

MARIST NGOS COULD HAVE A WORLDWIDE NETWORK BY 2016

European NGOs meet for the first time

Leaders of Marist International Solidarity Foundation and non-governmental organizations within the Institute are aiming to create a system that allows them to be connected worldwide by next year.

"By the end of 2016 we will have the beginnings of an international network," said Brother Manel Mendoza, director of the Foundation, known as FMSI, in Geneva.

His comments came on Oct. 5, during the start of a three-day encounter in the general house in Rome, in which Marist NGOs of Europe met for the first time.



from Aug. 17 – 18.

Their meeting took place after American ones met in Guatemala City, Guatemala,

The organizers of Rome's meeting were Brothers Manel, of the L'Hermitage province, and Mario Meuti, the director of the FMSI office in Rome.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The international colloquium on initial formation in Hermitage, France, ended on Oct. 14. The full general council and the directors of the secretariats participated.

Brother João Carlos do Prado, director of the secretariat of mission, visited the Marist works in Honduras from Oct. 9 – 13.

A course for third age English-speaking brothers began on Oct. 12 at the general house.

The meeting of the Secretariat extended to laity began on Oct. 15 in Sydney, Australia. Brother Javier Espinosa, its director, is participating. The encounter will finish on the 24th.

The Ad Hoc committee responsible for planning the formation and accompaniment of candidates for the international communities for a new beginning is meeting from Oct. 16 – 18 in the general house. Vicar general Brother Joe McKee and director of the secretariat for 'Collaboration Mission, International' are participating on behalf of the general administration.

Superior general Brother Emili Turú will participate in the closing of the celebration of 50 years of Marist presence in Cameroon from Oct. 17 – 18.

General councillor Brother Eugène Kabanguka will visit Cruz del Sur province from Oct. 17 – 31.

"We want to establish foundations for a future network of all Marist NGOs," Br Manel stated. "Africa and Asia-Pacific are still missing."

According to the Brother, the encounter of Marist NGOs of Asia-Pacific will take place around Sept. or Oct. 2016,

perhaps in Australia. He stressed the objectives of the meeting in Rome also included "getting to know the organisations and what they are doing, discussing possible policies for NGOs to apply for the protection of children, and discussing solidarity in order to come up with basic principles

to apply jointly to NGOs and solidarity organisations of (Marist) provinces." "We want to have a clear idea of what solidarity is and also to introduce the NGOs to the defence of children's rights, working directly in projects and campaigns," he told the general house press office.



ONGOING FORMATION

Marists and Marianists gather for a course dedicated to elderly Brothers

A two-month course for elderly Brothers who speak English has begun at the general house, bringing together Marist and Marianist brothers.

The programme, which began on Oct. 12 and will end on Dec. 12, is focusing on the psychological and spiritual "dynamics" in their changing age and its participants include 16 Marist brothers, two Marianist brothers and a Marianist priest, their chaplain.



"Entering the third age is important because it is a time of transition," said Brother Michael Sexton, an Australian Marist who lives in Algeria and is leading the course.

"It is often the moment when people finish an active professional career and are moving into a time where they may be experiencing things like physical limitations," he told the general house press office on Oct. 8.

Br Michael, who is based in Oran, Algeria, underscored that "it can also be a time for them to change directions completely in terms of ministry possibilities."

He is leading the course alongside Brother Donnell Neary, who works in a Marist high school in Chicago.

"The Marist vocation is life-long but the nature of the call changes at each stage of our lives," stressed Br Donnell. "It is important that the Brothers take time to listen to what God is calling them to at this moment in their lives."

The Brothers will go on a pilgrimage to historic places in France related to the founding of the Marist Institute, including Fourvière, La Valla, Rosey, Hermitage and will meet other members of the Marist Family - Fathers, Sisters and Missionary Sisters from Nov. 2 – 13.

Guest speakers will include Brothers from the general house including Brothers José María Ferre, Tony Leon, Chris Wills and Emili Turú.

The programme will conclude with a three-day retreat at the general house,

led by Father David Glenday MCCJ.

The Marists participating are from the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Kiribati, Argentina, the Philippines, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Spain. The Marianists are from the United States, India and France.

MARIST BROTHERS: Gene BIRMINGHAM, Jim DEVINE, John McDONNELL, Jim McKNIGHT, Richard VAN HOUTEN (USA); Francisco José CASTELLANOS (Spain); Thomas EZEAKKU, Andrew IWUAGWU (Nigeria); Peter BOURKE, Bernard McGRATH, Ray MULVOGUE, Adrian STORY, Tony VAUGHAN (Australia); James LANGLOIS (Zimbabwe); Hilario SCHWAB (Philippines); Don TEIXEIRA (Kiribati) | **MARIANISTS:** Sylvester Kerketta (India), Jim Maus (USA), Robert Witwicki (France) | **ANIMATORS:** Don Neary (USA), Ted Cassidy - chaplain (USA), Mick Sexton (Algeria)



NEW PROVINCIALS

Province of Compostela: Br António Leal

The General Council, after the consultation to the Province, has named Brother António Leal the new Provincial of Compostela.

He will assume the charge during the celebration of the next Provincial Chapter in December of this year. He replaces Brother Oscar Martín Vicario, who has been directing the Province for the past six years.

"I accept this mission as the contribution that God asks me for a project of communion that I assumed when I became a Marist Brother," said the new Provincial when asked about his nomination.

"I pronounced my yes trusting in the love of God and placing my trust in Him," he added.

The Province of Compostela has communities in Spain, Portugal and Honduras, and the Provincial House is in Valladolid, Spain.

Speaking about the journey through the Province, Br António affirms that "the first years after the restructuring were times to place the basic foundations of our future."

Concerning his mission as Provincial he underscores that "with the help of the Brothers and Marist laity, we want to

opt for the strengthening of the Marist identity of each member of the Province and for the joint responsibility or co-responsibility of all the educators in carrying out the Marist mission in each one of the places where we are present."

Br António was born in Rexaldia – Torres Novas, Portugal, in 1958. He was formed in the Juniorates of Leiria and of Lisbon and made his Novitiate in Cordoba, Spain, where he made his first profession in 1978.



He made his studies in Youth Pastoral Ministry, Religious Sciences and educational administration. He worked in initial formation, as professor of moral education and in the direction of the Marist Schools of Portugal. He was Provincial Superior of Portugal.

At the moment, Br António is Coordinator of Pastoral Ministry of the Marist Day School of Lisbon and member of the Provincial Council.

Province of Ibérica: Br Moisés Alonso Pérez



The new provincial of Ibérica recently appointed says the creation of a Christian Marist community as a reference in each educational work will be one of his focuses in his new post.

"An interesting challenge is to continue shaping what we have been promoting for some time: the creation of

a Christian Marist community as a reference in each educational work to ensure the survival of the Marist charism in the works," said Brother Moisés Alonso, who is currently superior of the community of Alcalá de Henares.

"A community of brothers and lay people who feel Marist and want the Marist charism to survive in that work, even in the case that one day there may not be a community of brothers linked to it," he added in an interview with the general house press office on Oct. 8.

According to the Brother, "this is a challenge and a hope right now" and said that the Marists "have many people who believe in it, so I hope it comes true one day."

On the topic of vocations of brothers, Br Moisés reiterated that we should "offer young people our simple testimony of Brothers, that they see us happy and excited about our mission with children and youth and invite those who know us and feel called to join us to this project of life."

The superior general announced the new position of Br



Canada:
Meeting of
leaders of
communities



Honduras



Meeting of Brothers in Koblenz, Germany



Fundação Champagnat, Portugal

Moisés in a letter dated Oct. 7, in which he thanked the previous provincial, Brother Ambrosio Alonso for his "devotion and dedication to serving the Ibérica province during these last six years."

Br Moisés will take up office during the fifth Chapter of the province, which will take place at the end of December.

Biography

Br Moisés was born in Amaya, in Spain, where he lived until entering the juniorate in Villalba. He completed his initial formation in Sigüenza, Córdoba and Alcalá de Henares.

For seven years, he was a formator in the juniorates of Villalba and Toledo, with a brief interruption to attend university in Madrid where he studied theology and history.

He was entrusted with forming part of the provincial mission team, which he has labelled as "rich years in community and pastoral experience, accompanying university students and collaborating in the formation of animators".

He formed part of the provincial council and after two years in a community of insertion in the neighborhood of Entrevías in Madrid, was sent to the Chamberí school where he worked as a teacher and later as a principal.

He spent two summers as a volunteer in Central America and recalls the months in which he was involved in recycling in Cochabamba as "strong moments that revived my life and mission as a Marist brother."

He is currently superior of the community of Alcalá de Henares, where he mainly works as coordinator of the council of educational works of the Province.

The council is the body responsible for the animation and management of all educational works of the Province, alongside four teams.

They work in educational and pastoral coordination; human resources; youth, vocational and social ministry; economic management.



Two Brothers die in car accident in Angola

Brothers Belmiro Schmidt and Tomás Sawayenga passed away in the afternoon of Saturday, Oct. 10, after a car accident on the road between Kuito-Bié and Ndalatando in Angola.

They were taken to hospital, but died an hour later.

Br Belmiro, aged 76, belonged to the Rio Grande do Sul province and had been a missionary for several years in

the province of Southern Africa.

Br Tomás, aged 40, was superior of the Kuito-Bié community, director of a Marist school and provincial councillor of Angola.

