

## I. PLAN 2019-2020

The continental work plan was prepared by the Latin American and Caribbean Team in June 2019 responding to the orientations of the national movements of the continent at the November 2018 meeting. To follow the items of the Plan and status of realization:

1. Share plans of activities of national movements – some movements submitted their plans for 2019.
2. Debate on democracy in the continent - period 2019-2020. During the period 2019 to February 2020 the team initially prepared a selection of readings on the subject of the situation of democracy in the countries of the region and in a second moment a guide for study and reflection in the groups or countries. With the following axes:

SEE

- i. *A first conversation about the political reality and state of local democracy, we propose here to try to limit the look to the situation of the country.*
- ii. *A reflection on institutionalism, but not only on the functioning at this precise moment but on the system itself (Problems, limitations, difficulties, dangers or advantages and opportunities). This stage was scheduled until the end of March 2020 and would follow the process for “judging” which format was not defined when we began the confinements due to the pandemic. A conversation was then held with the theme: Conversation about Democracy (even in pandemic times) on 06/13/2020. It was a rich and somewhat controversial conversation.*

In the preparation of the Study Session for the Continental Assembly, the theme of democracy (in addition to that of Synodality) once again appeared to be a priority. We have held the second Study Session on the subject on 25/09/2021: Democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean – Fratelli Tutti cap.5 – The best politics.

Question for commitments: What tasks do we have as Christians and as a community with regard to democratic life at this time of the LAYC continent?

The commitments proposed at that Session were included in the proposed Guidelines for the next period adopted at the continental Assembly Session.

3. Defining Uruguay's presence in the Continental Team – first quarter 2019 – was not defined
4. Encourage visits from members of the movements to each other – whenever possible. The time of pandemic did not allow travel from 2020 on, the exchanges have been done virtually, it remains to encourage exchanges on professional topics (travels for professional congress participations are usual).
5. Pastoral visits to reactivate or strengthen movements: Argentina, Ecuador -second semester 2019 and 2020.

ECUADOR - Juan Ansión has visited Ecuador twice in 2019, Pamela 1 time in FEB 2020. Some members of the community in Quito restarted meetings in 2020. ARGENTINA – visit planned for 2020 was canceled due to the pandemic (Guigui and Pe. Paul Dabezies). With no scheduled date, contact is maintained.

BRAZIL – A visit to the Brazilian Movement and participation in the Garanhuns Retreat by Guigui (OCT2019) – 22 participants. Obs. Carried out in the diocesan seminary, guided

by an Anglican bishop emeritus (former Catholic priest, disciple of Don Helder Camara) and his wife. With the presence of the Bishop of Garanhuns, PE, BR

6. Prioritize reflection and formation on the theme of the Method of the Revision of Life (theme linked to that of the spirituality of the Movement) – 2020 – not realized.

## II. Beyond the plan - Activities in times of pandemic from March 2020

### International and continental activities

1. 19MAR20 Participation in **International Webinar on the situation of the COVID 19 Pandemic in the countries and the impact on our communities**, Spanish version with Julio Medina, doctor of the MPC Peru, Leo Goday of the MPC Uruguay and Dione Benjumea, public health doctor of the EPde Colombia. (together with Juanma Seco del Pais Vasco and Kevin Ahern (pres. MIIC)
2. **04APR20 Conversation about reality in the continent due to COVID19 and repercussions** between members of MIEC and MIIC AM. Latin and Caribbean with the participation of Cristel Zanoni of UNEC PE, Jorge Parra Sec. Latin American MIEC JECI, Monica Torres MPC Chile, Kevin Ahern President MIIC and Elisabeth Muller VP MIIC Am. Latin and Caribbean
3. 12APR20 – **International Palm Sunday Celebration** – 10 attendees from LA and C
4. 09MAY20 **Conversation on Education (MIIC and Eq. Teachers)- Education in times of pandemic- privatization policies exposed** – 30 participants
5. 31MAY20 **International Pentecost Celebration** - 62 registered by AL and C
6. 13JUN20 **Conversation on democracy (even in times of pandemic)** – 40 participants from 11 countries – two experts to open the conversation: Gerardo Gaetano from Uruguay (not belonging to the movement) and Rolando Ames from Peru (MPC).
7. PR MIIC Latin America and caribbean – supports the Diploma on Integral Ecology of the RUC (Network of Universities for the Care of the Common Home – 34 universities in Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Costa Rica) – Virtual course of 6 months (1st cohort AGO2020- FEB2021) by the platform of the UCSF of Argentina. – an enrollment for MIIC with 50% scholarship
8. 03OCT20 – **Continental Eucharistic Celebration** – remembering companions on the way and relatives. **Signs of the times and signs of hope** - participation of about 70 to 80 people
9. 07OCT20 **Conversation on the Encyclical Fratelli Tutti** – A global lay response to Fratelli Tutti – organized by Kevin Ahern with the participation of an ad hoc member of the Colombian movement (Miguel Angel Estupiñan, communicator and theologian) – about 5 LAyC participants due to the difficulty of the English language.

### Activities in different countries (not exhaustive)

#### Virtually all national movements have held their meetings of small Life Review communities (weekly, biweekly or monthly by virtual means)

1. Colombia - Sunday Eucharistic celebrations (before the pandemic they were monthly) - Movement of Colombia open to community of friends and family average between 25 and 35 participants. The preparation of each Sunday by a community of RdV.
2. Brazil - Prayer Moment weekly Saturday afternoons
3. 11-12APR2020 Easter- Retreat in Movement of Chile, Pascual Celebration Movement Colombia, Retreat Movement of Peru
4. Uruguay – Discussion on Universal Basic Income (MPC-OBSUR)- MAY20

5. Conversations on Democracy by country – Brazil (21JUN – 18 participants) and Peru (27JUN- 49 participants)
6. 22AGO20 - 2nd. Meeting in times of pandemic MPC Chile – The pandemic as an opportunity (Guigui participates for the LAyC Team)- 35 participants
7. Ecuador – Celebration in memory of a member of the movement who died of Covid19 and about 20 close relatives of members of the movement. With the participation of the LAyC Team.
8. Peru – Study workshop on the Fratelli Tutti Encyclical from 03NOV to 22DEC20

### **III. Conclusions and perspectives**

It was clear for the LAyC Team, already in June 2019, that the road to the next continental meeting of 2020 and prior to the World Assembly of 2021 (centenary) would be difficult due to the reality the continent is experiencing and the theme chosen to reflect on from our realities: democracy and the role of Catholic professionals in the reality of each country and the continent. Reality surprised us with the arrival of the pandemic in March 2020 and despite being perplexed at first we were able to find solutions for our communities to maintain ties and stay alive by virtual means, with a few exceptions which were identified and the team helped to connect during that period.

Even more, we have discovered that this time could be a time of convocation and privileged evangelization. We have been able to carry out many exchanges of great wealth, we have learned to use technology for our goals and we have not only maintained but in some cases strengthened links between movements.

There are difficulties and we feel the lack of close human contact with our friends and sisters and we continue with difficulties to plan for the future due to the uncertainties of the health situation. We feel that we have made progress in belonging to a community of communities of faith at the international level, even though not always at the level of responsibilities.

We have not done a continental meeting in 2020 but in 2021 and we feel that we arrived strengthened to the present moment by the quantity and quality of exchanges we had, the reflection that has been possible. Community life and faith strengthened even by moments of great sadness and mourning for the losses of fellow people on the road, militants and chaplains.

I believe that we will keep those years as years of great inspiration for our community faith, many learnings and a renewed commitment in that way of being Christians and being Church, of following Jesus in the here and now!

The theme of formation and reflection on the Method of the Revision of Life, which is linked to that of the lay spirituality of the movement, is still pending a process at the continental level.

At the continental meeting, statutory decisions were taken on the names for new continental team and VP for ALyC to be brought to the next PR MIIC World Assembly (11-12 DEC2021)

We have not come much way in ensuring the contributions of each country in time. In each country the movement has given testimony of very concrete economic solidarity with members facing economic difficulties and people and nearby communities, in several places collections have been made to collaborate with needy sectors where there is someone from the movement working.