Latest news from GSIJPO-Geneva January to March 2016

The year 2016 started with several activities at the UN-Geneva.

The Committee on the Rights of the Child, which is the body of 18 Independent experts that monitors implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by its State parties held the 71st Session from January 11 to 29. The following countries were reviewed: Senegal, France, Ireland, Peru and Kenya. Peru was also reviewed on the Optional Protocols on involvement of children in armed conflict and on sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

As NGO only France took part in a joint statement of the "Collectif Ensemble Contre la Traite des Êtres Humains" (Coalition Together against Human Trafficking). To read the report go to: Collectif Together Against Trafficking on Human Beings

To see the calendar with other sessions where Nepal, Pakistan, Great Britain, New Zealand, South Africa, Democratic Republic of the Congo will be reviewed go to: http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CRC

From January 18-29 it was held the 24th Period of Sessions of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), the following countries where reviewed: Mozambique, Paraguay, Belgium and Singapore.


During the UPR sessions April and October 2016 we will have the following countries: Sudan, Hungry, Thailand, Ireland, Syria, Venezuela, and South Sudan. As NGO we do not have any report from these countries.
Go to this link to search by country: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/Documentation.aspx

In the 63rd Session of CEDAW (15 February to March 4th) were reviewed the following countries: Czech Republic and Japan.

More information in the following link: http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=1007&Lang=en

As ONG we submitted a written contribution for the a half day of general discussion on gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction and climate change organized by the CEDAW Committee on General Debate of CEDAW on February 29th. The following countries/units contributed sending experiences from the grassroots: Brazil, Belgium, Madagascar, Philippines, Portugal, Peru, Australia, Myanmar, Taiwan, Indonesia, Mexico (North and West Prov.), Kenya, South Sudan, Egypt and Democratic Republic of the

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Congo. The goal of this debate was to prepare a General Recommendation by the CEDAW Committee on disaster risk reduction for women. You can read the report going to “Written Statement” on this link: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CEDAW/Pages/ClimateChange.aspx

From February 29 to March 24th the Human Rights Council is holding its 31st Session, go to this link: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session31/Pages/31RegularSession.aspx

During the 31st session of the HRC, we had the opportunity to read a Joint Oral Statement with the Sisters of Mercy on Human Trafficking of Children, on March 8th. See the video on this link; go to the mark 2:23:12 http://webtv.un.org/watch/clustered-id-contd-sr-on-torture-and-on-sale-of-children-22nd-meeting-31st-regular-session-human-rights-council/4792574615001

As NGO we are having participating in co-sponsoring some other events such as; the event about Laudato Si on January 15 with the participation of Cardinal Peter Turkson and other distinguish panelist. With the Forum Geneva (which we are members) “In Search of Dignity and Sustainable Development for All”; with Geneva Climate Change Concertation Group (GeCCco) “After Paris: Continuing the Conversation about Climate Change and Right to Health”, with Pax Romana, Franciscans International, Caritas Internationalis “Human Rights without Discrimination. A future reality for Religious and Ethnic Minorities in Myanmar?

After we received a special invitation by 2 member of the Advisory Committee on Human Rights to participate in the survey on Unaccompanied migrants minors and adolescents and Human Rights we could send the responses coming from these countries/units: Bolivia, Chile, Germany, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico (Prov. North of Mexico), Peru and Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Finally, we had some visitors at the GSIJPO-Geneva: Sr. Adelgund Philip from Germany who was doing an orientation as new jp contact in her province; Marta Iris López, NGO Regional Designate at ECLAC to do the Human Rights Course with the NGO Geneva Human Rights and to participate to the 31st Session of the Human Rights Council; Zelna Oosthuizen our link Councillor with the CLT for Justice and Peace and Winifred Doherty who participated in a meeting on Social Protection Floor.

All these participations in the work of the committees, providing our contribution from the grassroots are a great opportunity to bring the voices of the people we encounter in our mission - especially women, children in vulnerable situation - to the United Nations and to live what we expressed in the Declaration of the 30th Chapter of the Congregation: "As partners in the mission, we seek how to address global problems. “We identified the most pressing needs of today as poverty, human trafficking, forced migration, refugees, gender inequality, violence toward women and children and religious intolerance."

“Why do you seek the living one among the dead? Christ is risen, Christ is alive among us! Dear all, I take the opportunity to wish you a HAPPY EASTER.

Thank you very much for your support and collaboration.
Yolanda Sánchez Contreras-GSIJPO-Geneva.

Some Pictures on the next page...
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UPR SENEGAL

CRC France

Visitors in Geneva

Visitors in Geneva

Yolanda, Marta Iris, Winifred, Hedwig

Zelna, Winifred, Yolanda

Flyer and Panelists Side Event Myanmar

Reading the Oral Statement March 8-HRC

Side event on Climate Change - GeCCco

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