

Historical Overview 1983 – 2019 of the meetings of the Catholic Charismatic National Service Committees and National Contacts in Europe

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2003 – 2019 Historical Overview of the meetings of the Catholic Charismatic National Service Committees and National Contacts in Europe based on EUCCRIL *by Kees Slijkerman*

History of the European Info-Letter

Under the second issue was written:

'ISSUES COMMUNICATION SERVICE NSC-MEMBERS EUROPE started as a wish of the meeting of European members of National Service Committees (=NSC) of Catholic Charismatic Renewal (=CCR) and national contact-persons April 8-11, 1999 in Malta; to communicate during the year. It is sent to NSC-members, contact-persons, ICCRS, some key-leaders and translators. Responsible editor: Kees Slijkerman. Advisor: Nikol Baldacchino'

When the European subcommittee of ICCRS started in 2000, it became an official publication of ICCRS, named EUCCRIL (European Catholic Charismatic Renewal Info-Letter). Nearly all issues of EUCCRIL are published on the website www.iccrs.eu.

History of the European website

In 1999 the European website was started. The national webmaster of CCR in Sweden, Bengt Malmgren was asked for the technical part. He offered to create a section on the Swedish website and that worked well without costs. So, the European website was placed on <http://www.isidor.se/ccreurope/nl-nl/home.aspx> and in later years also to reach with www.iccrs.eu. Kees Slijkerman did the editorial part with the successive chairperson's of the European subcommittee.

Kees Slijkerman

The Netherlands
February 12th, 2019

Historical Overview of the meetings of the Catholic Charismatic National Service Committees and National Contacts in Europe

1983-2003 updated

Previously it had been thought that Cardinal Suenens had called the first meeting in the late 70's. Neither Ralph Martin, who was director of ICCRS, 1976-1980, nor Gary Seromik who worked with Ralph at that time and then later with Fr. Tom Forrest, have any recollection of such a meeting. Gary thinks that perhaps there was confusion between the various theological consultations during that period called by Cardinal Suenens, which resulted in the "Malines Documents".

1

Rome, Italy September 23-26, 1983

The first meeting on a European level was organized by ICCRS under the name of "European Conference for National Leaders of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal" and was not only limited to the NSC's members.

Invitation written by director Fr. Tom Forrest of ICCRS
21 countries, 37 in attendance

Invitations: ICCRS gave a suggested number of delegates per country, which they desired to come.

'83 Theme: "Re-evangelizing Europe for Christ"

- a) New Faith for Europe
- b) Ecumenism and the Believing Catholic
- c) Spiritual Gifts for Producing Catholic Evangelists

The program consisted of time for prayer, a daily liturgy, 7 min reports from the different countries, one talk each day and the rest of the time spent in round-table discussion and practical dialogue.

2

Berlin, Germany September 11, 1988

Organized by the National Service Committees of England, Germany and Switzerland
Program: Charles Whitehead, Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins and Dr. Alfred Boelle
Invitation written by Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins and signed by Whitehead, Kollins and Boelle on behalf of their committees and sent to all NSC members and national contacts, in 4 languages)
Registrations: Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins
ICCRS: Fr. Ken Metz attended

Before an European meeting of the NSC's was organized: Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins was asked by the 3 NSC's committees to present this desire to have a meeting of the European Catholic NSC's in Berlin with the proper church authorities in Rome. In consulting with ICCRS,

their director Fr. Metz gave encouragement. He stated that after the 1983 meeting organized by ICCRS, it was ICCRS's desire that thereafter the European NSC's would organize and continue the meetings. However up until then this had not occurred. ICCRS did not feel that it was their place to organize on a European level again but would support it in any way possible, the initiative of the 3 European Catholic National Service Committees. ICCRS stated that they welcomed and appreciated the effort and hoped that this meeting would develop into ongoing meetings organized by the European committees themselves. Furthermore Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins met with Bishop Paul J. Cordes, then Papal advisor to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal concerning the purposed meeting of the European NSC's in Berlin and she also sought his observations concerning an ecumenical pan-European meeting in 1990. He asked to be kept informed on developments. This was also done in the following years, by reports and visits.

All the following meetings (2 through 7) contained times of prayer, a daily liturgy and various forms of group discussion.

NSC's theme: Getting to know each other and understand how the Catholic renewal was developing in the different European countries. Also to hear about the various ecumenical initiatives being taken in Europe including the proposed conference for leaders in Bern in 1990, so that we can be united in our participation and make a fully Catholic contribution to all that happens.

At the end of the European Catholic NSC meeting, the NSC's agreed to meet again the next year and it was asked that the same 3 National committees organize a longer Catholic NSC meeting. Also decided was that it was necessary for each committee to report to their full committee and respective Catholic authorities in their countries concerning the proposal of a pan-European ecumenical Congress in Bern 1990. Then in 1989 the NSC's would report back giving their country decision of whether or not their NSC would participate in a ecumenical pan-European congress.

This Catholic European meeting of the NSC's was held one day before the European Charismatic Consultation (ECC) ecumenical meeting, whose theme was "Evangelization, Unity and Renewal", September 12 – 14; also the proposal to the ecumenical delegates for discernment was the concept of a pan-European ecumenical meeting to be held in Bern 1990. The ECC meeting was followed by an ecumenical study conference in East Berlin on September 15 – 17, organized by the group for Spiritual (Charismatic) Renewal of the Churches in the German Democratic Republic (GDR).

Note. The ecumenical meetings of leaders from different churches and ecclesial communities began on a European level in 1972. This group met in various countries and Cardinal Suenens attended several meetings during the 1970's and in 1982 when they organized the large pan-European conference of over 20,000 in Strasbourg. It is this group that in 1988, became known as the European Charismatic Consultation, ECC.

3
Disentis, Switzerland
June 15-17, 1989

Organized by the National Service Committees of England, Germany and Switzerland:
Program: Charles Whitehead, Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins, Urban Camenzind,

Invitation written by Charles Whitehead on behalf of the 3 committees and sent out by Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins (to all members of NSC's and National Contacts in four languages) included request of suggestions from NSC's for topics for the program.

Registrations: Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins, Germany
ICCRS director, Fr. Ken Metz attended

Theme: a) Leadership Training - Fr. Laurent Fabre

b) Renewal, the Parish & other Church structures – Sr. Hudo & Fr. Carl Eker

c) Evangelization – Healing and the Charisms- Social and Political Action
Mass Media – Catholic/Ecumenical –The Place of Music and Drama

Fr. Manuel Casanova, theological, Nikol Baldacchino, Mario & Henry Cappello, practical

d) The theology of Church - Catholic, Main-line protestant, Free church/Pentecostal House churches - Fr Norbert Baumert,s.j.

Group method used: Each group will be given one of the four topics to discuss, but may freely choose a second topic. The short presentation is to stimulate the groups and is not to be an in depth teaching on the subject.

This meeting again was held in conjunction with the ECC meeting only afterwards, for 3 days. At the meeting the Catholic NSC's reported the results of their consultation with their NSC's and proper authorities, and confirmed their intention of participation in the Bern 1990 meeting in Switzerland. It was also decided by the NCS's that they would not want to meet during 1990 and 1991 due to the planned events below. However starting in 1992, they desired to continue (every 2 yrs) having further European Catholic NSC meetings. Also decided was that the 1992 meeting be held in France and that the French would organize it.

**1990 European Ecumenical Congress “Jesus Hope for Europe”
Sponsored by European Charismatic Consultation in Bern**

**1991 International Ecumenical Congress “That they might believe”
Sponsored by International Charismatic Consultation for World Evangelization**

(During the above 2 years the NSC's choose not to have their own meeting)

4

Mortefontaine, France

July 4-7, 1992

Organized by French NSC

Invitations were written by Fr. Santier, French chairman to all members of the NSC's and National Contacts in four languages and sent out by ICCRS; included a request for topic suggestions from NSC's . ICCRS mailed out the invitations and helped with various translations

Registrations: France

ICCRS president Charles Whitehead and Fr. Ken Metz, director attended

10 countries participated, 40 in attendance

The 10 Belgium and Holland delegates could not get there due to a truckers strike that blocked their route.

Invitation stated, "We wish this to be a time for sharing questions which arise in our various countries. Therefore, we would like you to send quickly any subject you would want to discuss. We also wish to share our various evangelization experiences following Brighton and to reflect about the pastoral work flowing from them.

Themes: Evangelization – schools, formation and new ways of evangelizing; Integration of the Renewal with parishes and dioceses; The role of the National Service Committee; The evolution of the Charismatic Renewal, 25 years later – Kevin Ranaghan; and Fr. Kilian McDonnell present the theme of his book "Fanning the Flame".

It was decided at this meeting that a coordinating committee should be formed and an ECNSC meeting should be held every two years. It was asked who could offer their service for this committee. The 3 NSC members that responded were Fr. William Thomas, Dr. Karl Renner (however due to various circumstances, he was not able to participate) and Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins, Germany. Each was confirmed by the NSC's present. Then it was further confirmed that the ICCRS members from Europe should also be on the coordinating committee as well as the ICCRS director, they were: Charles Whitehead, England; Fr. Michel Saniter, France; Nikol Baldacchino, Malta; Bishop Dembowski, Poland and Fr. Ken Metz, Rome. The coordinating committee's function was to plan and organize every two years a European meeting of the ECNSC's in collaboration with the NSC's concerning the relevant themes. Also to keep the proper Church authorities informed about the meeting and any further developments.

5

Czestochowa, Poland September 15 – 19, 1994

Organized by the Coordinating Committee

Local coordinator: Zbigniew Slup, Poland

Invitations: written by Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins on behalf of the coordinating committee (sent to all members of the NSC's and National Contacts, asking national contacts to invite other key leaders due to no national committee, invitation done in 4 languages); invitation also included a request for suggestion of topics from the NSC's and a questionnaire was included asking for information concerning Renewal Leadership Training in their countries for that theme. ICCRS mailed the invitations and helped with various translations.

Registrations: Nikol Baldacchino, Malta

The coordinating committee met in Assisi at the ICCRS conference in September 93 and again in Rome in March 94, to coincide with the ICCRS meeting, to prepare the ECNSC meeting.

13 countries; 48 in attendance

Bishop Paul Cordes, Papal Advisor to the Charismatic Renewal and ICCRS attended.

ICCRS : Charles Whitehead, President and Fr. Ken Metz , director attended.

Themes: Country Reports; Where is the Renewal Heading, Where are we heading the Renewal by Fr. Ken Metz; Ecclesiology and Ecumenism by Bishop Paul Cordes; East/West Relations by Bishop Dembowski; Leadership by Nikol Baldacchino

6
Bratislava, Slovak
September 11-15 1996

Organized by the Coordinating Committee - Changes in the committee were: Sr. Nancy Kellar replaced Fr. Ken Metz as ICCRS director and new European ICCRS member added Matteo Calisi
Invitations: Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins and Nikol Baldacchino on behalf of the coordinating committee (sent to all NSC chairmen and National Contact members in English only); included was the request for suggestions for topics.

Registrations: Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins, Germany

The Coordinating Committee had hoped to meet in March 95, however ICCRS Council did not meet due to the October ICCRS meeting at San Giovanni Rotondo. Therefore the following coordinating committee members met in October at the ICCRS meeting: Nikol Baldacchino, Bishop Dembowski, Fr. William Thomas, Charles Whitehead was represented by Nikol and Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins.

19 countries 72 participants

Local Organizer Maria Kicinova, Slovak

Bishop Stanislaw Rylko, the new Secretary of the Pontifical Council of Laity attended.

Themes: Country Reports, The Charismatic Renewal, a call to Holiness and Mission by Fr. Bill Thomas; The need for close links with the Church- including relationship between Clergy and Laity by Bishop Dembowski; The call to and the necessity of personal holiness by Fr. Ales Opatrny; and Networking in Europe with special reference to Youth Work by Nikol Baldacchino.

Canceled
Fiuggi, Italy
October 1998

It was decided in Bratislava that the regular every 2 year meeting would not take place in 1998 since ICCRS had scheduled an International Meeting, October 26 – 31, in Fiuggi, Italy. However the Europeans NSC's had decided they wanted to have a day or ½ day meeting before or during the International meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss what themes would be relevant themes for the next meeting, also to set a date and place. On March 26, 1998 an invitation on behalf of the coordinating committee signed by Nikol Baldacchino and Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins to all NSC's to this meeting that would take place one afternoon during the Fiuggi ICCRS conference, the day to be announced there. Fr. Bill Thomas left the coordinating committee in June due to his new post in USA. Nikol cancelled the meeting in Fiuggi and rescheduled a meeting in Malta with a two level structure using only territorial ICCRS members that were responsible for the various European areas as coordinating committee members. The past coordinating members were put into a new category as consultants. Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins was not available during the preparation time due to the writing of a book.

7
Malta
April 8-12, 1999

New Coordinating Committee: Nikol Baldacchino, Matteo Calisi, Cathy Brenti

Consultants: Charles Whitehead, Bishop Dembowski

40 participants, 14 countries

Invitations: written by Nikol Baldacchino on behalf of the coordinating committee and consultants, sent to all members of the NSC's and National Contacts, who were asked to extend the invitation to other key leaders in their countries - in English only

Registrations: Nikol Baldacchino, Malta

ICCRS: Oreste Pesare - office director

Several suggested topics and themes for discussion and consideration: (taken from the invitation)

a) As different national service committees what can we organize together in the year 2000 on a European Level?

b) How can we coordinate better our activities, help each other more and share further our resources? Other continents have a structured platform to achieve these aims (such as ECCLA in South America and the Charismatic Leaders' Forum in South-East Asia). Can we in Europe have something similar?

c) Moreover, we have to have a deeper and common view of what the Spirit is saying to us as Europeans. Where does He want to take us in this crucial and decisive stage of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal?

This meeting was also held at the same time as the Malta National Charismatic Conference and the liturgies and some prayer sessions were held at the conference. Also Fr. Fio Mascarenhas, s.j., guest speaker at the conference held a session for our meeting. Group Sharing on What is the Spirit saying to the Church in Europe – Return to the Cenacle in adoration and intercession – Return to your first love

An ad hoc committee from the various National Service committees was selected by the European NSC members to guide a consultative process with the NSC's about the possibility of a concept for a Catholic Charismatic European structure. In the past the function of the coordinating committee of the ECNSC was only to plan and organize every two years a European meeting of the ECNSC's (open to all NSC members) in collaboration with the NSC's concerning the relevant themes, and to keep the proper Church authorities informed about the meetings and any further developments. It was also requested that an historical overview of the past meetings be done and be distributed to the NSC's.

The ad hoc committee was to lead this consultative process by seeking the ideas and thoughts of all the National Service Committees and National Contacts during the year and seeking the observations of the proper Church authorities. At a special meeting of the ECNSC's to be held in Rimini at the ICCRS/RnS conference (before and now also during the free morning of April 30th) the report of this consultative process would be presented. It was hoped that this consultative process would result in a concrete suggestion and a possible confirmation of a new concept.

The ad hoc committee selected by the NSC's consists of: Kees Slijkerman; Netherlands NSC, Lazio Gorove, Hungarian NSC; Nikol Baldacchino, Malta NSC & ICCRS and Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins, German NSC. Also confirmed were the three territorial ICCRS members Matteo Calisi, (who represents Italy only, Cathy Brenti (who was primarily elected to represent Covenant Communities, and only after the end of the term of Fr. Michel Santier to represent North Europe) and Bishop Dembowski (who represents Eastern Europe). Nikol Baldacchino was asked to serve the ad-hoc committee as coordinator and to stay in contact with ICCRS and the Pontifical Council of Laity. Kees Slijkerman offered to personally set up an e-mail newsletter for the next year to serve as a communication method between the NSCs in collaboration with Nikol Baldacchino.

Written by Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins and reviewed by Charles Whitehead and Nikol Baldacchino 2.2000

UPDATED

8

Rimini

April 30, 2000

New European Concept for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal

At the meeting in Malta 1999 it was decided to enter into a consultative process with each National NSC or National Contact, ICCRS and the proper church authorities concerning a new concept for future collaboration on the European level for the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. The following is from the April 4, 2000 letter by the ad hoc committee chairman, Nikol Baldachinno to the NSC's and National Contacts, which shows this consultative process, which took place since the Malta 1999 meeting:

“As you all know, during the last European meeting of NSC-members and head-contacts in Malta (April 1999), we decided to prepare for an official start of a European Council for National Services Committees. A drafting committee was formed to prepare this. On June 23rd, 1999 we have sent a questionnaire to the chairpersons of the European National Service Committees so as to have their personal opinions. We received replies from the following countries:

POLAND, CYPRUS, IRELAND, FRANCE, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, BELGIUM (FRENCH), BELGIUM (FLEMISH), ENGLAND, GERMANY, AUSTRIA, HUNGARY, NETHERLANDS and MALTA; and also from ORESTE PESARE (ICCRS).

On November 11th, we sent another letter with a summary of the previous questionnaire and the announcement of a meeting in Rimini during the conference organized by ICCRS and the Italian Rinnovamento nello Spirito.

Besides the aforementioned countries, other countries answered. These are ITALY, CZECH REPUBLIC, SPAIN, AUSTRIA and WALES. There seems to be a consensus on the following points:-

- 1. There is the need for a more structured European Body to serve the National Service Committees. This will serve for communication; to help each other, to listen together to the Lord and to know what He wants.*

It does not matter much what name this body should be given. The three most mentioned names are:- European Catholic Charismatic Council; European Catholic Charismatic Service Committee; European Catholic Charismatic Consultation;

There is a consensus that this body should be a two level structure with a council and an executive committee. The council should be made up of 2 persons from each country, which will then elect an executive committee.

Its task should be to bring together representatives of CCR on regular basis and to put into practice the decisions of the European meetings; to take responsibility for a

communication system.

4. *Regarding the **frequency of the meetings**, there are divergent views. It seems that the most accepted proposal is that the Council will meet every two years, while the executive committee will meet at least once a year.*

During these last weeks there was another proposal by the ICCRS European members regarding the European Body. These reflected on several points on what the ICCRS statutes say about the role of the Counselors. In particular these say that the Counselors:-

- a) *should be available to assist the progress of CCR groups through frequent consultation;*
- b) *may establish regional centres for counseling and similar projects; and,*
- c) *may jointly on the basis of common language, geographical proximity or other common interest gather renewal participants to study the possibilities for mutual assistance, exchange of services, personnel and publications, or the holding of joint assemblies, congresses, etc.*

In this present situation the ICCRS European representatives proposed that it will be better for now that we will not have a formal structure. The proposal continues saying:-

- i. *That the ICCRS European members should form a sub-committee of ICCRS. This sub-committee should include the present ICCRS members and three other members from the European NSCs.*
- ii. *These three members should be chosen at Rimini by the Chair-persons (or their delegates) of the European NSCs present.*
- iii. *We should encourage and help the initiatives of Kees regarding the e-mail newsletter and the European NSCs Web-pages.”*

Decisions taken in Rimini concluded this consultative process with the approval of an ICCRS proposal of forming a European ICCRS subcommittee that would include the European ICCRS members and three other European NSC representatives chosen by the appointed NSC delegates at Rimini, with a further review of this concept at the next European meeting of the National Service Committees and National Contacts. The 3 representatives elected were Derek Jeziomy, Poland; Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins, Germany; and Kees Slijkerman, Holland. The 3 elected members now join ICCRS members Nikol Baldachinno, (South Europe); Cathy Brenti, (Communities and North Europe) and Matteo Calisi (Italy) and Bishop Dembowski (Eastern Europe) to form this new sub-committee.

The 3 point mandate given to the new European ICCRS subcommittee by the European NSC's and National Contacts was to continue to organize regular European NSC meetings; now consisting of the NSC chairman or his/her representative and another NSC member; as well as serve the European members of the ICCRS Council fulfill their task according to the ICCRS statutes, such as organizing an ICCRS European leaders conference in the future. The subcommittee would also take the responsibility for the further development of a European communications system began last year after the Malta meeting for the European NSC's and communities.

1st European ICCS Sub-committee Meeting
Rome
January 26- 28 2001

The ICCRS sub-committee for Europe held its first meeting in Rome between the 26th and 28th January 2001. Those attending were Nikol Baldachinno (elected chairman of the sub-committee), Cathy Brenti, Kim Catherine-Maire Kollins, Darek Jeziorny, Kees Slijkerman and Oreste Pesare, the ICCRS Director. Unfortunately, Matteo Calisi, Italy and now vice-president of ICCRS, and Bishop Dembowski could not attend the meeting.

The following are decision that were taken:

1. Evaluation and parameters of our tasks

“... “Formation of a European working Group within ICCRS” was discussed and amended as follows:

Article 1 will read: ICCRS European members will form a sub-committee of ICCRS. This sub-committee will include the present ICCRS European members and 3 members from the European National Service Committees and Councils.

Article 2 will read: These 3 members will be chosen by The NSC’s Chairpersons and Head-Contacts or their representatives. Each country will have one vote.

Article 4 will read: Moreover, the task of this sub-committee will be to bring together members of European NSCs on regular basis and to put into practice the decisions of the European meetings and to make discernment regarding the CCR in Europe.

...This sub-committee will foster the discernment process together with the Chairpersons & Head-Contacts.

Relations with international communities and organizations such as Relay, ECC and Europe Arise

The chairman will try to keep contact with these organizations. We will attempt to coordinate the activities so that we will have no meetings at the same time.

We will invite their representatives to attend certain specific meetings that we agree upon before hand.”

On our communication system the following was decided:

“There will be two forms of e-mail communication

European Catholic Charismatic Renewal Info-Letter

This will open for widespread circulation i.e. NSC members, other organization, and persons involved in international ministries with particular emphasis in Europe.

European NSC Communiqué

This will include restricted information such as reports and minutes of meetings. This will be passed only to European NSC members and Head-Contacts

The European web sites

Add the words "Website under construction" will be written;

When in the future the ICCRS web page will have its continental pages, the European web site will be amalgamated."

**Cancelled
Malta
October 18 – 20, 2001**

During the ICCRS subcommittee meeting of January 2001 the decision was taken to have a meeting of the European NSC's and National Contacts in Malta October 28-30, 2001, which was before the planned international seminar on Deliverance in Malta that was to take place October 30 – November 4, 2001.

Points of discussion were to be; about our future work together in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Europe and the several initiatives in Europe, which included a five-day continental Catholic Charismatic European Leaders conference in September 2002, in Czestochowa, Poland.

This conference would be open to all leaders of Charismatic Renewal prayer groups, communities and ministries; expecting around 600 leaders from all over Europe. It would be the first time in the history of ICCRS of organizing a continental leaders conference.

We propose to base our theme on the document issued by the Pope at the beginning of the new millennium: *Novo Millennium Ineunte*. The main features in it are commitment to prayer, the call to communion and witness to love. Any reflections on this conference and its theme, were to be sent by April 15th 2001, but the NSC's and National Contacts.

However due to the cancellation of the ICCRS Deliverance Seminar – the European meeting of the NSC's and National Contacts was also cancelled.

**1st
European ICCRS Conference
Czestochowa, Poland
September 2002**

The ICCRS European subcommittee met again in Rome, on November 8-10, 2001 to work on the planning of the conference. Charles Whitehead, financial advisor to ICCRS and Chairman of the English NSC was now included in the committee. All the members of the committee were present including ICCRS director Oreste Persare at various times during the meeting. The decisions taken are reflected in excerpts from the press release concerning the conference:

"In the difficult situation of the Catholic Church in Europe today the Committee sees first a great need for intercession. "If we go into the deep of prayer, the Lord can do new things in our continent", the Committee says. To go into the deep of prayer not only leaders are invited to this conference but also intercessors.

The central questions during this gathering will be: What is the Holy Spirit saying to the Church of Europe in years of the continental unification process and what is God's vision and calling for the European Renewal?

*Facing the incredible painful history of Europe, the Gathering will include a **pilgrimage to the nazis concentration camp in Auschwitz**. The next step - to ask forgiveness, reconciliation and mercy - will be the prayer in the **Sanctuary of Mercy of God in Krakow-Lagiewniki** where is located the picture of Merciful Jesus and the tomb of saint sister Faustyna Kowalska.*

*Between the speakers during the Gathering are: **bishop Joseph Grech** from Australia, **bishop Rylko** from the Vatican, **Kim Kollins** (Germany), **Charles Whitehead** (England), **Nikol Baldacchino** (Malta), **Sr. Hudo Dufour** (France) and **Matteo Calisi** (Italy).*

The first fruit of the Gathering will surely be a new network of cross-continental contacts. The exchange of experiences with prayer and mission will give new energy to the European church. This will not be easy, because of the many different languages and cultures in Europe.

All leaders of Charismatic Renewal prayer groups, communities and ministries are invited to foster the prayer for Europe and to support those who can go to Czestochowa. Those who pray at home and those who come to the Gathering will be one network for Europe. Finely the power of the Holy Spirit will - so well known in the Charismatic Renewal - will bring new initiatives and new life into the Church of Europe.”

There were 640 European Catholic Charismatic leaders and intercessors from 22 countries at the conference.

ICCRS Council changes took place in 2001-02: Nikol Baldachinno finish his term as Southern European representative with ICCRS during the conference and as well as the chairman for the subcommittee, Charles Whitehead now would be temporary subcommittee chairman until the next European NSC's and National Contact meeting in Budapest in March 2003.

Matteo Calisi, Italy, vice-president of ICCRS now replaced Nikol as the ICCRS Council Southern European representative. Fr. Michael Slavik, Czech Republic replaced Bishop Dembowski, Poland as ICCRS Council member from Eastern Europe and also on the subcommittee. Furthermore ICCRS Council member, Cathy Brenti, France, would now only represent the communities on the ICCRS Council and no longer Northern Europe. Michelle Moran, England, was elected as the new Northern European Representative for ICCRS Council and will serve on the subcommittee as an ICCRS European member.

The current 3-year term of the 3 elected members by the European NSC's and National contacts: Darek Jeziomy, Poland; Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins, Germany and Kees Slijkerman, Holland will be complete in 2003, with re-election possible.

9

**Budapest, Hungary
March 27-30, 2003**

A meeting of the National NSC chairman or his/her representative and another NSC member and national contacts together with the ICCRS European subcommittee is planned in March 2003.

Update – 2.2003 written by Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins and review by Charles Whitehead

The name of these document

The document above was distributed among national representatives of Catholic charismatic renewal in Europe in 2003 as CCREU-DOC.8, in a series of documents called CCREU-DOC. This series of documents was first named CCREU – DOC (1 to 22 appeared March 2003). In the end of 2003 an overview of documents was published by the secretary of the European sub-committee of ICCRS, Kees Slijkerman with this statement:

'The new name is EU.NSC.DOC. These documents are for NSC Chairs and Head contacts. NSC Chairs can distribute it to their committee members. All these reports are not to publish without permission. They are written for participants and invited persons to the meetings of national representatives. First in Hungary, March 27-30. They can be read by NSC-members.'

Permission to publish

28 September 2018, Kim Kollins, the author of CCREU.DOC.8, gave permission to Kees Slijkerman, secretary of the European sub-committee of ICCRS, to publish the whole document on internet. She wrote: 'I agree it is important to do the historical overviews at this time and available for all. We do have a long European well-established history of how the Holy Spirit guided bring the countries together in the CCR over many decades – as we go forward it can lay a sense of history for the CCR in Europe – which is also important to and a link to the roots of any development.'

Kim also wrote a short overview of history CCR 1987-2007 in EUCCRIL 198.

Members of the European subcommittee

According to the statutes of ICCRS the European sub-committee of ICCRS (ESCI) is composed by the European members of the worldwide ICCRS-Council + the president and director of ICCRS and three or four members, elected by the European National Service Committees. The chairperson has to be a member of the ICCRS-Council. They were Nikol Baldacchino (2000-2003), Michelle Moran (2004-2007), Darek Jeziorny (2007-2012) and Christof Hemberger (2012-2019).

Elected by the National Service Committees:

First elections for ESCI were in Rimini, 2000.

Elected: Darek Jeziorny, Kim Catherine-Marie Kollins and Kees Slijkerman

Second elections for ESCI were in Budapest, March 2003.

Elected: Kim, Kees, Pierre Chieux, Lászlo Gorove

Young leaders elected in 2004 a young ESCI-member: Christof Hemberger

Third elections (should be in March, 2006 but) were in September 2007 in Warsaw, Poland.

Elected: Jude Muscat, Pierre, Laszlo, Katerina Lachmanova

In 2007 Kees was asked to continue as permanent secretary.

Young leaders elected in 2009 a young ESCI-member: Eva Sido

Fourth elections (should be in March, 2010 but) were in November 2011 in Germany.

Elected: Laszlo, Katerina, Ged Farrell and Fr. Wojciech Nowacki.

Fifth elections (should be in November 2014, but we met September 2015 in Warsaw)

Elected : Katerina, Eva, Etienne Melot

ESCI elected in 2016 a young ESCI-member: Ian Yardley

ESCI elected over the years also additional member who had been a member before to keep the committee strong enough: Charles Whitehead, Michelle Moran, Kees Slijkerman and Ged Farrell

Meetings of the Catholic Charismatic National Service Committees and National Contacts in Europe 2003 - 2019

March 2003, Hungary

'Sixty national representatives of Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) in 21 European nations came together in Hungary, in the end of March 2003. According to the national reports this renewal is in very different stages of development. Growing strong in countries like Croatia, Ukraine and Rumania. Great numbers in Italy and Poland - up to 200.000 participants in the national meetings in Czestochowa -, stable in many nations. But also decreasing numbers of involved people in countries where the Catholic Church struggles with decreasing church-participation.

For the first time the national committees were asked also to send a representative of their youth-work. They prepared in Hungary new ways of collaboration and will elect within a year their own representative in the European committee.

Participants came from Ireland, England, Belgium, France, Spain, Portugal, Malta, Italy, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Ukraine, Belarus, Poland, Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Switzerland and The Netherlands. ICCRS is recognised by the Vatican where it has her international office.' (>EUCCRIL 86)

January 2004, Germany

A European Charismatic Youth Consultation was held in Hohenthann, Germany 30.1.2004 – 1.2.2004 (>EUCCRIL 107)

September 2004, Czech Republic

The main activity of the European sub-committee of ICCRS in the year 2004 was to organise the meeting of national representatives in Prague, 9th-12th September. (>EUCCRIL 122)

Kristina Cooper: 'The 10th Consultation of the National Service Committees of Europe took place in Prague from 9th to 12th September 2004. 'Almost 100 leaders from 29 European countries gathered together in an upper room chapel, in the main seminary in Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic to discuss challenges and the future direction of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal on our continent. These included two representatives from each NSC and one youth representative, who had their own meetings.' (>EUCCRIL 118)

2005

A next European ICCRS-conference of leaders and intercessors, September 7th - 11th 2005 in Hungary, was announced but cancelled. (>EUCCRIL 139)

2006

The European sub-committee of ICCRS published the booklet *Hope for a new Europe*. In this booklet you will find power of the Holy Spirit, prophetic insights of Pope John Paul II en a fresh input from young European Catholics (>EUCCRIL 173)

2007

The European sub-committee of ICCRS organised a European celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR), September 27th-30th, 2007 in Warsaw, Poland. About 150 representatives were together in Warsaw. They came from Austria, Belarus, Belgium , Croatia, Czech Republic, England, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and from some international networks: Catholic Fraternity

of Charismatic Communities, Sword of the Spirit communities and Evangelisation 2000. (>EUCCRIL 194)

2009

National representatives of Catholic Charismatic Renewal in 30 European countries were together, 5th - 8th November 2009 in Gödöllő, close to Budapest, Hungary. For the first time we also had representatives from Albania, Denmark and Iceland. Other countries: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, England, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, Vatican City, Wales. (>EUCCRIL 223)

2011

European young leaders conference in Romania, February 2011, organized by the European sub-committee of ICCRS. *Walk by the Spirit* was the title in Cluj-Napoca, Romania on Feb.24-27. 117 participants from 8 countries: Austria, Germany, Gibraltar, Hungary, the Netherlands, Romania (both Romanian and Hungarian speaking parts), Spain, USA.

A European Meeting of national representatives was in Germany, November 2011, with about 50 national representatives from whole Europe together in Heiligenbrunn (>EUCCRIL 243, 244, 246, 247)

2012

'The European sub-committee of ICCRS has chosen a new chair: deacon Christof Hemberger from Germany. He succeeds Darek Jeziorny from Poland, who was chair since 2007. From June 19th till the 21st 2012 the subcommittee met in Budapest for the first time in the new composition, after the election of new members by the meeting of national representatives, last November in Germany (see Eucril 246). Katerina Lachmanova from Czech Republic was chosen as new vice-chair, replacing Pierre Chieux whose term was finished. Darek Jeziorny his term was also finished.' (>EUCCRIL 249)

2014

A European leaders gathering for the regions of North and West Europe was organised by the European sub-committee on 29th March 2014 in Brentwood, England. (>EUCCRIL 266) Representatives from Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Central and Eastern Europe were together in a retreat house close to Budapest, September 11th till 14th 2014. Their topic was reconciliation. (>EUCCRIL 272)

2015

Open European Catholic charismatic conference in Warsaw, Poland. Theme: *I have come to bring fire to the earth!* (Lk 12,49). 1-4th October 2015, with 500 participants from more than 35 nations. The first open European CCR-conference since 2002, organized by the European Subcommittee of ICCRS. (>EUCCRIL 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 284, 285, 292 and 294)

2018

From 22nd till 25th of March 2018 more than 130 leaders representing the European Catholic Charismatic Renewal (nations/regions, major communities and networks) gathered in Assisi for a very special and unique meeting: The European CCR Prophetic Consultation. (>EUCCRIL 307 and 310).

Few weeks later the statutes of CHARIS were published with: 'On continental level we will get "Continental Services of Communion" that will have representatives of regions, communities and networks on continental level.' (>EUCCRIL 308 and 313). The *European Continental Service of*

Communion will replace the *European subcommittee of ICCRS*.

Art. 12-13: The functions of the *Continental Services of Communion* are:

- a) To build communion together through unity of hearts rather than rigid structures;
- b) To reach out, embracing all realities within Catholic Charismatic Renewal and to live unity in diversity;
- c) To create space for listening, sharing and discernment;
- d) To facilitate training and formation;
- e) To help nations establish a National Service of Communion where currently this does not exist.

Each *Continental Service of Communion* is composed of one representative from each National Service of Communion; one representative from each Network of communities present in the region; one representative of each International network of evangelization schools present on the region; two representatives from specific ministries in the continent; and two Catholics under 30 years old.

Each Continental Service of Communion meets at least every three years.

2019

National representatives and representatives of networks of communities and Renewal Service Organisations in Europe and the first appointed moderator of CHARIS will meet DV for a *European Leaders Summit*, organised by the European subcommittee of ICCRS, 8-10 March 2019 in Heiligenbrunn, Germany.

At Pentecost, June 9th 2019 the statutes of CHARIS come into force, the *Catholic Fraternity of Charismatic Covenant Communities and Fellowships* and *International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services* cease to exist. The goods and patrimony of these two entities are transferred to CHARIS. Continental Committees are to be restructured as organisms of service including all local expressions of Catholic Charismatic Renewal, in accordance with the new statutory composition of CHARIS set out in these statutes. (> X. Transitional norms in [the statutes](#))

Kees Slijkerman

secretary of the European subcommittee of ICCRS

12th of February 2019