



Dominican Presence at the United Nations

The Dominican Family is present at the United Nations (UN) in Geneva and in New York. The two offices are located in Northern countries but they are at the service of the Dominican Family worldwide. The statements made at the UN by Dominicans are based on the grass-roots work and are justified on the basis of first hand information provided by members of the Dominican Family.

Recommendations of the meeting of the IDCJP at Fanjeaux

- We congratulate our two Permanent Delegates at the UN for their 10 years of service.
- We are pleased with the recent creation of the UN Human Rights Council and we recommend that our delegates strengthen even more their work relations in the light of this important development.
- We recommend that our Dominican presence become more visible in line with the new calendar of the Human Rights Council possibly with a full-time person in Geneva.
- That we strengthen our collaboration with Franciscans International in Geneva.
- Develop formation programs on Human Rights at the UN for Dominicans also make use of existing training programs.
- Plan for sabbaticals and internships at the UN in Geneva and New York as well as at the Justice and Peace Office in Rome.
- In collaboration with our office at the UN in New York, pay more attention to the right to development.
- Invite ESPACES to develop a theological reflection on our Dominican presence at the UN.

for more information:

<http://domlife.org> - www.un.op.org
<http://jp.op.org>



Message to the members of the Dominican Family from Fanjeaux, May 2006

Kindled by the fire of Dominic's vision by being present in these holy places, we urge all branches of the Dominican family in this period of jubilee to :

- **Be involved in mission** by adopting local projects developed and implemented by all branches of the Order together ;
- **Deepen our prayer life by praying the jubilee prayer** prepared for us by the nuns of the Order and joining their liturgies in their monasteries wherever possible.
- **Work for justice by joining the rest of the Church in realizing THE MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS** signed by all governments in 2000 to relieve our world of dehumanizing poverty and to promote integral human development.

Jubilee Prayer (1206-2006)

God of Mercy,

In your eternal Wisdom, you called your servant, Dominic, to set off on a journey of faith as itinerant pilgrim and preacher of grace. With your Word of gentle Truth in his heart and on his lips, Dominic invited the first sisters and brothers to join him in a life of contemplative obedience in the service of the holy preaching.



As we commemorate this Jubilee, we ask you to breathe the Spirit of the risen Christ once again into our hearts and minds. Re-create us, so that we might faithfully and joyfully proclaim the gospel of peace, through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of the Word made flesh, pray for us.



International Dominican Commission for Justice & Peace (IDCJP)

Convento Santa Sabina – Aventino,
Piazza Pietro d'Iliria, 1 - 00153 Rome - Italy
Tel. 39 6 57940656 - Fax 39 6 5750675
email: jp@curia.op.org - web: <http://jp.op.org>

International Dominican Commission for Justice and Peace (IDCJP)



Call from Fanjeaux

Catching Fire From Dominic's Vision



Three important events celebrated at Fanjeaux as a Dominican Family

- **800 years** of Dominican history (1206-2006)
- **25 years** of Justice and Peace promotion by the international Commission (1981-2006)
- **10 years** of presence of Dominicans at the UN in Geneva (1997-2007)

The beginning of the 800th anniversary of the Foundation of the Order.

In a world obsessed with security, confronted with the question of migration and divided over the growing economic inequities, the Dominican Family is called to act at all levels (international, regional and local.)

Peace and Human Security

“What is lived by all must be decided by all” : Dominic chose a democracy that gives security to everyone in a shared vulnerability.



On the international scene, security has become an obsession which affects consciously and unconsciously our daily behavior and our way of involving ourselves in mission.

Are we not invited as a Dominican Family to

- demystify the term «security» to rediscover in the word the human security of each person?
- to stand by our brothers and sisters in situations of insecurity?
- to accept a form of insecurity that comes from our commitments in the logic of the cross?

The International Dominican Commission for Justice and Peace recommends :

- ▶ **Lobbying activities by the Dominican Family at the UN, EU, UNESCO, AND WTO participation in campaigns by other international groups such as Amnesty International, Caritas Internationalis, Oxfam, Pax Christi etc..**
- ▶ **Educating of the young and of families on the true meaning of human security through our Dominican institutions and our parishes, produce leaflets on peace and security.**
- ▶ **Arrange joint celebration on August 6th (by region) , Feast of the Transfiguration and the anniversary of Hiroshima.**

Migration

“Peoples on the move”

Dominic invited his brothers and sister to itinerancy and sent them to proclaim salvation.

Today millions of men and women flee their countries in despair and live wandering, hoping to find salvation : migrants, refugees, displaced persons . Others, women and children, are the victims of trafficking.

How do we, as a Dominican Family, become welcoming of the stranger who is our neighbor ?

The International Dominican Commission for Justice and Peace recommends :

- ▶ **That each region identify at least one group of vulnerable people and develop actions in terms of their situation.**
- ▶ **That each region develop a document on the question: How can we be present to them?**
- ▶ **That the Dominican Family organize prayer sessions at the local level with the concerned people.**



Economic inequalities

Dominic sold his books to feed the poor.

“During the decade of the Jubilee, we recommend a pilgrimage of the spirit and of the heart to increase our understanding of the Millenium Development Goals (MDG) and their repercussions on each continent” . (Meeting of the international Commissions of the Dominican Family (April 29-May 4, 2006).

Inspired by *Populorum Progressio* and Dominican theological reflection, *the International Dominican Commission for Justice and Peace recommends :*

- ▶ **Disseminate information on the Millenium Developmen Goals to the Dominican Family**
- ▶ **Participate in actions related to the implementation of the MDG at the national level**
- ▶ **Plan a celebration on the Feast of the patron of justice and peace, St. Martin de Porres**

The representatives of the Dominican Family at the UN, in New York and Geneva, will send a letter to the different UN Diplomatic Missions to request that their countries live up to the commitment they undertook to attain the MDGs.

As members of the Dominican Family, we reaffirm that the human person is at the heart of development. The MDGs cannot be reduced to mere statistics ; they contain a theological vision of the human person and the human communities that we are called to promote.