

Thy Kingdom Come!

REGNUM CHRISTI

WESTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPEAN FEDERATION

Eur-FRC 00038-2023

Clas. II.1.C.1

Alzgern, October 22, 2023

Territorial Convention Final Document

N° of delegates: 35

N° of participants: 37

SEE and JUDGE: “A sower went out to sow...” (cf. Lk. 8:5-15)



1. Context of our territory (soil)

*WHERE and WHOM are we called to evangelize?
(Characteristics of the society we are called to evangelize)*

Needs of People and Response of the Church

As Regnum Christi members, we feel called to look at our context with deep respect, hope, compassionate love and realism. Even though secularized Europe could provide us with many reasons to feel discouraged and overwhelmed, we seek to see and judge our reality from the Heart of Christ.

The practice of religion throughout Europe has greatly diminished, even in countries that still consider themselves Christian by name. The Church, in the eyes of many discredited and seemingly irrelevant, is not the place people look to for answers. Believing and active Christians often lead a self-serving relationship with God, an *à-la-carte* religiosity, or a hollow piety upheld mainly by tradition.

Looking at our territory, we see that people thirst for meaning, truth, authenticity, beauty, healing, and love, yet many seem indifferent or lost in their search for happiness.

We see many initiatives in the Church and in Regnum Christi that respond to this reality and are bearing fruit. We want to learn intentionally from them.

Overcoming the “Bunker Mentality”

As apostles, we see Europe’s challenges as our opportunity! We do not want our Regnum Christi family to cede to the temptation of worrying over our woes or hunkering down in our protective bubbles. We seek to reject this “bunker mentality” and instead open doors to reach out and dialogue with the world today! We are called to be in the world but not of the world (cf. Jn. 17:14-19), to be leaven in the dough of our society (cf. Lk. 13:20-21). Jesus sends his Spirit upon us as a community to make Himself present, reaching out to people and revealing the love of His Heart to them in the here and now¹, because there is not a centimeter of space, nor a second in time where God is not present and acting.

¹ cf. Regnum Christi Statutes, 8.

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2. **Regnum Christi communities in this reality** **(sower/communities of sowers)**

WHO is evangelizing? (Characteristics of the members and communities who live out our charism in this reality)

Lay Member Identity

We see it as an urgent task for the whole Movement to further discover and unpack the identity of the lay members, the beauty of their vocation, and their responsibility as lay apostles. What is defined in the documents needs to be communicated and lived out on the local level. And we need to keep asking ourselves what in our Regnum Christi culture helps or hinders the flourishing of the lay members.

Communities of Apostles

We are called to be communities of apostles that form communities of apostles. We recognize at times a tendency to focus on “doing apostolate” over “being a community of apostles”, and a mindset in some that could even measure one’s degree of belonging to the Movement by their participation in projects or apostolates.

We see the need for the local communities to learn to pray together and support each other through fraternal relationships and team life.

To grow as communities of apostles, we need to encourage discernment of personal charisms so that each one can participate in our common mission more fruitfully.

We also recognize that the community cannot be an end in itself but is geared towards testimony and the mission. Its goal is outside of itself.

Synodal Culture and Servant Leadership

We observe that our local Regnum Christi communities face the challenge of learning a style of leadership where there is both participation and clarity of roles. We want to adopt the style of servant leadership modeled by Christ (*cf.* Mt. 20:28, Jn. 13:1-17) and create a synodal culture in step with the whole Church.²

We asked ourselves what the lay members need in order to take ownership of their role in Regnum Christi. Perhaps some of our structures and leadership style are not helping to inspire and support the lay members to take responsibility and initiative. In parts of Europe clericalism is still strongly present and in Regnum Christi localities we often see a culture of over-dependence on the Legionaries and Consecrated personnel. The Regnum Christi lay vocation has equal standing alongside the Legionaries and Consecrated; we are all recipients of the same charism and drink from the same source.

² cf. <https://www.synod.va/en/synodal-process.html>

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3. Transmission of the Gospel message today (preparing the soil and sowing the seed)

HOW can we better evangelize? (How we propose to meet these challenges)

In response to the challenges and needs mentioned above, we feel called to adopt these three priorities in our territory during the upcoming years.

PRIORITY 1: Create spaces to encounter Christ.

Christ is the one touching, calling, and forming the heart of each apostle. The formation of apostles does not depend primarily on our own strength and strategies. We are his instruments: our apostolic activity should be an effort to collaborate with Him in creating opportunities and spaces where this life-changing encounter can take place. We want to be communities who have had an authentic experience of Christ and His Kingdom and burn with the desire to facilitate that same experience for others.

PRIORITY 2: Build healthy, prayerful, and missionary Regnum Christi local communities.

We want to be and foster communities of apostles centered on Jesus. Healthy, welcoming, and outreaching communities are essential because they are the natural setting for people to be drawn to Jesus, to be formed by him, to live the fullness of their specific vocation, and to be sent out on mission.³ Local communities and teams must form a culture of praying together and supporting each other.

PRIORITY 3: Practice a style of leadership that fosters participation and empowerment of lay members.

As a spiritual family and apostolic body⁴ we need both participation and clarity of roles so that all members take part in the common mission according to their vocation and personal charisms.

This synodal culture requires adopting the servant leadership that Christ models for us in the Gospel and revising our structures and practices so that they inspire and support everyone, particularly the lay members, to assume responsibility and take initiative.



Mariana Ibañez
President



Leticia Vera
Secretary

³ cf. RCS, 8.

⁴ cf. RCS, 3.