

RIGHTS FOR US ALL

How Emmaus groups are putting the movement's priorities into action - together

World Social Forum on Migration



From 5 – 9 December, ten representatives of the four Emmaus International regions are to attend the World Social Forum on Migration in Johannesburg, South Africa. At the last forum in 2012 in Manila, the Philippines, the Organisation for Universal Citizenship (OUC) introduced its plans for a universal citizenship passport.

In 2014, Emmaus International and the OUC organised three workshops with partner organisations to demonstrate through talks from grassroots stakeholders that migration policies based on freedom of movement and settlement are possible. They also called for a cycle of United Nations conferences on the subject to be held. A visit to the Emmaus group CORDIS in South Africa has been planned to coincide with the event.

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What are our priority areas?

Since the world assembly in Ouagadougou in 2003, Emmaus groups have decided to work together on priority areas, currently totalling six*. Ten years on, the time has come to take stock of our commitments (our action on the ground, campaigning, networking and our pilot programmes) in each area. The first phase, involving the study of documents, is now over. Next, six volunteers are to visit Emmaus groups in each region for three months, starting in February 2015 to learn about their realities on the ground. The results of their work will go towards stimulating discussion at the world assembly in 2016.

*Right to water, healthcare, education, ethical finance, international migration and fighting human trafficking

POINT OF VIEW → Marie-France Bedleem, world council for political action and international solidarity, for the Europe region

“When I became a regional representative on the world council, I became aware of the diversity of situations in which Emmaus works. Collecting goods to carry out solidarity actions or speaking out to lobby the authorities is not easy everywhere in the world. The fight for more justice and more sharing of wealth ought to guide us. Our role is to create a ‘solidarity reflex’ among Emmaus groups”.



GO FOR IT!

Solidarity sales continue

→ If you've not yet run your solidarity sale this year, you still have time! By the end of October, sales run by 146 groups raised income of €380,000. We're still far off the figure of €507,500 needed to finance solidarity projects and solidarity funds for 2015, so the groups are counting on you to be able to carry out their projects.

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International Migrants' Day

→ On 18 December, support freedom of movement and settlement.

Become a world citizen—sign up to the organisation's charter for universal citizenship and create your e-passport on the OUC website: www.o-c-u.org

Voluntary work taking shape

→ A pilot voluntary work project will be launched in March next year. It includes sending volunteers on medium-to-long-term placements and/or participation in summer work camps, in at least one group per region. Encourage young people in your group to set off in search of Emmaus around the world!

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Solidarity at Emmaus

A world council on political action and international solidarity took place in Montreuil, France from 5 – 7 November.

The initial results of the survey on solidarity actions show groups' commitment differs depending on their region.

Although commitment to solidarity sales seems to be flagging, groups are still getting involved at local, regional and international level. These findings will contribute to the next board meeting's discussions and proposals to be put to the world assembly in 2016.



New timetable for solidarity

Every year, solidarity sales finance projects by groups that wish to develop or reinforce their activities. Until recently, sales from one year financed projects put forward in the same year. This meant the period between the submission of the project and its financing was very long, and some projects even became obsolete before they could be implemented. From 2015 onwards the timetable will change: sales in 2015 will mean projects presented in 2016 can be funded, and these will be implemented following approval by the 2016 board meeting.

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A new chair for Emmaus France



In May 2014 Thierry Kuhn, director of Emmaus Mundo in Strasbourg, France since 2006, became chair of Emmaus France. Here's a quick look at his experience:

As a student, Thierry Kuhn has been involved in a broad range of social action – he's worked with young people in difficulty and homeless people, and further afield with voluntary organisation, Calcutta Espoir. He's travelled to India on six occasions. As an accountant with a social economy organisation for 18 years, he was involved in the anti-globalisation movement (ATTAC) where he combined work on the ground with campaigning. This was how he got to know Emmaus, through joint action to requisition some barracks to house homeless people. "I've always admired the way Emmaus helps people in a very practical way as well as the firm stance it takes".

In 2006, Thierry Kuhn decided to bring together his activist and professional experience. His management and accountancy skills and experience in voluntary organisations and as an activist helped him become director of social enterprise, Emmaus Mundo. Since then, he has applied the Emmaus values to his everyday work, reaching out to people who have the greatest difficulties finding a job and adapting work situations to them. He makes a point of continuing with his campaigning activities, despite the fact that social enterprises receive public funds. "If your position is coherent and your political stance well constructed, you can say what you like. Emmaus groups prove on a daily basis that they have the right solutions for economic, social and environmental problems, together with credible policies. Campaigning is our responsibility!" he insists.

NEWS IN BRIEF

→ Work camp in Brazil

The ninth 'Joao Benevides' work and training camp will take place at Emaús Igualdade in Cachoeira Paulista, Brazil from 18 – 29 January 2015. Around 100 participants from the four Emmaus regions will come together there and get to know the movement better.

→ 'Let's turn the page' campaign

Emmaus Africa and Emmaus International are supporting a campaign for democracy in Africa. The populations there oppose constitutional coups that are being prepared in several countries. Even if some people have got used to democracy in many African countries being a façade, we most certainly have not.

→ Previously unpublished writings by Abbé Pierre

Abbé Pierre chose us as his universal legatee, and we strive to keep our founder's memory alive. Thanks to the wealth of personal documents he left us, Jean Rousseau has put together a remarkable set of his political texts. *Pensées inédites, pour un monde plus juste* (Unpublished thoughts, for a fairer world) will be published next 15 January in French. A launch event will be organised.

SAVE THE DATE

18 December

International Migrants' Day

12 January

World assembly steering committee

20-22 February

Europe regional board meeting,
France

February

Asia regional board meeting,
Indonesia

March

Americas regional board meeting,
Uruguay

Yaneth Ramos, organisation and reception assistant, left the international secretariat at the end of September 2014 to resume her studies. We thank her for her hard work over the last six years and wish her every success for the future.

64.5%

of Emmaus groups are involved in at least one priority area*

*According to the results of the first phase of the survey on groups' involvement in Emmaus International's priority areas.

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Development of the logo

→ WHAT?

In 2013 Emmaus International started work on its positioning, and this led to the adoption of the strapline 'Activists for change' in order to give more impact to our campaigning. The logo has been developed to include this strapline and to give more coherence and modernity to the combination of the two.

→ WHO?

The board voted on the strapline in April 2014, and approved the proposal for the change to the logo through a vote by correspondence in October 2014.

→ WHEN?

The new logo is effective from November 2014. Each group can incorporate this change when it is in a position to do so, for example when renewing headed paper, opening a new shop or changing vans.

→ HOW?

The regions will receive an update of their logos, as will the national groups or organisations that are already using the Emmaus International logo. All the logos are also available under the heading 'Toolbox' on the website.

To obtain the adaptation of your logo, or for any queries about its development, please contact the communications dept.:
communication@emmaus-international.org



emmaus

INTERNATIONAL

ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE