



# THE JOURNEY OF DBI

2015 – 2018

# Index

Presentation: Fr. Fabio Attard .....	5
Mission Statement .....	7
DBI Style of Work .....	8
Strategic Plan 2015 – 2017 .....	9
Strategic Plan 2018 – 2020 .....	10
Nostre Attività .....	12
Priority Migration and Refugees .....	14
Priority poverty and Social Inclusion .....	16
Priority Transition Education to Employment .....	18
Highlight Initiatives .....	20
DBI Prestige Leaflet .....	22
Church Relations .....	23
Policy Papers .....	24
Remarkable process European Youth Forum .....	26

# Presentation Fr. Fabio Attard

—[ President ]—



Pendiente texto – Foto de carné al lado del título y esta para completar la página. Si hiciera falta otra foto con Fabio en momento institucional tengo más. Gendis eos et eum es mosanih iciandit faciet optati adit imenis eatatquat voluptaturia consequi arum vel ipienda in ratem et, susande lliciam eum fugia saniatestis apit eate vella dis prepele sseque nos sit harciis expliam re prae con pro tempe lacia pre nossit, officiur? Quis magnimintur autem rem voluptatem vendem nobis quatist isimos quo omnihil lection reiunto rporem il maio offic tem qui doluptatemo eum elicipit et, quiature pore pera volum idemolorit, que nimi, simaiossite eatestion cuptassit aut facescias maio. Et int aligendus ratis aut ut exeria niendis accum im verspit es sundus vellowit et harunt moditas min recaenimagnimaio ea cone et reptaurum vid quae pos ati ducid eliquamet ut dolorem faces dolor sit, quo qui dis ma quam con rem ium doluptas dem utempos aci omnimpo rrovid que endam quis sequos eiur, officia volluptatem facestrum ium deliquia nost erum rem fugitiantem fuga. Nam ut qui blaborerrum atinull accaboreped mossume perum et acitas is ressenihicab iderit molo iuntinciis dipsape dolum ius vellani minctota quas doluptius demodio rempore stotatur as sed ut aliquo omniet opta sunt, quatur aliqui con pedisto beatus.

Nam harum quam, id maxim qui volenimus recte quatur, consequid maxime se officiis rene omnimustinim alicil eatuareped consequid maxime se officiis rene omnimustinim alicil eatuareped quibustrum ad ut occum, simincimodis dolore perrum volupta tiundam resed quae. Ut que vellendanis qui tessi cum quuntion pa nonsequae. Et et ius debitum sitis et dolecusam fugitae re

# Mission Statement



## MISSION:

DBI represents the Salesians of Don Bosco in the European platforms and institutions:

- through a dedicated Salesian presence at EU-level;
- as a channel of communication between the EU institutions formulating policies in the fields of Education, Culture and Youth, and Salesian entities, networks and NGOs;
- promoting and supporting national and trans-national Salesian projects and initiatives that engage with the various international platforms and institutions;

## VISION:

- visible presence of the Salesian charism in international fora, giving voice to Salesian values,
- quality service to Salesian relatives to facilitate an understanding of the international networks and European institutions;
- point of reference for all Salesian Provinces and organisations working with international organizations and EU institutions.





## DBI Style of Work

### 1 Priorities of DBI are chosen according to 2 priorities:

- Expertise of Salesians in the field.
- Relevant in the current political context.

### 2 DBI tries to involve the Provinces and Salesian NGOs when:

- We offer a concrete opportunity: event, document or contact that is useful to the daily work of the Salesian entity.
- We contact the Province using always the INSTITUTIONAL channels: Provincial and any other relevant stakeholders (via Youth Ministry Councillor).
- We support the participants when reaching Brussels.
- We try to give voice both to the professionals and young people coming from the Salesian LOCAL reality.

### 3 DBI takes part in alliances and institutional meetings according to these priorities with the aim of:

- Sharing Salesian Best Practices on that topic.
- Knowing the field of each topic so to identify concrete opportunities for Salesians.



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-2017

Our Strategic Plan from 2015 to 2017 consisted on three thematic priorities:

1 School to Work Transition.

2 Poverty and Social Inclusion.

3 Migration and Refugees.



Develop through three action lines:

- 1 Identify the strengths and potentialities of SDB works in Europe (and cooperate with them).
- 2 Identify the most interesting places to advocate for each priority (and offer them to our Salesian realities).
- 3 Coordinate participation of Salesian intervention in EU institution.

In addition, there was a transversal priority of institutional reinforcement, to adapt Don Bosco International to the new needs of the Salesian Congregation.

- Set up channels of communication that bridge the gap between local SDB realities and EU
- Develop joint projects or activities of advocacy together with other Salesian networks (DBYN, DBN, New York, SF)
- Promote internal reflection within Working Groups and set up policy papers



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2020

We have kept the same priorities than in 2015 – 2017:

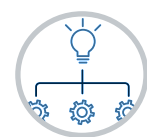
- 1 Migrations and Refugees.
- 2 Poverty and Social Inclusion.
- 3 Transition Education to Employment.

But we have enriched approach with three different frameworks:

- 1 **Convention on the Rights of the Child:** The Convention changed the way children are viewed and treated, as human beings with a distinct set of rights. Within the Salesian tradition, there is a clear commitment to see children and youth as subjects rights therefore, many Salesian Institutions are using this human rights based approach
- 2 **Giving Voice to the Voiceless:** A rights-based approach to youth policies means: Empower young people to claim, exercise and defend their rights and fulfill their responsibilities through their active participation in society.
- 3 **Agenda 2030 – Sustainable Development Goals:** Over the next fifteen years, with these new Goals that universally apply to all, countries will mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind.



We have defined much better the areas and fields of works that:



## NETWORKING

- Find spaces within the EU for the participation of Salesians.
- Represent institutionally and permanently Salesians of don Bosco in European Platforms (i.e. EuroChild, SIRIUS).



## ADVOCACY

- Promote a unique/agreed strategy to express the Salesian opinion in the EU institutions defined by Youth Ministry Department.
- Represent Salesian Congregation in the platforms and advocacy spaces aligned with DBI thematic priorities.



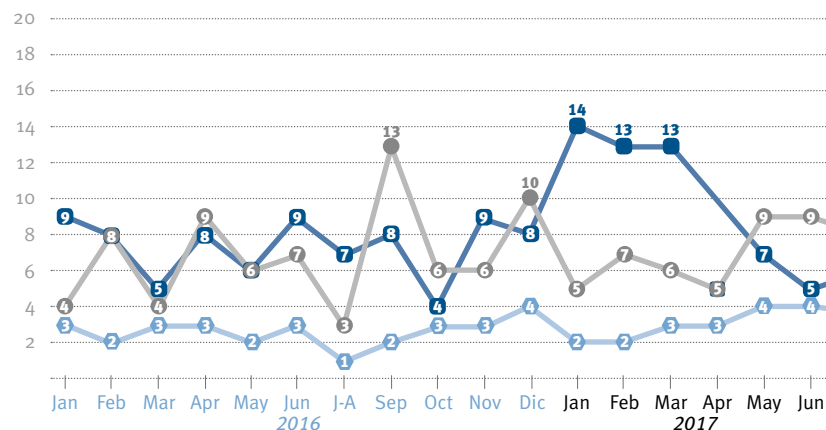
## CAPACITY - BUILDING

- Develop Salesian representation (how to raise our voice and presence in working groups) and ensure a follow up in the Provinces.
- Host and accompany all the speakers chosen by the Youth Ministry Department, to intervene on behalf of Salesians.



# Nostre Attività

Participation in events, Expert Groups, European Support to Salesian NGOs Coordination with other Salesian networks.



## EVENTS:

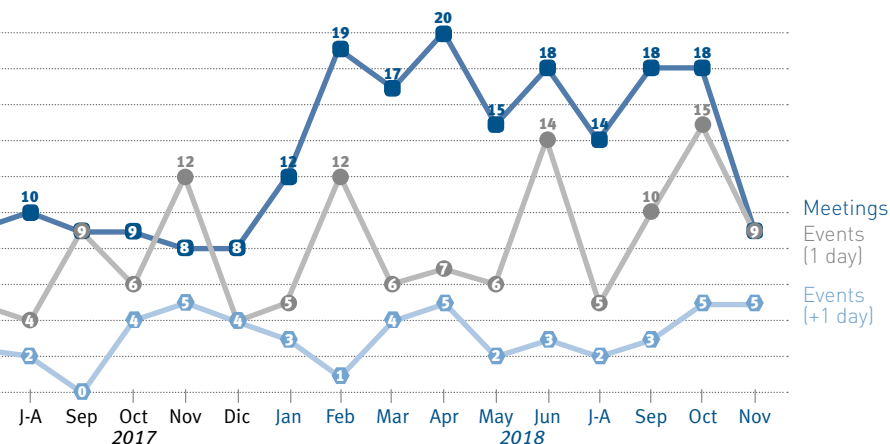
Participation in events in Brussels and other European cities is fundamental in order to make institutional contacts with several stakeholders that are of interest to Salesian Province or General Directorate.



## EXPERT GROUPS:

Don Bosco International wants to change the causes that exclude young people from society, therefore it is crucial to develop the advocacy messages through deep reflection based on the expertise of Salesian practitioners, coming from varied backgrounds.

## DBI IN NUMBERS (2016-2018)



## EUROPEAN SUPPORT TO SALESIAN NGOS:

There are several ways to provide this support: organizing visits to European Institutions, support in meeting decision-makers, co-hosting events in Brussels or facilitating participation in European Institution events.



## COORDINATION WITH OTHER SALESIAN NETWORKS:

There are several ways to provide this support: organizing visits to European Institutions, support in meeting decision-makers, co-hosting events in Brussels or facilitating participation in European Institution events.

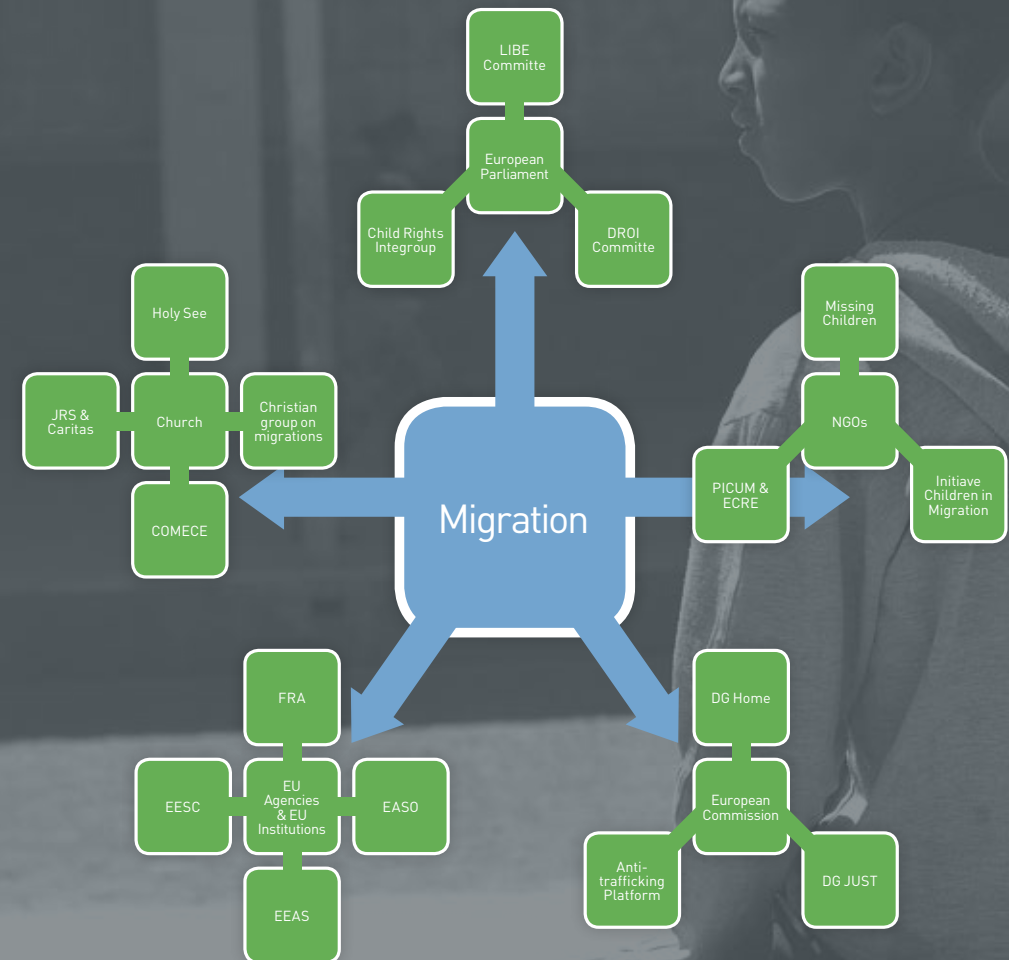
# Priority Migration and Refugees



As Don Bosco International, we intend to promote policies that guarantee dignified reception of migrants and refugees arriving in Europe. In addition, we accompany them in their search of a better life, through programmes focused on care, education and inclusion.

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Lost in Migration Conferences (with workshop on anti-trafficking actions).
- Intervention in European Commission (DG HOME and DG JUST) and European Parliament.
- Training Courses on Refugees Rights with Don Bosco Youth Net.
- Active role in Fundamental Rights Platform (FRA).





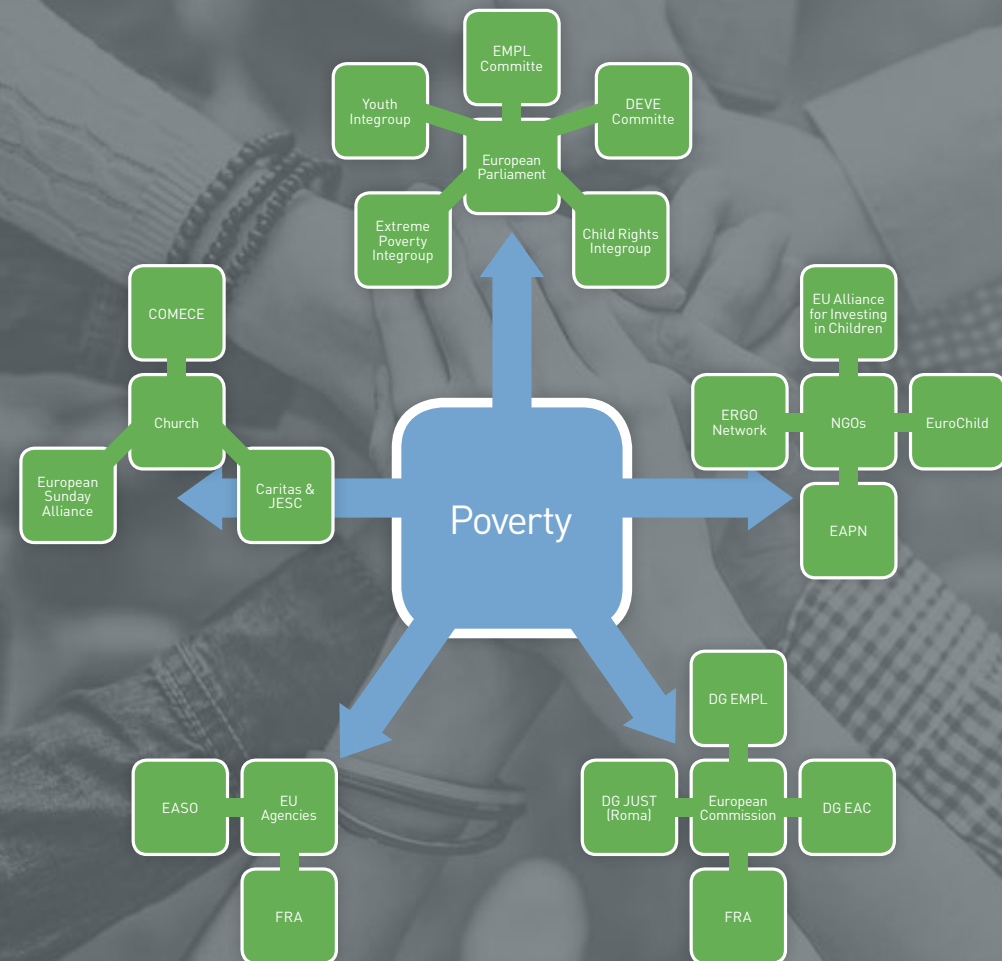
# Priority poverty and Social Inclusion



As Don Bosco International, we are particularly interested in the inclusion of young people, through social and educational programmes, giving priority to those who find themselves in more difficult situations. We work for the implementation of effective policies and investment in social protection policies for children and youth.

## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Regular participation in Annual Convention for Inclusive Growth (twice with speakers, from Italy and Spain).
- Intervention on European Parliament on EU projects.
- Support and coordination with Social Services strategy of the Salesian Congregation.



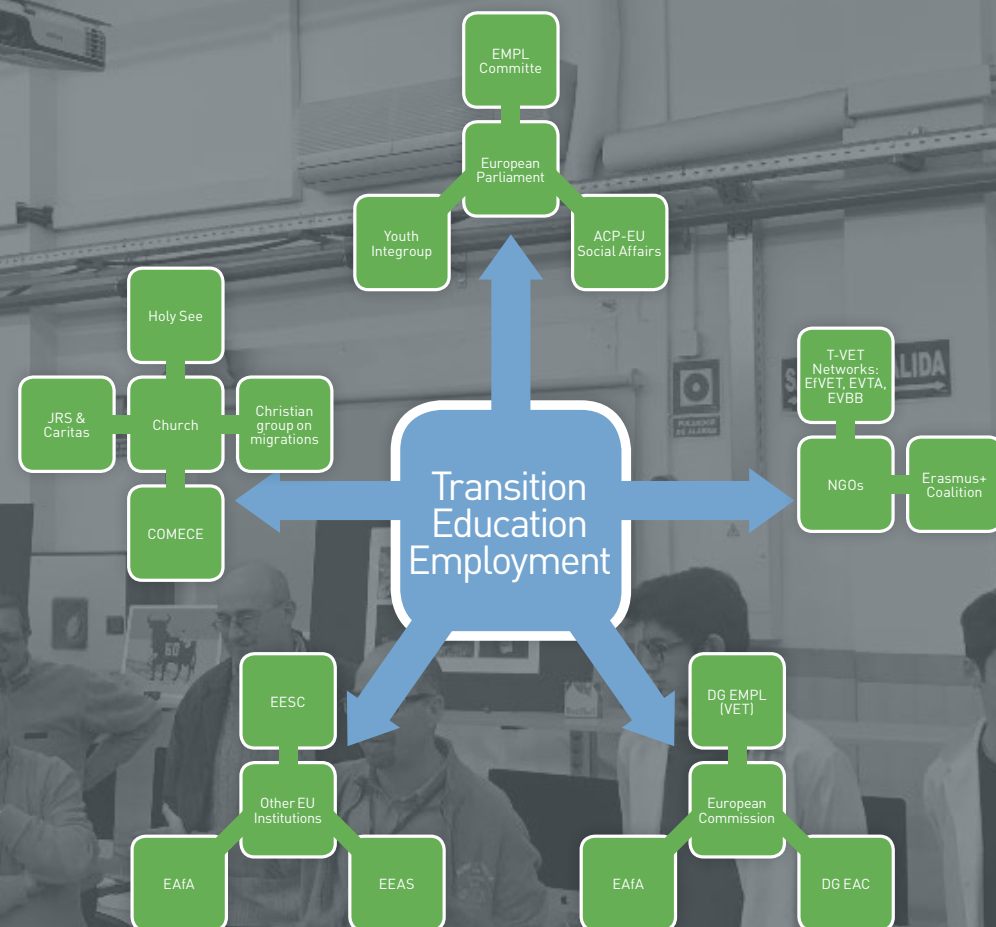
# Priority Transition Education to Employment

Based upon the Salesian expertise on technical education and Oratorio tradition, we focus on the promotion of vocational training and non-formal education in order to increase the employability of young people. We believe in forging close links with businesses to promote apprenticeships, internships and quality jobs for young people.



## HIGHLIGHTS:

- Active role in European Vocational and Skills week and European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA) (several interventions in European Commission events).
- Joint initiatives with private sector (Pact for Youth and Apprentices in Motion).
- Support to the T-VET Coordinators and Project Manager Working Groups of the Salesian Congregation.
- Meaningful contribution to the Multiannual Financial Framework via Erasmus+ (interventions in the European Parliament).



# Highlight Initiatives



## DON BOSCO FEAST

Since 2017, the institutional feast of Don Bosco has been one of the milestones of Don Bosco International activities in Brussels. With the presence of one member of General Council: Fr. Fabio Attard in 2017, Fr. Stefano Martoglio in 2018 and Fr. Tadeusz Rozmus expected for 2019, commemorating our founder gives us the chance to meet with high level representatives of EU institutions and Church representatives in Brussels.



## DOCUMENTARY MISIONES SALESIANAS

Upon a proposal of Misiones Salesianas (Madrid), in 2017 and 2018, we have organised institutional high level tours with Delegations of Salesians. In 2017, from Colombia with 2 young beneficiaries of our project and in 2018 from Sierra Leone, which will be repeated in 2019 due to high demand of EU institutions.

Reaching to High Level officials like High Representative Mogherini, projections in EU Parliament sessions, or working meetings with European Commissions desk officers have supported the work of the Salesians in the spot.

2017



ALTO EL FUEGO (COLOMBIA)

2018



LOVE



# DBI Prestige Leaflet

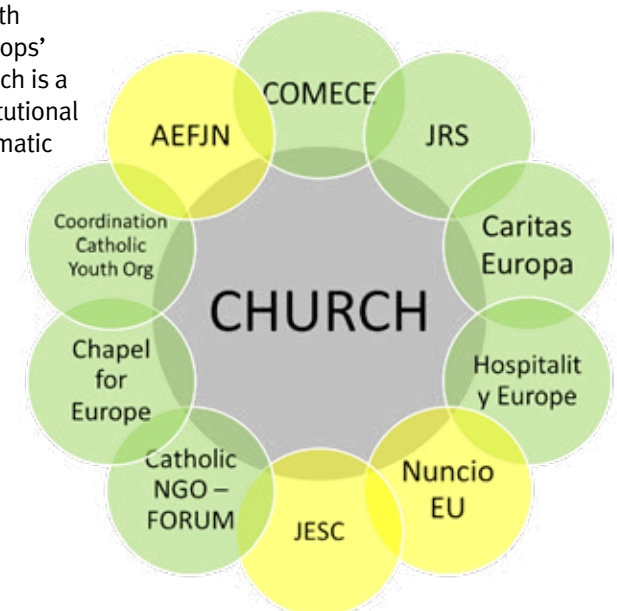
Don Bosco International edited in 2017 an institutional leaflet, in order to briefly explain the Salesian Congregation, to those meeting us for the first time. Using a very attractive design, this small folder gathers in 7 leaflets, 6 on the different pastoral sectors of the Congregation and 1 containing the map of the Salesian presence worldwide we have achieved a high level of visibility and a very easy way to share the educational work of Don Bosco Movement.



## Church Relations

Don Bosco International, as EU office of the Salesians is one of the catholic organisations, present in Brussels. We tend to work in partnership with many other Catholic Inspired NGOs and hand in hand with the Commission of EU Bishops' Conferences (COMECE) which is a great supporter of our institutional action. As well in the diplomatic

sphere we are in regular contact with the Apostolic Nuncio to the European Union and increasingly with the Holy See Dicasteries in several of our priorities (migration, youth and social inclusion).





# Policy Papers

## ADVOCACY SALESIAN PERSPECTIVE & CHILD AND YOUTH PARTICIPATION



Advocacy from a Salesian perspective: in this paper we have prepared some basic guidelines to provide an input in line with Don Bosco's charisma and the great experience built up in years, around the world, through the Preventive System,



focusing in changing the causes underlying the problem and not only mitigating the consequences of discriminatory policies. In this paper we gather the tradition, principles of action and core values of Salesian advocacy.

## CHILD AND YOUTH PARTICIPATION

The aim of this policy document is to gather the many good practices that different Salesian organizations are developing to promote children and youth participation worldwide, by providing the rationale and fostering new orientations and horizons that can increase the access of young people to democracy and active citizenship.



## POVERTY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION & SALESIAN APPROACH TO ACCOMPANIED MINORS

Approach to Unaccompanied Minors: Some of the major perils jeopardising the lives of young people in Don Bosco's time were the same many youths are facing today like migration. In this paper we present our Salesian mind-set in to our work with unaccompanied minors, regardless of whether they are refugees or migrants coming from difficult backgrounds. To help create uniformity of practice we briefly explain some fundamental principles of our work:



Poverty and Social Inclusion: As Salesians of Don Bosco and the whole Salesian Family, we are active in the fight against poverty, understood in the broader sense which goes beyond the mere economic meaning, and includes many other aspects. In this paper we share the type of work we do (defining broadly

or type of projects), how we do it (methodological general principles) in order to present that from practice in the field we advocate for the rights people facing poverty, especially children and youth.

# Remarkable process European Youth Forum

Joint Advocacy with DBYN MFF Coordination, HR Advocacy meeting, Catholic Inspired NGO Forum & Catholic Youth NGOs

## EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM – JOINT ADVOCACY WITH DBYN

1. When being member of Spanish Youth Council. We accessed several fields of action in YFJ. Lots of contacts
2. In 2015, we advocated for HR and Migration Group both from DBYN (Rafa) and CJE, and other 3 NYC.
3. We provided a lot of expertise from DBYN members to keep this group vibrant. Many inputs from several MOs
4. When being member of Spanish Youth Council. We accessed several fields of action in YFJ. Lots of contacts
5. In 2015, we advocated for HR and Migration Group both from DBYN (Rafa) and CJE, and other 3 NYC.
6. We provided a lot of expertise from DBYN members to keep this group vibrant. Many inputs from several Mos



## ERASMUS AND MFF (EU BUDGET) COORDINATION

1. YFJ and LLL Platform started a campaign Erasmusx10 to advocate for bigger investment in Erasmus+
2. Together DBYN and DBI decided who should be present: as the coalition is also for schools and T-VET, DBI represents
3. DBI is member since October 2017 of this coalition and therefore has taken part in many hearing and debates about new Erasmus proposal
4. Whenever there is something on Youth Chapter at EU institutions, DBYN is invited both to contribute/reflect and also to take part if possible.
5. Through Youth Integroup DBI presented DB approach to T-VET mobility but also in European Solidarity Corps
6. Several requests from MEPs to inputs on many new programmes: Rights & Values, ESC, Erasmus, ESF+, AMIF / AMF...





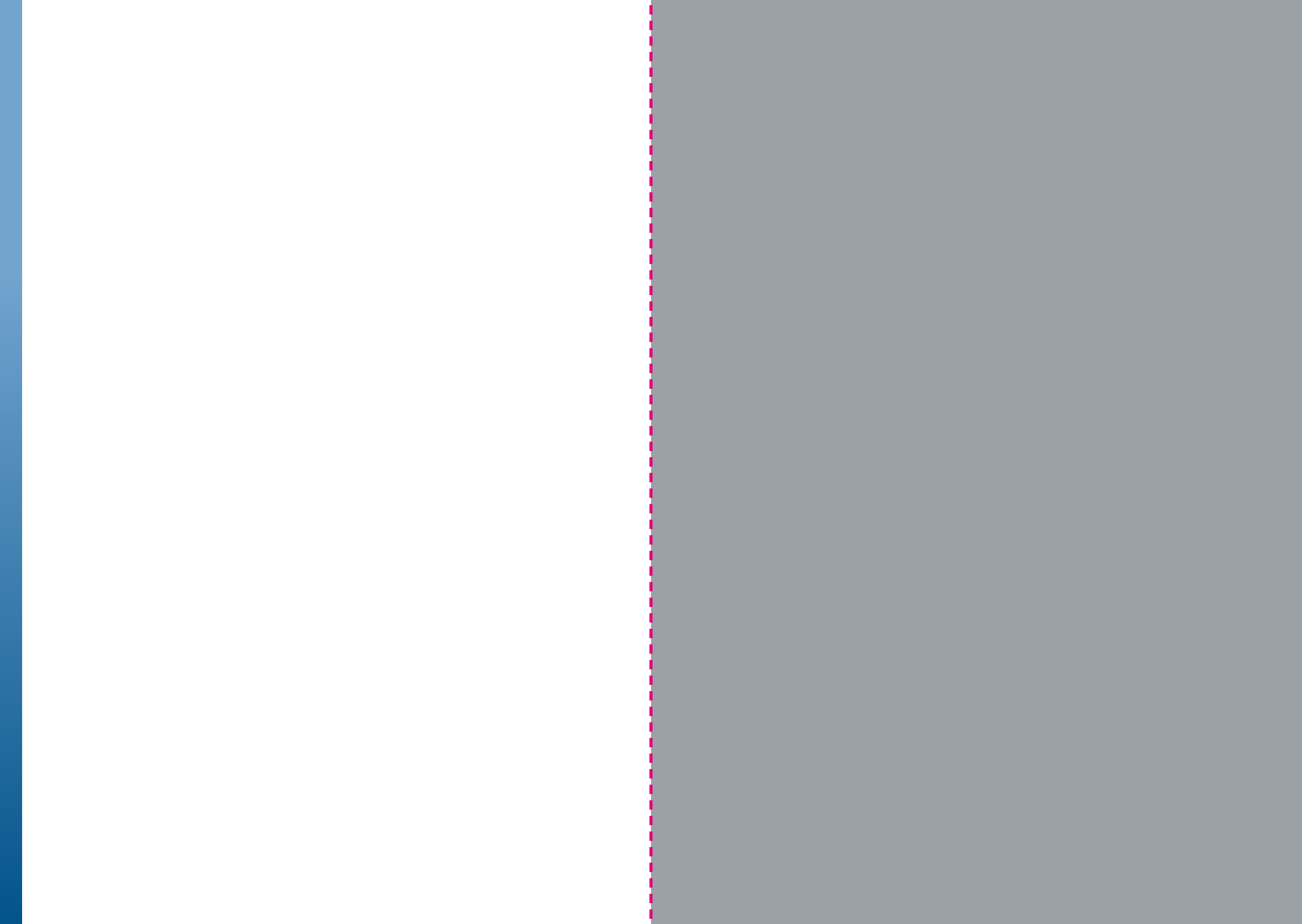
## HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY MEETING

1. Started in 2014 after a meeting within DBYN seminar in Rome
2. DBN took the lead of it, and gathered all its members once a year together with DBYN (1-2 representatives), FMAs, Cooperators, Past Pupils...
3. In 2016 DBI and DBN started preparing together this event
4. In 2016 DBI establish an Expert Group on Participation to coordinate better advocacy and make policy documents
5. In 2017, this group proposed the agenda of the meeting and DBI brought FRA representative for the training part. Some policy documents were drafted. More members/ experts from DBI came
6. In 2018, we repeated the process with bigger success and with Holy See representative
7. In 2019, we are planning visit to Holy See Dicasteries and 2 day meeting in February 2019 (10-11)

## CATHOLIC INSPIRED NGO FORUM

1. In February 2017 we were invited to a breakfast of Catholic inspired NGOs in COMECE to Foster coordination.
2. In December 2017 took place the third meeting in Rome, despite the invitation nor DBN or DBYN could participate.
3. After the meeting DBI together with MIJARC advocated for having a 7th thematic group on Youth (and we succeeded) (Why? SYNOD ON YOUTH)
4. Following the Rome meeting we started to foster a coordination between international Catholic Youth NGOs: first in DB Feast and second in the eve of YFJ COMEM
5. Currently there is an advocacy cooperation with MFF advocacy and also with the thematic group on Youth
6. Next Forum is in December 2019









**DBI**  
DON BOSCO  
INTERNATIONAL

Clos André Rappe, 8 B • 1200 Brussels  
+32 473 500 529 • +32 494 549 698

**[dbi@sdb.org](mailto:dbi@sdb.org)**  
**[www.donboscointernational.eu](http://www.donboscointernational.eu)**