

NEWSLETTER no 1

August 2017



Dear friends,

It took us a little while, but today you will finally give a glance at the first issue of our newsletter which you will from now on receive four times a year.

Before we get to the information, I would like to introduce you to our secretariat.

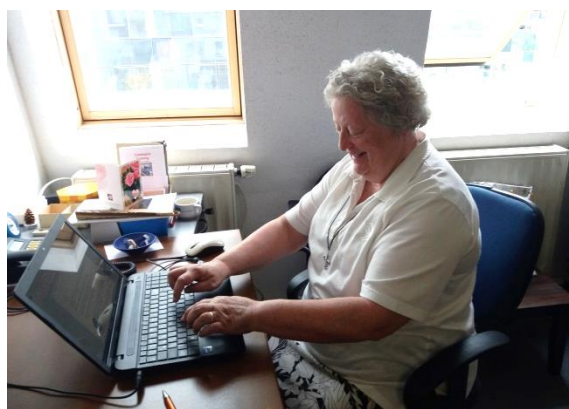
As you may have read on our web site, we are two working in our office in the Rue De Pascale 4 in Brussels: Nicole is present every weekday - and I, Sr. Marjolein, from time to time.

I live in Thorn in the Netherlands and I also work a lot at home to avoid having to move too often to Brussels. Because there are not only the trips to Brussels, there are also numerous meetings abroad: with the Executive Committee (along with Nicole) where the members live: Budapest, Moscow, Luxembourg and, in preparation for the General Assembly in 2018, in Romania. I also attend general meetings in different countries (e.g. Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Russia).

Here we are:



Nicole



Sr. Marjolein

Our treasurer (I could not take a recent picture as he is not present)
is Abbot Erik De Sutter O.PRAEM.



The UCESM-headquarters



Secrétariat Général:

Rue De Pascale, 4 – B-1040 Bruxelles - ☎ + 32 2 230 86 22 - ✉ ucesm@ucesm.net - 🌐 www.ucesm.net

As this is our first newsletter, I may introduce our Executive Committee, too:



From left to right: Sr. Danièle Faltz (Luxembourg), Sr. Marjolein, Sr. Hedvig Deák (Budapest), Fr. Giovanni Peragine (Milot-Albania) and Fr. Nicolay Dubinin (Moscow)

Fr. Giovanni has just been appointed Apostolic Administrator in Southern Albania. His consecration as a bishop will take place on September 7 in Lushnjë and will be celebrated by Archbishop George Frendo OP (former Councillor of UCESM). Unfortunately, Fr. Giovanni's new mission is not compatible with the task of UCESM-President. Therefore, we will continue our work with the smaller team up to the next General Assembly in 2018, during which members will elect a new President (and possibly a new Vice-President).

In acknowledgement of this important event in Fr. Giovanni's life, the Secretary offered him a candle



The last activity of the Committee has been the meeting in Moscow on July 3 to 6. We mainly discussed the preparation of the 18th General Assembly which will be held on March 5 to 10, 2018, at the Carmelite Monastery in Snagov (in the area of Ciofliceni) next to Bucharest/Romania under the theme: "Widen the space of your tent" (Is 54.2). It will address the current issues of migration and integration both in the religious communities and in society in general.



Mănăstirea Carmelitană - Ciofliceni, Snagov

Secrétariat Général:

Rue De Pascale, 4 – B-1040 Bruxelles - ☎ + 32 2 230 86 22 - ✉ ucesm@ucesm.net - 🌐 www.ucesm.net

But we have not only worked: Fr. Nicolay accompanied us to the Red Square and the Kremlin



and took us out to see and enjoy the Summer Residence of Kolomenskoye.



And finally, we visited the Roman-Catholic Cathedral of Moscow and Archbishop Paolo Pezzi.



Our part of the first bulletin ends with these beautiful pictures.

But this is not where it ends!

Because we would like to **invite you to make up this newsletter together**

Hence, we hope that you will send us:

- news after your general chapters, mainly the new members of general/provincial councils, preferably with a picture
- news of your Conferences, mainly the new members with a picture
- news of the General Assemblies.

You will find on the next page some examples of news that we have been given by a few member Conferences.

Secrétariat Général:

Rue De Pascale, 4 – B-1040 Bruxelles - ☎ + 32 2 230 86 22 - ✉ ucesm@ucesm.net - 🌐 www.ucesm.net

Changes within UCESM-member Conferences

AMRI (www.amri.ie) from Ireland – March 2017

Election of a President:

Father Marc WHELAN Csp



VONOS from Switzerland – May 2017

Election of a new President:

Sr. M. Simone BUCHS OSB (Olivetans)



KNR (www.knr.nl) from the Netherlands – June 2017

Election of a new Council:

Abbot Bernardus PEETERS OCSO, President, and

Sr. Sara BÖHMER OP, Vice-President



CIRP (www.cirp.pt) from Portugal – June 2017

Election of a new Vice-President:

Sr. Maria da Graça ALVES GUEDES RAD



COREB (www.religieux.be) from Belgium – June 2017

Election of a new Council:

Sr. Marie-Sophie d'OULTREMONT RA, President

Abbot Benoît CARNIAUX O.PRAEM, Vice-President



And, if you are interested, we could insert a "Questions and Answers" section: questions/requests could be addressed to us, UCESM, or also to one or more national Conferences.

I hope that you have enjoyed this newsletter: we truly look forward to collaborating with you. In this way, the newsletter will become a powerful means to create a strong network between religious in Europe.

See you soon!

With best wishes,



Sr. Marjolein Bruinen OP
Secretary General

Secrétariat Général:

Rue De Pascale, 4 – B-1040 Bruxelles - ☎ +32 2 230 86 22 - ✉ ucesm@ucesm.net - 🌐 www.ucesm.net