

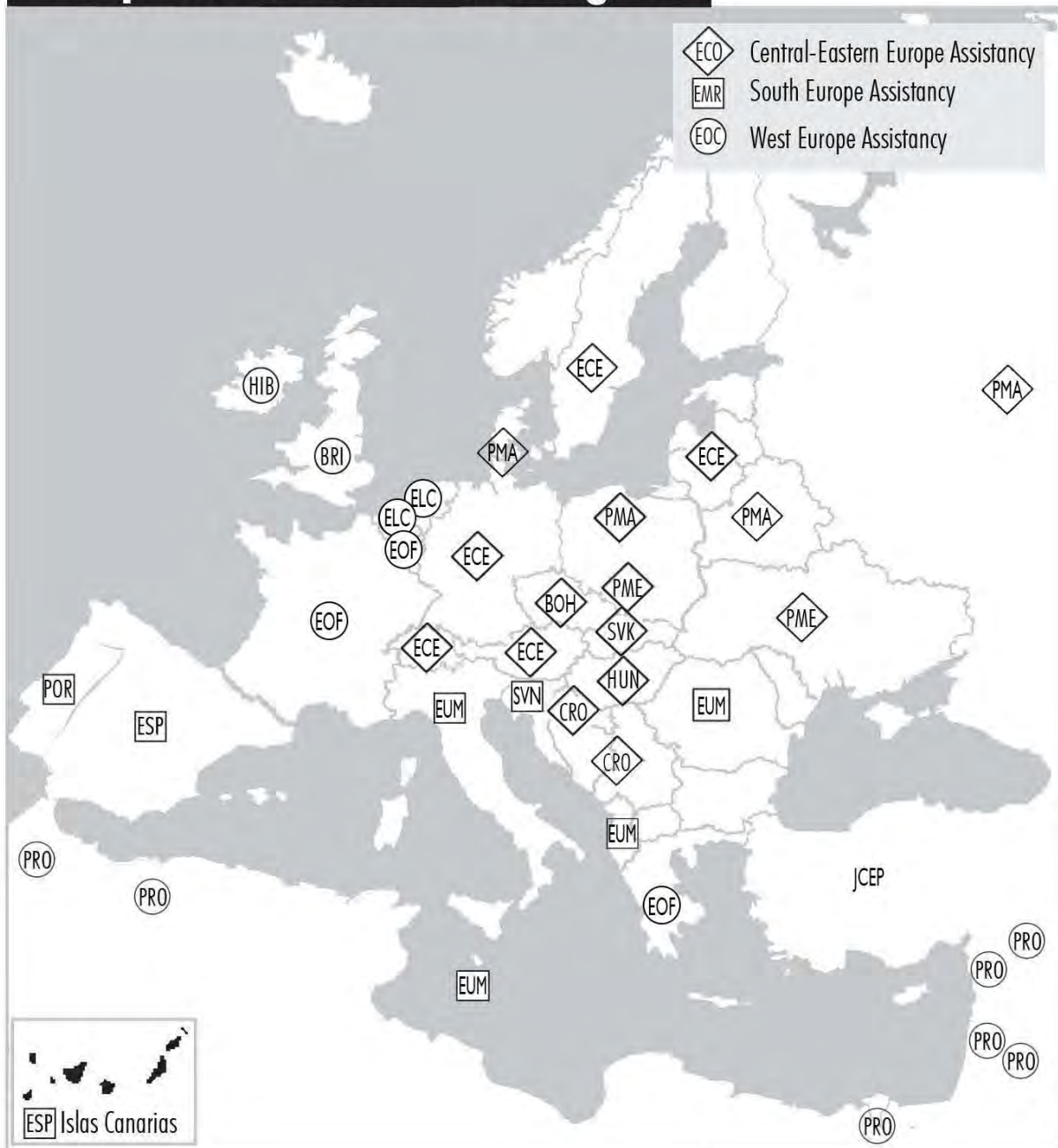


JCEP

Apostolic Plan

2021-2026

European Provinces and Regions



BOH	Bohemian Province	EOF	French speaking Province of Western Europe (South-Belgium, France, Greece, Luxemburg)	Belarus, Russia, Kyrgyzstan)
BRI	British Province			PME
CRO	Croatian Province (Croatia, Balkan countries)			South Poland Province (and Mission Ukraine)
ECE	Central European Province (Austria, Germany, Lithuania, Latvia, Sweden, Switzerland)	ESP	Spanish Province	POR
		EUM	Euro-Mediterranean Province (Albania, Italy, Malta, Mission Romania)	Portuguese Province
ELC	Region of the European Low Countries (North-Belgium, The Netherlands)			PRO
		HIB	Irish Province	Near East Province (Algeria, Egypt, Holy Land, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria)
		HUN	Hungarian Province	SVK
		PMA	North Poland Province (North Poland, Denmark	Slovakian Province
				SVN
				Slovenian Province
				Mission of Turkey under JCEP's President jurisdiction

**Jesuit Conference
of European Provincials**

Apostolic Plan

2021-2026



CURIA GENERALIZIA DELLA COMPAGNIA DI GESÙ

Rome, 18 August 2021

JCEP 21/05

R.P. Franck Janin, S.J.
JCEP Président
Rue des Trévires, 3
B - 1040 BRUXELLES
Belgio

Dear Father Janin, P.C.

Thank you for your letter (JCEP 21/04), dated 4 June 2021, in which you present the JCEP Apostolic Plan 2021-2026 for my approval.

The Apostolic Plan presented reflects well the fruits of the process of discernment in common that you have carried out during the successive Assemblies of the European Conference of Provincials since October 2019. I consider that this common process of discernment, which I find very significant and commendable, has allowed the Apostolic Plan to take on its present form.

The concise form in which the Apostolic Plan is presented focuses on concrete objectives to be achieved and makes it easy to appropriate, implement and evaluate. The comment you make in your letter, especially when you address the WHO (Identity) section, seems to me very relevant. Furthermore, it is intended that individual objectives will be evaluated annually, while acknowledging that there will likely be some unanticipated calls or challenges that will need to be incorporated in turn.

The most salient point of the Plan seems to me to be its starting point, namely the definition of what the Conference of Major Superiors represents in the European context. I am convinced that the definition that you have come to through common discernment, reflected both in your letter and in Call 6 (*To create a space of support and companionship for the Major Superiors, to give them confidence, vision and encouragement*), has significantly shaped the content of the Plan.

I am therefore pleased to give you my approval for the implementation of this plan for the next 5 years.

At the same time, I would like to make a few suggestions that could accompany the release of the Apostolic Plan:

- First, it would be important to include a short preamble to the text, to recall that this Plan is the fruit of a common process of discernment, which was decisive for its conception as well as for the elaboration of its content. Since Provincials change regularly, it would be good for their successors, as well as other leaders at Conference level, to be aware of the process that led to its development.

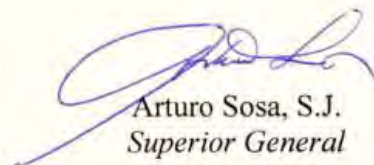


- It would also be appropriate to insert a paragraph on the annual evaluation of the objectives, including an attention to the new calls or challenges coming from the Universal Society or from the world events (at the level of the Society, I recall the challenges of the Ignatian year, the preparation of the Congregation of Procurators as well as the question of the revision of the Statutes on poverty).

- Call 7 involves the renewal of the portfolio of the European Jesuit Networks. This is an important task and you have already identified some priority networks or others to be created. In this context, I would like to draw your attention to the development of the *Magis* network in Europe, formed around the World Youth Days. This initiative, which has proved its excellence for more than 10 years now, lacks sufficient organic structural support. It would certainly be worth considering what could be done to give it more support.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you again, dear Father Janin, and the many others who have collaborated in drawing up this Apostolic Plan. I trust that it will help to strengthen the role and contribution of the European Conference to the building up of the Body of the Society, as well as providing effective support to the Major Superiors in Europe and assisting in inter- and supra-provincial collaboration.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Arturo Sosa, S.J.
Superior General

PREAMBLE

At the General Assembly of JCEP which took place in Rome in April/May 2019, the Conference began a two-year process of common apostolic planning and discernment in the hope that by prayerfully sharing their faith, experience and vision, the Major Superiors could together establish an apostolic plan to be carried out on behalf of all the Provinces and Regions of Europe. That process continued in Zagreb in October 2019 and subsequently, thanks to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, at online Assemblies in October 2020 and in April 2021, when the version below was finalised.

Although the aims and objectives set by the Conference during that period remain of paramount importance, the plan is also work-in-progress. The conference is committed to an annual evaluation of its implementation, as well as to regularly updating its contents where necessary in the light of developments in the world, the Church and the Society, such as the Ignatian Year, the preparation and execution of the Congregation of Procurators (Loyola, 2023) and upcoming reflection on our way of living the vow of poverty.

**We, the Major Superiors
of the Jesuit Conference
of European Provincials,
desire to place ourselves
at the service of the spiritual renewal
of the Society of Jesus.**

**At this time of epochal transition,
GC36 and the UAPs show us the way
to a decisive conversion
required of us,
and one
with clear practical consequences.**

**We have heard the Spirit
calling us as a Conference:**

Call 1

to support and resource
the vigorous **promotion**
of the Jesuit vocation in Europe
to help attract gifted
and generous young men
to dedicate their lives
to the service
of Christ's mission.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** Support Provinces/Regions in developing a plan, as requested by Fr. General, to foster a culture of vocation promotion.

- 2.** Organise JCEP meetings around vocation promotion and pray for vocations at every meeting:
 - a.** A common meeting of Provincials and Vocation Promoters by 2022.
 - b.** A European Congress on Vocation Promotion in 2023.

- 3.** At network's level:
 - a.** Support the strengthening of the network of Young Adult Ministry Coordinators.
 - b.** Invite networks of Vocation Promoters and Young Adult Ministry to meet within 2 years to evaluate and plan closer cooperation in vocation promotion.
 - c.** Encourage Vocation Promoters to organise annually an European day of prayer for vocations.

Call 2

to ensure that
high quality Jesuit formation
can continue to be delivered
in European Formation Centres
for the benefit of Jesuits
from Europe
and all over the world,
including by taking steps
to devise
a sustainable
eco-system of institutions.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** Continue the process on consolidation and long-term sustainability of Formation Centres. Progress towards making them more the responsibility of the Conference.

- 2.** Mission JCEP Delegate for Formation to:
 - a.** promote, with the network of Formation Delegates, formation of formators especially concerning affectivity and sexuality.
 - b.** promote the formation of scholastics in Discernment in Common and Leadership.

- 3.** Restructure the provision of JCEP Novitiates to make the primary formation more sustainable in the Conference.

Call 3

to develop
and promote together
resources and training
for **ongoing Ignatian formation**
for Jesuits and our partners
so as to guarantee a vibrant,
collaborative and faith-filled
apostolic service
of God's people.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** Establish and support a structure to sustain the continuity of the programs Ignatian Leadership Program (ILP) and Discernment in Common and Apostolic Planning (DICAP).
- 2.** Organise every 2 years a Conference-wide course on DICAP or Leadership.
- 3.** Continue to support, and collaborate with, the Programme on Discerning Leadership in the General Curia.
- 4.** Develop summer courses for Scholastics on the basics of DICAP and Leadership. (*cf. call 2.2b*)

Call 4

to exercise our leadership
as Major Superiors together
to encourage the Jesuits of Europe
to **rethink the way we live**
in the light of the UAPs.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** Centre one of the JCEP Assemblies of the next 3 years on the reviewing of our community lifestyle in order to:
 - a.** initiate a process of identifying elements of a new community life culture linked with the UAPs and
 - b.** promote serious reflection in every Province about our practices of travelling, building use, energy conservation, etc., and their consequences on climate change in light of Laudato Si.

- 2.** Work together in the process of discernment and renewal of our living of the vow of poverty as requested by Fr. General.

- 3.** Whenever convenient ponder to hold the Conference Assembly online, and in all indispensable travelling consider the use of more environmentally friendly means of transportation.

Call 5

to help the Major Superiors
in the task of **communicating
and fostering
a culture of safeguarding**
in their communities and works
by sharing training,
resources and best practice.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** Follow-up on the recommendations of PCCP 2019 Survey, helping Provinces to reach higher stages of implementation within two years, in coordination with efforts of the General Curia:
 - a.** Define the mission of Safeguarding Coordination in the JCEP.
 - b.** Organise ongoing meetings (specific formations and/or conference - online or in person) around the topic of Safeguarding.

- 2.** To ensure, through the JCEP Formation Delegate, that our Formation Centres are promoting a culture of safeguarding.

Call 6

to create
**a space of support
and companionship**
for the Major Superiors,
to give them confidence,
vision and encouragement.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** Pilot an 8-day retreat in common, within the next 3 years, for all the Conference Major Superiors.
- 2.** Institute, at least once a year, a personal meeting of the Conference President with each Major Superior to hear about his needs and concerns.
- 3.** Reserve quality time for faith-sharing and spiritual conversation at every meeting of the Conference.
- 4.** Facilitate a more structured communication of available resources and presentation of needs among the Major Superiors, conducive to an easier and more effective sharing of resources.

Call 7

**to renew our portfolio
of European networks,**
so that they are firmly aligned
with the UAPs,
and the mission of the Society.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** Mission a taskforce to review and make a report on the European networks in the light of the UAPs, with recommendations to be submitted to the Conference on
 - a.** which networks are to be prioritised;
 - b.** any new networks which need to be created;
 - c.** which networks need to be missioned in alignment with the UAPs and how;
 - d.** whether there are networks which we no longer need to support.

Call 8

to serve and model
European reconciliation
and to strive for a unity
among members
of the Jesuit family
that is expressive
and supportive
of the European common good.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** 1. Address annually the topic of European reconciliation and deeper unity in the meetings of the Conference:
 - a.** Invite guests on the topics.
 - b.** Identify areas of tension and organise spaces where we can listen to each other on those controversial themes.

- 2.** Continue to value and to promote EJIF.

- 3.** Develop other ways to promote dialogue among European Jesuits in formation about issues of concern for Europe.

Call 9

to **support the Commissio Mixta**
in its mission
to promote mutual understanding
between the Jesuit Conferences
of Africa-Madagascar (JCAM)
and Europe and Near-East (JCEP)
and to create opportunities for
apostolic collaboration.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- 1.** Promote fruitful collaboration between JCEP and JCAM Formation Centres.
- 2.** Enhance the existing close collaboration between the Social Apostolate Delegates of the two Conferences.
- 3.** Study the feasibility of a project to serve at least one large African diaspora community in a major European city.
- 4.** Explore how we can jointly support the Society's mission in Turkey.



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Jesuit Conference of European Provincials

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