Update from the Programme Action Leader

“One of the great liabilities of history is that all too many people fail to remain awake through great periods of social change. Every society has its protectors of status quo and its fraternities of the indifferent who are notorious for sleeping through revolutions. Today, our very survival depends on our ability to stay wake, to adjust to new ideas, to remain vigilant and to face the challenge of change.” – Martin Luther King, Jr.
concepts in today’s world. However, Martin Luther King, Jr., calls us to do just that. Jesus also called us to stay awake and continue to adjust to the challenge of change. Nano consistently adapted her ministry by listening to the cries of those made poor and marginalized in society. IPA is in the midst of many changes. We are all called to adjust to new ideas and continue to listen to the cries of those most vulnerable in the world, including our planet.

The position of Programme Action Leader is new to IPA as part of the re-structuring to bring IPA into the future. I have been blessed with the privilege of being the first person in this position. As a Dubuque Presentation Sister, I feel incredibly honored to part in this transformation process. This role serves to be the main communicator between Presentation People and the United Nations, more specifically with our IPA NGO Representative, Despoina Afroditi Milaki.

As Justice Contacts, you have already received a few emails from me and I encourage an increase in communication from you as Justice Contacts to myself as Programme Action Leader. As there are many opportunities and events happening at the United Nations, especially around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Despoina and myself only know of the actions of IPA through your input and communication. Please send us photos, data, statistics, and/or information on any projects, protests, rallies, or ministries you or your community are working on. We would love to hear from you!

The IPA Update will be sent out at the beginning of the month with updates from the grassroots, the Programme Action Leader, our NGO Rep. Despoina, the Spirituality and Charism Committee of Terry Abraham, Dorothy Scesny, and Maria Lazzaro, and updates from the Executive Director Ann Marie Quinn. If you have any information or upcoming event, please let me know and I will include it in the Update.

Please follow us on Facebook @InternationalPresenationAssociation and on Twitter @IPA_UN.

Thank you for all your do!

Mary Therese Krueger, PBVM

Update from the UN

2020 is a crucial year for the accelerated realization of inclusive societies and reducing inequalities everywhere for people of all ages. The United Nations (UN) Commission for Social Development (CSOD) is working to strengthen the UN’s role in promoting social justice and reducing poverty and inequality. The UN Commission for Social Development 75th Session will be held in February 2020 and will focus on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a particular emphasis on social inclusion and poverty reduction.

will, amongst other work, be engaged, with the fifty-eighth session of the **UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD58)**, taking place from February 10-19, 2020, at the UN Headquarters in New York.

The Commission is the advisory body responsible for the social development pillar of global development. The priority theme of the session is “Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness”.

In spring 2019, the Grass Roots Task Force, a subcommittee of the NGO Committee on Social Development in which the IPA is a member, conducted a survey on “Lived Experiences of Inequality”. Many of you submitted data to Sister Elsa. I’m following on and actively engaging in the Grass Roots Task Force subcommittee as the new IPA NGO Representative. In this framework,

The **Grass Roots Task Force subcommittee** sponsors a **side-event** during the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD58), with the theme “The links between inequalities, inadequate housing, and homelessness”. The side-event, taking place on February 11, 2020 at the UN Headquarters, is also co-organized by the Permanent Mission of Madagascar and the NGO Committee on Social Development. I feel privileged to be asked by the Grass Roots Task Force subcommittee to be among the panel of speakers and present the data of the 2019 survey in relation to homelessness and inadequate housing. (See relevant information, material and flyer in IPA website at [https://internationalpresentationassociation.org](https://internationalpresentationassociation.org)). My thanks to those of you who submitted grassroots data in relation to homelessness. **Read more here**

*Dr. Despoina Afroditi Milaki*

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Puspha Lalitha, PBVM; Denise Boyle, PBVM; Shanti Sagayam, PBVM; Sheila Kinsey, PBVM; and Maureen O'Connell, PBVM
Sisters Lalitha and Sagayam from India and Maureen from Ireland were among forty-two participants from 37 countries attending the JPIC Promoters Formation Workshop on *New Wine and a Call to Holiness* in Rome, while there was opportunity for others to join online. The aim was to create a spiritual environment in which to help participants gain a deeper understanding of their role as JPIC Promoters, to learn about possible networking opportunities and strategies to animate others.

The programme, organised by the JPIC Commission of UISG (Union of International Superiors General), was facilitated by Sr Sheila Kinsey, FCJM and Executive Co-Secretary of the Commission. It was about “a new thrust towards holiness…which is unthinkable without an impulse of renewed passion for the gospel at the service of the Kingdom.” (New Wine in New Wineskins, 10).

*JPIC was described* as ‘conscious prayer and action to transform the world in the spirit of the Gospel through lives of justice, peace and care for the integrity of creation’. Our *Spirituality* = Scripture/CST/Congregational Charism and Documents/ Laudato Si/ Amazon Synod . . .

While there, we gradually came to realise that the workshop was aimed primarily at congregations which had only recently appointed JPIC promoters in their congregations. As Presentations, who have been immersed in the work of justice and peace and integrity of creation for many years, we were glad to be able to share our experiences, how we are organised at local, national and international levels and to hear about the work of other congregations.

Participants challenged some of the archaic language they were hearing in the first session e.g. the use of the word ‘charity’ in a statement after Vatican 11 where Paul VI described the mission of the newly appointed Pontifical Commission for Justice and Peace as “*none other than that of keeping the eyes of the Church open, its heart sensitive and its hands prepared for the work of charity which it is called upon to realize in the world...*”.  [Read more here](https://mailchi.mp/49c334c71be1/february-ipa-update?e=eeefbd3dde)

*Sisters Lalitha, Sagayam and Maureen*

### Upcoming Dates for IPA

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<td>International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation</td>
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<td>10-19 Feb</td>
<td>UN Commission for Social Development</td>
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<td>11 Feb</td>
<td>International Day of Women and Girls in Science</td>
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<td>11 Feb</td>
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<td>11 Feb</td>
<td>UN Side Event, &quot;The Hidden Faces of Family Homelessness from the Perspective of Women and Children/Girls&quot;</td>
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<td>UN Civil Society Forum</td>
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<td>UN Parallel Event, &quot;Youth Homelessness: Interrogating Policy Gaps and Legislative Vacuum&quot;</td>
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