



EU-CHARIS-INFO-LETTER NO 4

EUROPEAN CHARIS CONTINENTAL SERVICE OF COMMUNION

REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT

SEPTEMBER 2021
BUDAPEST - ESZTERGOM

In this issue: Report by Kees Slijkerman, former secretary, on the establishing of the European Charis Continental Service of Communion and the election of the European coordinating team.

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CHARIS

CHARIS EUROPEAN SERVICE OF COMMUNION

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MARCH 8TH, 2022

In this issue: Report by Kees Slijkerman, former secretary, on the establishing of the European Charis Continental Service of Communion and the election of the European coordinating team.

Last December this team elected Zoltan Vegh from Hungary as coordinator and Teresa Lally from Scotland as secretary (tesccharis@gmail.com). The coordinating team approved the text of this report and decided to continue this European info-letter, but now in a designed version created by Mojca Erzar from Slovenia.

It was a pleasure for me to start this info-letter in 1999 (EUCCRIL) and continue it under CHARIS. Thanks to the Foundation Catholic Charismatic Renewal in the Netherlands I was able to do this work as part of my job. The collected issues tell us the history Catholic charismatic renewal in Europe (see <https://isidor.se/ccreurope> > documents). I am happy to hand over this year the mailing list to the new coordinating team.

Kees Slijkerman



ABOUT THE ESTABLISHMENT

IN THE HUNGARIAN CITY ESZTERGOM, NEARBY BUDAPEST, THE FIRST EUROPEAN CHARIS SERVICE OF COMMUNION WAS ESTABLISHED DURING A EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY OF OVER EIGHTY REPRESENTATIVES.

It was a weekend of getting to know each other across the continent and making needed elections possible, according to the statutes of CHARIS. The participants represented eleven European networks of communities and schools of evangelisation, nineteen CHARIS National Services of Communion, and five other nations.

The members of this European CHARIS Service of Communion are (a) one representative of each CHARIS National Service of Communion, elected in their own nation; (b) one representative of each large network of communities/schools of evangelisation, elected by those networks themselves; (c) two representatives of 'specific ministries', elected by the European assembly; and (d) two representatives of Catholics under 30 years old, elected by those participants in the assembly that were under 30. These four categories are described in the statutes, having the right to speak and to vote.

ELECTIONS TO COMPLETE THE CONTINENTAL SERVICE

**HOW TO ELECT
REPRESENTATIVES OF
SPECIFIC MINISTRIES
AND CATHOLICS UNDER
30 IS NOT PRESCRIBED
IN THE STATUTES.**

The European preparation committee decided to ask all National Services to come with a delegation of three persons including one under 30. Both national delegations and network representatives were asked to suggest persons who have a specific ministry and would be available to join the continental service for three years.

For specific ministries, the assembly elected Damien Stayne from England, having a ministry to proclaim the Word with signs and wonders, to empower God's people to live the supernatural life and to reach the poor and needy; and Bohumir Zivcak from Slovakia, having a ministry of the kerygma, worship and prayer for deliverance.

The young participants elected Josip Bilandžija from Croatia and Tamás Pádár from Hungary.



CONTINENTAL SERVICE STARTED TO SPEAK AND TO VOTE

**AFTER THIS ELECTION
THE CONTINENTAL
SERVICE WAS COMPLETE.**



Now the Service was able to speak with each other and to elect seven members into the first coordinating team. Before this election, there was first a continuation of the reflection on: What service is needed in Europe? Secondly, the question was raised: Should all members of the coordinating team come from among the members of the Continental Service? This limitation is not prescribed in the statutes, but a majority in the European Continental Service choose for it. They also choose to come together physically at least once a year and to continue to use Zoom for other meetings.



EUROPEAN COORDINATING TEAM ELECTED

**OUT OF SEVENTEEN
AVAILABLE PERSONS,
SEVEN WERE FINALLY
ELECTED .**



Together with Etienne Mellot from France and Paolo Maino from Italy, who both represent Europe in the intercontinental CHARIS International Service of Communion, they have the task to facilitate the work of the Continental Service.



From left to right on the picture: Tony Laureys from Belgium/European network of Sword of the Spirit communities, Josip Bilandžija from Croatia/under 30 reps, Cathy Brenti from France, Zoltan Vegh from Hungary, Pavla Petrášková from Czech republic, Fr. Christophe Blin from Germany/European network of Chemin Neuf communities, and Teresa Lally from Scotland.

CHARIS - A GIFT TO THE WORLD

There was a strong experience of communion in the Lord. During every time of worship encouraging prophetic words and images were coming. "CHARIS is My gift to the world", was one of them that struck me.

The preparation committee was composed in 2019 by Etienne Mellot and Paolo Maino. A big part of the preparation was to help the nations in establishing a CHARIS National Service of Communion that represents all expressions of charismatic renewal among Catholics in their area. Part of the preparation was also a conference in Zoom (23-25 April 2021), in which each nation was able to present themselves in four minutes.

The young participants in the assembly will continue to meet in Zoom, together with Giulia Rancan from Italy. She represents Catholics under 30 years in the intercontinental CHARIS International Service of Communion and was also with us in Hungary.

**DURING EVERY TIME OF
WORSHIP ENCOURAGING
PROPHETIC WORDS AND
IMAGES WERE COMING.**



PAOLO MAINO



ETIENNE MELLOTT



DOORS OPEN TO

NATIONAL DELEGATIONS IN CHARIS EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY

National delegations came from Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, England, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Ukraine.

Network representatives came from Beatitudes, Chemin Neuf, Shalom, Gesù Risorto, Emmanuel, Jesus Youth, Koinonia Giovanni Battista, Sword of the Spirit, Fondatio, European Network of Communities and Schools of St. Andrew.



**KEES SLIJKERMAN,
FORMER SECRETARY OF THE PREPARATION TEAM**

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