



## ICMICA Newsletter No 1 - December 2006

### **Welcome.**

This newsletter was proposed at the European Liaison Committee (ELC) meeting in Venice to provide European federations with a better idea of the activities of Pax Romana ICMICA, both internationally and within Europe. Comments and contributions are most welcome to [kevin@newman.org.uk](mailto:kevin@newman.org.uk). A further Newsletter will be produced in February, until then all best wishes for Christmas and the New Year, Kevin Lambert (on behalf of the European Liaison Committee)

### **EUROPE**

**ELC** The European Liaison Committee is elected every four years at the General Assembly. In 2004 (Krakow) the following elections were made Piotr Cywinski (Poland) (Vice President Europe), Philippe Ledouble (France) (European Co-ordinator) and the federations from Austria, Catalonia, Italy, Netherlands, Slovenia and the UK. Currently these federations are represented by Theo Quandler, Nuria Sastre, Renato Balduzzi, Edith Brugmans, Matija Cencelj and Kevin Lambert respectively. The Austrian and UK federations are also represented on the International Council. Our European Chaplain is Fr Luis Maria Goikoetxea (Basque federation). The next meeting of the ELC is planned for Brussels on 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2007.

**Venice** An international workshop entitled **Which Europe? – Turkey as a case study** was held in the magical city of Venice on 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> November 2006. The meeting was organised by the ELC the International Secretariat and MEIC the Italian federation. We were welcomed by **Massimo Cacciari**, the Mayor of Venice who is a philosopher and the resplendent figure of the Patriarch of Venice, **Cardinal Angelo Scola**, both of whom were extensively quoted in the Italian press. **Eneco Landaburu** from the European Commission spoke on European external relations and **Marijana Grandits** gave an impassioned speech on issues in South Eastern Europe. The theme of Turkey and the EU was the focus of the second day with lively contributions from two Turkish delegates **Ibrahim Kalin** and **Ahmet Davutoglu** and two speakers from existing EU countries, Marijana Grandits and **Otmar Oehring**. There was a high standard of talks and discussion of Cyprus proved a difficult issue throughout. We were particularly grateful for the input from the Turkish delegates and the welcome we received from members of the Italian federation. The conference concluded with Mass in the magnificent surroundings of St Mark's Cathedral. There will be a detailed report in *Coscienza* (the MEIC journal) early in the New Year in the language

of the original paper with abstracts in Italian/English.

**Women's Voice** A small group of women members of Pax Romana met in January at the time of the ELC meeting in Prague and a larger group met again during the Venice conference. They proposed a higher profile for women and women's issues within Pax Romana and, as a first step, hope to make an input into the Rome conference in 2007. Further information from Annemarie Weinzetti [annemarieweinzetti@hotmail.com](mailto:annemarieweinzetti@hotmail.com)

**Subscriptions** All federations pay an annual membership fee to Pax Romana, however there is a European fee which provides a fund to pay travel expenses for our European Chaplain and some of the expenses for our European co-ordinator. It also enables the ELC to pay any necessary deposits etc. in advance of meetings. Subscriptions for 2006 are now due and member federations should have received a recent reminder.

**Next Meetings** It is hoped to hold meetings with the Bishops' Conference of COMECE concerning the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Treaty of Rome before their March conference. To facilitate this, the next meeting of the ELC will be in late January/early February in Brussels. The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting of Pax Romana will now take place in Rome (see below) and we would hope that European federations will be well represented. Finally we hope to organise a follow up to the Venice conference in November 2007 but the title and venue are still to be confirmed.

**SIBIU** The Third European Ecumenical Assembly will take place in Sibiu (Rumania) in September 2007. This will be a much smaller event than the vast meetings held in previous years. Further information at [www.eea3.org](http://www.eea3.org)

### **FEDERATIONS**

**Member Federations** European member federations in Europe are; Albania, Austria (KAVO) [www.kav-wien.at](http://www.kav-wien.at), Basque Country (BKA), Catalonia (Eiximenis), France (MCC) [www.mcc.asso.fr](http://www.mcc.asso.fr), Hungary, Italy (MEIC) [www.meic.net](http://www.meic.net), Latvia, Luxembourg (ALUC) [www.aluc.lu](http://www.aluc.lu), Netherlands (Thijmgenootschap) [www.thijmgenootschap.nl](http://www.thijmgenootschap.nl), Poland (KIK) [www.kik.waw.pl](http://www.kik.waw.pl), UK (Newman Association) ([www.newman.org.uk](http://www.newman.org.uk))

**Federation events** It is hoped that the next issue will contain more information. The Newman Association are organising a conference on **Creationism on 2<sup>nd</sup> June in England** and KIK have a major conference in **Poland from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June**

**The Newman Association** (*It is proposed that each Newsletter should contain information about a member federation*)  
The Newman Association [www.newman.org.uk](http://www.newman.org.uk) was founded in 1942 when the University Catholic Federation of Great Britain separated into student and graduate groups. The name *The Newman Association* was chosen by the graduate group after Cardinal John Henry Newman who worked to produce an intelligent, well-educated laity. Our letterhead *Promoting open discussion and greater understanding in today's Church* summarises our aims very succinctly. Membership is over 800 with 20 circles (local groups) across England, Wales and Scotland. Each circle has its own lecture programme so that Newman Association activities continue throughout the year somewhere in the UK. Our journal, *The Newman*, is published three times per year and is supplemented by newsletters. Nationally we organise conferences and lectures and other regional events. A distinctive feature of the national programme has been the series of **Newman pilgrimages** which by now have covered much of the **Middle East. The 2007 pilgrimage will visit Egypt and Jordan.** The Association was a founder member of Pax Romana and has hosted European conferences and the Statutory Assembly.

## SECRETARIATS

**Specialist Secretariats** Pax Romana has a number of specialist groups which are largely European. They comprise the Economists (SIIAEC); Artists (SIAC); Scientists (SIQS); Secondary teachers (SIESC) and Jurists (MIJC).

**Secretariat events** The next SIIAEC meeting will be held on **1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> June in Prague** on the theme: *New Agriculture, sustainable and fair worldwide – providing regional food security and energy support. How lobby for it?* For further information: [hwspitaler@gmx.at](mailto:hwspitaler@gmx.at) or [th.quendler@chello.at](mailto:th.quendler@chello.at)

## INTERNATIONAL

**Statutes** At the Krakow Assembly in 2004 revised statutes were agreed in line with the

new Vatican arrangements for international Catholic organisations. After rather prolonged discussions, some minor modifications have been agreed and there will be a formal signing ceremony at the Rome meeting in May 2007.

**60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** Pax Romana was founded in 1921 but was reorganised in 1947. The student (MIEC - IMCS) and graduate (MIIC - ICMICA) organisations both share the umbrella title of Pax Romana. The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting for both ICMICA and MIIC is planned for Rome in late May 2007. Federations will be informed as soon as the exact date is confirmed.

**Nairobi 2008** Pax Romana is required to hold an assembly every four years at which elections are held and decisions are made. The **2008 Statutory Assembly** is planned for **Nairobi, Kenya probably in mid July.** We hope that there will be a good representation from the European federations at this assembly.

**United Nations** Member federations do not always appreciate that Pax Romana is a consultative body to the **United Nations in New York, Geneva and Vienna** and at **UNESCO and the Council of Europe.** Budi at the Geneva office works extensively with the UN. There are also internship programmes for young people to work at the UN during the sub Commission on Human Rights.

**Friends of Pax Romana** Lidia Tresalti is working on a project to revive the Friends of Pax Romana who will support the movement financially and in other ways. Further information from [tresalt@tiscali.it](mailto:tresalt@tiscali.it)

## DIARY OF EVENTS

**20<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> January 2007** ELC meeting  
Brussels

**1<sup>st</sup> -3<sup>rd</sup> June 2007**SIIAEC Conference,  
Prague

**2<sup>nd</sup> June 2007** Newman Association  
Conference, Hatfield (UK)

**15<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> June 2007** Gniezno Conference  
(Poland)

**July 2008** Pax Romana Assembly, Nairobi