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2022 ACTIVITIES REPORT

# New Humanity 2022 Activities Report



New Humanity International Association with registered office in via Piave 15, Grottaferrata (Rome-Italy) is configured as an "International Non-Governmental Organization" (INGO) and pursues civil, solidarity and socially useful purposes, in accordance with the rules of the Third Sector (Legislative Decree 117/2017).

New Humanity is an intergenerational faith-based NGO inspired by the spirituality of unity of the Focolare Movement. It aims to contribute to the achievement of the unity of the human family, with full respect for the individual identities of each of its parts, promoting dialogue and cooperation above all.

Its main mission is to promote human fraternity which is the foundation of justice, peace and solidarity in the world, recognizing the dignity and integral development of all human beings and the urgency of caring for nature.

His vision is a world in which all people, communities, nations, religions, generations and cultures live in fraternity, with mutual appreciation, according to the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" and Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The work of the NGO New Humanity is based on human fraternity, on the spirit of dialogue, on unity and respect for diversity, on solidarity.

On 5 April 2022, the Italian *Regional Office of RUNTS Lazio communicated* the registration with RUNTS: <<The Director of the Regional Directorate for Social Inclusion (...) DETERMINES pursuant to and for the purposes of Article 47 of Legislative Decree No. 117/2017 and Article 9 of Ministerial Decree No. 106 of 15/09/2020 the registration of the body "INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION NEW HUMANITY ETS" in the section "OTHER THIRD SECTOR ENTITIES" of the RUNTS.>>

The number of Members as of December 31, 2022 is 42. During 2022, 2 new members were admitted to the Association (1 individual and 1 organization).

The Ordinary Assembly of members was held on 8 April 2022, with the participation of 19 members on their own or by proxy.

During 2022, the Board of Directors met 11 times (27/01, 24/02, 31/03, 08/04, 28/04, 26/05, 09/06, 25/08, 29/09, 20/10, 24/11).

The Board of Directors also met with the representatives of the foreign offices of the Association, in person, on 13-14-15 May, and, via video conference, on 15/01, 19/03 and 02/12.

During the meeting in May, the members of the Board of Directors and the representatives of the Association also participated in the "Together4Humanity" meeting held in Castel Gandolfo with the representatives of the New Humanity Movement, the Dialogue with Contemporary Culture, the branches of the Focolare Movement of Volunteers, and the AMU and AFN Associations to deepen our commitment to social issues. coordinate more and more and better the activities promoted, and have the same vision in responding to the mandate of the final document of the Assembly of the Mov. of the Focolare of 2021: "Listen to the cry of humanity, of creation and of the new generations and embrace every kind of pain and disunity".

On that occasion, the members of the Board of Directors and the representatives of the Association participated in a session of the General Council of the Focolare Movement, presenting, together with the AMU and AFN Associations, our commitment to social work and representation towards International Institutions. At this address more information about that meeting is available: <https://www.new-humanity.org/en/news/our-journey-towards-universal-fraternity/>.

The Board of Directors also met twice (8/03 and 7/10) with the members of the Advisory Committee, a body whose task, as stated in Article 10 of the Statutes, is "to offer proposals and lines of action so that the activities of the Association can always be an expression of the spirit and values that animate the Focolare Movement."

Trying to redefine the identity of our NGO, as an expression of the Mov. of the Focolare Movement, and in the process taken in recent months in preparation for the above-mentioned Conference, "Together4Humanity", after an in-depth consultation with all the representatives of the Association in the various venues, on 25 August the Board of Directors approved a modification to the words inserted under the logo in 2014. Instead of "for a UNITED WORLD", which always remains the 'Vision' of the NGO New Humanity, it now reads "of the FOCOLARE MOVEMENT". The change took place both because the previous words wanted to emphasize the involvement of young people, now a reality, and to avoid thinking of being seen as a "new age" type NGO, and "of the FOCOLARE MOVEMENT" clearly says who is behind our NGO. We also believe that this will help the various agencies of the Focolare to feel more expressed and represented by the NGO New Humanity.

During the year, the NGO New Humanity's LinkedIn and [Twitter](#) channels were activated, effective tools for making the association's activities known and for networking with other Associations.

Two associates work full-time with benevolent work. In addition, 15 people volunteer internationally, while other volunteers are part of the Supervisory Body and the Board of Directors and meet once a month.

The representatives of New Humanity for the year 2022 were:

New York: Joe Klock (Main Representative), Maddalena Maltese.

Geneva: Jorge M. Dias Ferreira (Main Representative), Esther Salamanca, Juan García Gutiérrez.

Paris: Chantal Grevin (Main Representative), Marie-Annick Benoit, Melissa Mejia Flores.

Brussels: Isabelle de Moffarts (Main Representative).

Nairobi: Justus Mbae (Main Representative).

Vienna: Mathias Kaps (Main Representative), Juan Camillo Poveda, Susanne Tomecek.

The main representation of the New York office then passed from Joe Klock to Maddalena Maltese. The Association is deeply grateful to Joe Klock for his careful, effective, punctual work of representation, from its inception to today, and to Maddalena Maltese for accepting this delicate and precious assignment.

During 2022, the Association's activities developed, as in previous years, according to the two main guidelines concerning representation and presence in the UN International Institutions (Economic and Social Council and Human Rights Council), UNESCO, FAO and UNEP, and in support of activities and projects in particular in the youth field. A special thanks goes to the valuable work carried out by the representatives of New Humanity and to the commitment of members, councilors, experts and collaborators.

During the year 2022, the commitments of the representatives of the NGO New Humanity in the various offices continued. A more extensive description is presented on the following pages. Here, we would like to list some of them, in telegraphic form.

#### **At the U.N. in New York:**

- Statement on "Francis' Economy: A Vision for Tomorrow's Economy" presented to the 61st Commission for Social Development (23 October 2022).
- As an NGO member of the CoNGO-Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations with consultative status at the UN ECOSOC, I signed "Appeal to Protect Forcibly Displaced Children and Families from Ukraine" at the Forum of the NGO Committee on Migration, Subcommittee on Children in Migration.
- Proposal of the NGO New Humanity and MPPU submitted to the Office of Disarmament Affairs on the New Agenda for Peace 2023: "Working for Peace - Lessons Learned" (15 January 2022).
- Protect the dignity of children! A call to action for children on the move Preparation of a speech for the presentation of the Focolare's children's programmes at the Symposium on "Children on the Move", organised by Arigatò and Unicef.
- Support offered for a documentary on the experience of migrants aged 0 to 3 and 3 to 6 in New York.
- Distribution of the New Humanity NGO brochure to volunteers and interns.
- Collaboration with the Mission of the Holy See and participation in the Gala that awarded Secretary General Antonio Guterres.
- Exploring the possibility of a Forum for Catholic NGOs with Caritas Internationalis and the World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations. Attendance at Mass with the Nuncio and other Catholic representatives on May 31, 2023 to start this project in NY.

#### **At the U.N. in Geneva:**

- Participation in the various annual sessions of the Human Rights Council partly by video conference and from September in presence.
- Signed 18 Written Statements or Oral Statements concerning the various topics of work at the UN especially in the fields of International Solidarity, Education and Development.

- Participation in various working groups with other faith-based or non-confessional NGOs in particular with regard to: the right to education, international solidarity and development.
- Participation in various working groups under the responsibility of the coordination of the International Forum of Catholic-inspired NGOs.
- Intense participation continues at the Forum of Catholic-inspired NGOs in Geneva in a close relationship of collaboration with the Mission of the Holy See.
- Jorge M. Dias Ferreira continues his work as a member of the Board of Founders of the Jorge M. Dias Ferreira International NGO Forum and has already participated in several meetings of this body.
- Esther Salamanca continues her collaboration with two university colleagues on various topics on which we collaborate (e.g. drafting of inputs to the Special Rapporteur on Migration)
- Visit of about 60 young people of the Focolare Movement to the UN (23 February 2023) for a day of formation on International Institutions, with a presentation and intervention by Mgr. Fortunatus, permanent observer of the Holy See, and representatives of Caritas Internationalis, APGXIII and OIDEL.

#### **At UNESCO in Paris:**

- Establishment of the group of NGOs of different religions with the aim of proposing to the International Conference of NGOs in December 2022 the project to raise awareness among member states on the importance of interreligious dialogue in the development of peaceful and inclusive societies. States will therefore be asked to include interreligious dialogue in the UNESCO programme adopted by Member States in their General Conference in November 2023.
- To this end, a roundtable project was proposed to be carried out before the conference and the Sultanate of Oman expressed interest in funding a full day on the theme "Towards Common Human Values" in which our roundtable would be organized, on a date yet to be confirmed.
- At the International NGO Conference in December 2022, the presence of a youth representative in our delegation, Melissa Mejia Flores, allowed for an effective dialogue with members of other youth-led NGOs.
- The participation of the youth of our NGO in the places of institutional representation was presented by the Chair of the NGO Liaison Committee as an example to follow, especially for NGOs that are not specifically led by young people.

#### **At the U.N. in Nairobi:**

- The work of promotion and support of the "Together for a New Africa" project continues.

#### **At the European Commission in Brussels:**

- The formation of a group of about 15 people interested in collaborating and supporting the activities in the interaction with the European Institutions and with those who work or provide services in them continues.

- Direct collaboration continues with a group within the Focolare Movement called 'Multipolar Dialogue', whose aim is to be a facilitating environment for rapprochement and mutual enrichment between the Western, Central and Eastern areas of Europe, often divided by strong divergences.

#### **At the U.N. in Vienna:**

- The connection with other NGOs continues for the presentation of joint calls and the study to offer young people the opportunity to attend an internship at the headquarters of the NGO New Humanity in Vienna.

#### **At FAO:**

- During the year 2022, the active presence of Alessio Valente, representative of New Humanity at the FAO, was consolidated in the coordination of the Forum of Catholic Institutions NGOs at the FAO, chaired by the Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the FAO, Msgr. Fernando Chica Arellano.
- An event on "Youth and agriculture: let's look to the future with hope" has been organized on June 28, 2022. Alessio Valente brought the experience, promoted by AMU, of the rural community of Branquinha in the north-east of Brazil.
- Participation in the FAO headquarters in Rome, with a delegation of young people from the Mov. of the Focolare Movement, at the World Food Forum (17-21 October 2022).
- Participation in the study seminar "Leave no one behind: better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life for all" at the Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum of the European University of Rome (27 October).

#### **At UNEP:**

- Signing of the declaration of religiously inspired NGOs at the closing of UNEA 5 (United Nations Environmental Assembly) (2 March 2022).
- Signing of the Interreligious Declaration of Stockholm+50 "[Faith Values and Reach - Contribution to Environmental Policy](#)" (June 2022)
- Presence of a delegation from the NGO New Humanity, on 2-3 June, in Stockholm for UNEP+50. Presentation of the EcoPlan.
- Petition signed at COP27 on: Religious leaders make the moral case for a just global transition away from coal, oil and gas (November 2022).
- Applied for membership, as NGO New Humanity, in the "Faith for Earth Coalition" (November 2022)
- Signing of the Multifaith Response to the Global Biodiversity Framework (5 December 2022)

#### **Projects (completed in 2022):**

- HEAD HANDS HEART: promoting peace education in the Western Balkans, funded by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - € 22,500; the project involved the implementation of 4 training courses on conflict mediation for teachers and students in Serbia, Bosnia,

Montenegro, North Macedonia and Kosovo, the translation of educational material for Up2me and Living Peace, interreligious and ecumenical meetings of families, a Gen Rosso workshop in Bihac (Bosnia) with refugees.

- TEENS FOR A UNITED WORLD: develop the skills of young people by publishing news, promoting the creation of an international editorial board of teenagers, preventing fake news and strengthening awareness of global challenges. See:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gj7BG4Nu4>

Funded by the Erasmus+ programme - Capacity Building in the field of youth - €111,762 in 2019 - postponed to 2022 due to the pandemic. Partners from Italy, Portugal, Hungary, Kenya, Philippines, Argentina.

#### **Projects (ongoing):**

- GREENCLUSIVE: to promote environmental sustainability and environmental rights of cultural minorities in Europe; the project creates a map of environmental needs in partner countries - through the 6X1 method - and implements ecological summer camps for young people involving members of minorities (Muslims, Roma, migrants). Partner countries: Italy, Germany, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria, Lithuania. See: <https://www.new-humanity.org/progetto/greenclusive-2/>

Funded by the European Youth Together call: €150,000.

- HEARTMONY: Arts and music for the well-being of refugees. The project invests in the training of 45 young people as multipliers in charge of carrying out 8 local workshops for refugees by adopting the Gen Rosso and Dance Lab methodology. Online training on migration flows is also promoted to raise awareness among young people about this global challenge. Partners from Italy, Spain, Bosnia, Egypt and Lebanon. In Egypt and Lebanon, national Caritas are involved as partners.

Funded by the Erasmus+ Capacity Building programme in the field of youth with €242,000.

- DialogUE: the project promotes transnational meetings between 4 types of dialogue. Between Christians (Together for Europe), between Christians and Muslims (interreligious dialogue), between Christians and non-believers (Dialog project) and between EU citizens of Eastern and Western Europe (multipolar dialogue). All groups address issues such as ecology, social policies, communication, and prepare shared recommendations for policymakers in view of the 2024 European elections.

Funded by the EU Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme; 301,000 €. Partners from Italy, Portugal, Romania, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Slovakia and Belgium.