

# NEWSLETTER no 8



March 2021

Dear friends,

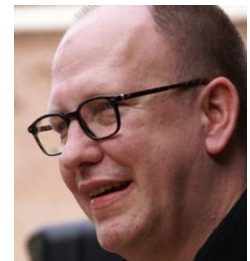
Our last letter (already July 2020!) ended with an empty chair and an invitation to take a seat and visit us in our new office. How could we have known that the coronavirus is so tenacious that it still holds us in its grip today?

So in this letter, we will only tell you about all the things we have been able to do digitally. And that is no small feat!



Our Board member, Fr. Nicolay Dubinin, was ordained a bishop on 13 October 2020. We watched the streaming of the celebration, simple but very impressive!

To fill the void thus created, we found Abbot Bernardus Peeters, President of the KNR, willing to serve on our Executive Committee in an advisory capacity. We are very grateful that Dom Bernardus reflects and acts intensively with us!



After our 2020 General Assembly, we started a campaign to virtually meet the (Vice) Presidents of some national Conferences to get to know them better. It was very interesting, but we really missed the personal "closeness". So we stopped these virtual meetings for the time being.

But we have already started preparations for our next General Assembly in March 2022, which will be held in St. Petersburg. Unfortunately, the preparation trip on site fell through due to restrictions, so we have to use our imagination. But we have, despite his heavy task as bishop, much help from our bishop Nicolay, who lives in St. Petersburg.



The title will be: "We are all in the same boat" and the theme: "Synodality". Because of this theme, there will be fewer speakers and hence more space for meeting and sharing. We have already found prominent personalities who have promised their commitment: Prof.Dr. Myriam Wijlens and Rev. Prof.Dr. Tomáš Halík. The Prefect of the Dicastery for Religious, Cardinal João Braz de Aviz, also hopes to be present.

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We also reviewed the list of desirable topics compiled at the end of the 2020 General Assembly. And we have chosen two very important topics to work on. One hot theme is "spiritual abuse." We will be offering two webinars on this topic in April and May, open to all. In due course, you will be able to register via a link and indicate in which language you would like to listen and speak: English, Spanish, German, Italian or French. Virtual working groups will also be formed in these languages. We are very grateful for the support of UISG, which is very experienced in organizing webinars!

A second topic we will be working with is vocational pastoral care. We are also in the process of organizing a webinar on this topic - but we see this as the beginning of a longer process in which the various leaders will begin to work together.

As you can see, we are not standing still, even if it is only behind our computers!

From here (Nicole in Brussels and me in Haelen/NL) we greet you warmly and say: "See you soon", in one (or all) of our webinars!



Sister Marjolein & Nicole



We are still waiting for you.....



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# Changes within the UCESM member Conferences

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KVRPP BiH from Bosnia-Herzegovina – August 2019

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Election of a new President: Fra Jozo MARINČIĆ ofm

and of a new Vice-President:

Sr. Zdenka KOZINA ssf



HRK from Croatia – September 2019

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Appointment of a new Secretary General:

Sr. Krista MIJATOVIĆ scsc



KSMR from Malta – September 2019

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Appointment of a new Secretary General:

Sr. Natalie ABELA soc



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ÖOK from Austria – December 2019

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Election of a new President: Arch-Abbot Korbinian BIRNBACHER osb

and of a new Vice-President: Sr. Franziska BRUCKNER, fs Amstetten



as well as of a new Secretary General:

Sr. Christine ROD mc



KNR from the Netherlands – June 2020

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Appointment of a new Secretary General:

Rev. Simon EVERS



CIRP from Portugal – June 2020

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Election of a new President: Sr. Maria da Graça ALVES GUEDES rad

and of a new Vice-President: Fr. Pedro Alexandre SIMÕES GOUVEIA FERNANDES cssp



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COREB from Belgium – August 2020

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Election of a new Vice-President:

Sr. Madeleine BOLAND osb



AMRI from Ireland – September 2020

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Appointment of a new Secretary General:

Mr. David ROSE



KWPZZZ from Poland – October 2020

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Election of a new President:

Sr. Dolores ZOK sshs



HRK from Croatia – October 2020

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Election of a new President:

Fr. Slavko SLIŠKOVIĆ op



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and of a new Vice-President:

Sr. Gordana IGREC kbj



KVRPS from Slovakia – October 2020

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Election of a new Vice-President:

Sr. Agnesa JENČÍKOVÁ cj

