning, support for the local teams (Jesuits and other collaborators) and articulation of interprovincial and universal initiatives.
2. Study on the 4th UAP/PAU: With the help of the IBERO American University of Mexico City, a survey was carried out on all the Jesuit communities and institutions' response to the 4th UAP; 39% of the universe consulted responded. The Society of Jesus' response was systemic and creative. Social objectives outnumbered articulated technical objectives. Social interventions such as environmental education, community empowerment, and spiritual and ethical integration addressed educational-spiritual-ethical community empowerment objectives. Respondents indicated that projects had tangible impacts. Research data suggests that the types of collaborators and beneficiaries targeted could be more inclusive; the impact of projects could be much broader. Greater collaboration with the marginalized, the voiceless, underserved youth, and those with the political and economic power to legislate and influence change could broaden impact.

¹ Meeting of the Secretaries for Social Apostolate of the six Conferences, with the leaders of GIAN and the members of the Consultative Committee in June 2024.



- Promotio Iustitiae (PI) No. 137. "Climate Change, Food Security and Agroecology" was the central issue. To improve communication and ensure its usefulness, a new way of disseminating PI's content was launched in August 2024: published weekly on the SJES website in a cycle consisting of an indepth article on the theme, an account of a related institutional experience, the republication of an article from previous volumes, and finally the personal testimony of apostolic collaborators. Promotio Iustitiae No. 137 is now (30/03/2025) ready to be sent to all subscribers in an editable PDF file.
- Interventions in the SJES communication system. Efforts have been made to produce our content for the SJES website. Promotio Iustitiae is 100% our content. The presentation and content of the Headlines newsletter (3008 subscribers) have been improved. Our presence on social

networking sites has increased (+ 5200 followers). The course on the Church's social doctrine (Teaching Tuesdays - TT) is expanding our presence on social networks; more than 1600 participants. It is a collaboration of many people and institutions, especially the Faculty of Social Sciences of the Gregorian University in Rome and the Commission for Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation (JPIC) of the USG-UISG.

- Relations with other institutions and participation in different forums. Active involvement in the JPIC Commission of the USG-UISG and the Commission on Religious Life of the Laudato Si Action Platform (LSAP). Good relationship with the Laudato Si Movement. Steps have been taken to achieve the registration of the GIAN initiative in multilateral UN forums such as the Conferences of the Parties (COP), the Justice Coalition of Religious (JCoR), or the UN Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC).



UPDATE ON THE GLOBAL IGNATIAN ADVOCACY NETWORK

The Global Ignatian Advocacy Network has four initiatives, each with its own organization (leader, core group, participants) and dynamic.

FORCED MIGRATION (GIAN-FM)

- Creation and implementation of the global campaign 'Hope is the Way': a common political position and awareness-raising campaign, with the participation of JRS Europe, Canadian Jesuits International and the Secretariat for Social Justice and Ecology. Actions were carried out in 50 different countries, and more than a thousand people connected synchronically worldwide.
- There is solid collaboration between CPAL and JCCU and between CPAL and JCEP; relations with other conferences are *in fieri*. The international office of JRS has reassumed its participation in the core group of GIAN Migrations.
- The Jesuit advocacy process around Cartagena+40 stood out. It was led by RJM-JRS CPAL, with the active participation of JCCU and JRS International in the coorganization of a diplomatic event in Rome, conjointly with other ecclesial networks, some Ambassadors of the Holy See, Italian institutions, and international agencies.
- In terms of advocacy, two milestones in 2025 should mark some of our actions: on the one hand, the review of the Global Compact for Migration and, on the other, the celebration of COP 30. The consolidation of a second edition of The Way is Hope Global Campaign, with the challenge of achieving actions and impacts in the six Conferences, is another commitment on which we have already started working, building up the good results of the 2024 experience.



JUSTICE IN MINING (GIAN-JIM)



1. We are conducting joint training projects on advocacy and corporate accountability between Canadian Jesuits International (CJI), Canadian Lawyers for International Human Rights (CLIHR) and the Arrupe Center for Research and Training (CARF) in D.R. Congo.
2. Some members of GIAN-JIM (Alboan, JESC, RCS/CPAL, along with CISDE and other institutions) have gathered the support of more than 200 religious leaders, who have shown their support for a Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive law that the European Union finally adopted. Similar legislation is being discussed in other countries, such as Canada.
3. We have also worked on a joint project between the Catholic Peacebuilding Network, the Kroc Institute (at the University of Notre Dame), and the Laudato Si' Research Institute at Campion Hall (University of Oxford) called "The Catholic Church and Mining: Exploring Paths Toward Integral Ecological Peace." As a result of this process a guide called "Catholic Approaches to Mining: A Guide for Reflection and Action" will be published in 2025.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION (GIAN-R2E)



1. We focused on coordinating and aligning efforts to give visibility to the right to education across the Jesuit educational network, particularly in frontier contexts. Key actions included: a. engaging Jesuit Conferences in the GIAN Right to Education Core Group; b. restructuring the Core Group; c. establishing a consistent working rhythm; d. maintaining dialogue with the Secretariat of Secondary Education.
2. Key challenges for 2025 include
 - a. Strengthen alignment: ensure that Core Group members effectively represent their Conferences'

efforts related to the right to education.

- b. Improve communication: address connectivity and cultural barriers to foster regular dialogue and collaboration.
- c. Develop concerted action: shift from coordination to unified advocacy to influence global public policies.
- d. Establish global presence: Increase visibility through an annual report, which will be developed and shared during a global online event.
- e. Build partnerships and expand the network: Forge connections with organizations outside the strict Jesuit network (Cristo Rey, Kanisius Foundation, etc.).

INTEGRAL ECOLOGY (GIAN-IE)



1. In September 2025, Fr. John Kennedy, SJ (MAD) took over the leadership of GIAN-IE. The working groups have been meeting regularly (with more than 65 institutions from across the Society participating in these three themes). Organization of participants in three challenges (working groups): a. Climate change, finance and energy transition; b. Food systems: water, land, agroecology; c. Climate change and challenges for indigenous communities. It was also decided that advocacy work in 2024-2025 would focus on participation in COP30 (Brazil, November 2025).
2. The SJES survey on the 4th UAP, conducted in the second half of 2024, is a valuable tool for sharing experiences and building alliances that strengthen our commitment. GIAN-IE has the challenge of consolidating a core group that can help energize and develop what is already being done and stimulate those who have not yet taken effective steps to care for our common home.
3. Preparations for participation in COP30 are currently taking place. The three agreed calls are: a. Cancel the debt of underdeveloped countries and strengthen the Loss and Damage Compensation Fund; b. Accelerate signing agreements and set targets for a just energy transition that reduces CO2 emissions; c. Set concrete targets to move towards a sustainable global system of food sovereignty based on agroecology.

A communications Committee is already taking action to report on COP 30 and to communicate with the actors we want to convene. We promote collaboration between the works of the Society of Jesus, the Church, and others from civil society to present a united position and impact the negotiations.

Roberto Jaramillo, s.j.

Executive Team of the SJES / March 2025

REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE SOCIAL MINISTRY SECRETARIES

CPAL – Conferencia de Provinciales de América Latina y El Caribe

The year 2024 began with a new socioenvironmental delegate Fr. Agnaldo Júnior SJ. As he got acquainted with CPAL's networks, two dynamics were dominant in the work: the midterm evaluation of CPAL's Common Apostolic Project (PAC.2), and a diagnosis of the networks to better understand structures, relations with other networks within and outside the Society of Jesus, links among provinces, and impacts.

Highlights: the Network of Social Centers / RCS organized a Pro-Democracy Seminar: "Thining Democracy in Our LAC Region", conducted monthly situational analyses of Latin America reality and two cohorts of the Diploma in Political Citizen Formation. Also, the Solidarity and Indigenous network (RSAI) gathered in Manaus lay women, Jesuits and other leaders, and published "Extrativism, Women and Resistance" with case research on three countries: Guatemala,

Bolivia and Brazil. The Jesuit Network with Migrants (RJM) and the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) together, with other national and international organizations, ensure the protection and integration of migrants, through Cartagena+40, a framework that broadens and ensures a more dignified treatment of people in forced mobility. The Pan-Amazonian Jesuit Service (SJPAM) has done an important job of drafting an apostolic plan for the Amazon region, the profile of a delegate and the necessary structures to carry out the mission. Finally, the Diploma in Integral Ecology and Socio-environmental Justice begin in 2025.



JCAP – JESUIT CONFERENCE OF ASIA PACIFIC

In 2024 we continued our efforts to connect regularly with Province Social Delegates, leaders and others engaged in the social apostolate. This included regular zoom meetings and culminated in an in-person meeting of the Core Group of the Social Ministries and Social Delegates in Yogyakarta, Indonesia in October 2024. This was the first meeting since prior to COVID. The focus was building capacity of members to understand the history of the Society's commitment to social and ecological justice, underlining its importance and the characteristics that ensure its Jesuit identity.

Highlights: The JCAP Migrant Refugees Network had an onsite meeting in Taipei in March 2024 and built up the spiritual foundation for their five-year plan. They had an online Myanmar Forum in December 2024, featuring guest speakers who work in religious NGOs, and supported the work of various institutions to keep working for positive outcomes for Myanmar. The main challenge is how to advocate to large audiences and have positive impact in the current context characterized by escalation of nationalism and exclusion among global powers. The JCAP MRN presented the work with the aim of interesting Scholastics and Brothers in the work of the social apostolate and encourage them to engage in refugee and migrant issues.

The Reconciliation with Creation network (RWC) got a new Core Group and their role/job description is being clarified. A vision and mission statement for this network has been developed with members who met in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in February 2024. Plans are underway for a face-to-face RWC meeting in July 2025, including a mini conference featuring the

five Creators of Hope, and an Asia Pacific Contextual Theology Engagement Program in Sabah. This is being developed in cooperation with Loyola School of Theology and Jesuit Companions in Indigenous Ministry of JCAP.

JCEP – Jesuit Conference of Europe

The Jesuit social-environmental work in Europe (which includes the POR-Near East province) is organized according to 5 lines of work, which are mirrored by the different interprovincial structures: i) almost each one of the 16 Provinces has a social delegate, and together they compose the JCEP Social Delegates network; ii) the same happens with the network of Eco-Delegates, who are in charge of the UAP4-related work in the Provinces; iii) there are in Europe 12 Social Centers, which research and publish on societal topics, and form the European network of Social Centers; iv) there are 23 JRS national offices in Europe, under the coordination of JRS-Europe; vi) development and emergency work in the Global South is coordinated by the Xavier Network, composed by 13 organizations. Highlights: Even in Europe, there is still much social vulnerability and poor people that needs to be supported. The attack of Russia on Ukraine raised the cost of living (starting with energy, with repercussions in the cost of many other products). Some provinces have a network of social institutions focused on the most vulnerable: poor families and minors, unemployed population and migrants. In the East much of the social work is provided by parishes. As for the Social Centers, in 2024 most of them engaged in analysis of the political context in Europe, with a strong shift towards right-wing and far-right parties. Most of them are against the presence of migrants in Europe and refuse a strong focus on the green transition. They also defend populist and polarized agendas, often fueled by disinformation. The in-person meeting of the group took place in Dublin in March 2024. JRS national offices in Europe serve annually more than 235 thousand people in sheltering, integration, accompaniment in detention, advocacy and formation in schools. The main interprovincial project in Europe keeps being the ‘One Proposal’, of support to refugees and displaced people of Ukraine. Finally, Xavier Network is present in 87 countries, most of them being implemented through local partners. Common safeguarding protocols were also reinforced in 2024.

JCCU – Jesuit Conference of Canada and the United States



2024 was a year of building for the Office of Justice and Ecology at the JCCU in Washington, D.C. The major superiors approved the following as the major policy areas in which we were to do advocacy: building a culture of life, care for our common

home, criminal legal system reform, empowering Indigenous peoples, immigration reform, and racial justice. We developed relationships with over 100 offices of members of the United States Congress from both political parties, with several executive branch agencies, and with many other faith-based and secular advocacy organizations in the city. In particular, we were grateful to work more closely with the staff of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) on various advocacy projects.

US politics is extremely divisive right now, and almost nothing gets done in Congress. Additionally, there are about 10,000 lobbyists in Washington, DC, and so it is hard to get the attention of government officials with so many people trying to persuade them. The polarization within the Church, an increase in pro-choice views among both parties, backlash against diversity and shareholder advocacy efforts, the rolling back of climate laws, and the implementation of tough laws against migrants and perhaps even faith-based services for migrants are enormous challenges for our work.

JCAM – Jesuit Conference of Africa and Madagascar



JEO and JENA maintained a strong advocacy presence in significant international forums, including the World Bank, IMF meetings, and the UN General Assembly, promoting key issues central to Africa’s socio-economic and environmental agenda. Future efforts will focus on sustainable debt solutions, equitable financial policies, climate justice, and food security

Highlights:

- Policy Research and Advocacy: Policy analysis and advocacy, focusing on financial justice, gender equality, migration rights, and environmental sustainability (with a focus on food sovereignty and ending hunger), engaging with international policymakers to champion the rights of marginalized communities.
- Conferences and Workshops: fostering dialogue and sharing knowledge on justice and ecology, pivotal in shaping sustainable development discourses in Africa.
- Strategic Partnerships and Collaborations: with organizations like Caritas International, Caritas Africa, CAFOD, and Jubilee US, advancing advocacy for debt relief and equitable financial systems.
- Educational Initiatives and Training: expanded educational programs and training to enhance the capabilities of leaders and communities in advocating and engaging in policy dialogues and integrating justice and ecological perspectives across Jesuit ministries.

JCSA – Jesuit Conference of South Asia

The year 2024 was marked by many activities related to liberal and electoral democracy due to Parliamentary and Assembly Elections, in which the Jesuits' involvement and contribution were greatly appreciated.

Lok Manch / ESP project for the fourth phase has been approved, and the zonal level orientation programs are over in all zones. The process of Reimagining and Restructuring was launched; it implies a historical overview of the faith and justice mission, external and internal contexts of our ministry, issues that affect Social Action Ministry internally and externally, the status of social centers/social action in the provinces, demography and resources. A two-day meeting of Coordinators of Social Action was held in the Indian Social Institute, Bangalore, with GIAN Network Leaders and the Coordinators of JEMAI and JYMSA in September. Fr. Tom Kavalakatt is making good efforts to coordinate the work of SANKALP in different provinces. According to the statistics, approximately 34,000 students benefit from such centers. There is a plan to follow up through online and offline meetings. Each Province has an Eco-Jesuit coordinator. Zonal-level workshops have been held, and the Conference coordinator regularly interacts with them. The first annual meeting at the Conference level was organized in Chennai on 21-23 March 2025, wherein all the Eco-Jesuits delegates participated.

Migrants Assistance Information Network (MAIN) is doing excellent work. A lot of interprovincial collaboration is happening between the source and destination States, as is the exchange of personnel. One Training has been conducted, and another is on the plan to empower the unorganized sector of youth. An App, namely 'Magis Digital Home' has already been inaugurated for connecting the youth.

The Secretary SJES- Rome visited South Asia from January 20 to February 17, 2025. His visit to Delhi, Ranchi, Dumka, Patna, Bombay, Karnataka, Madurai and Chennai Provinces was an excellent opportunity for inspiration and encouragement.

