



25/05/2022

JIK-Newsletter May 2022

Dear members and donors, dear people interested in our association activities,

Overview:

1. **New website now also in English incl. new newsletter.**
2. **The Ukraine war and the global consequences**
3. **JIK engagement for Ukraine aid internationally and in our region**
4. **Current situation in Israel-Palestine**
5. **New information about the Tent of Nations (ToN) and Daoud Nassar**
6. **Istanbul Don Bosco - report and thanks from Rita Baus for JIK funding of 5 T €.**
7. **New information about our fundraising activities**
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1. New website now also in English including new newsletter

Meanwhile our website (including newsletter) can be read completely in German and English. The English newsletter is now also sent by e-mail to our many friends and partners abroad, who, due to a lack of German language skills, were not able to understand the regularly updated information on our website. This means that all our partners at home and abroad are always on the same level of information.

2. The Ukraine war and the global consequences

Although the threat of Russian general mobilization on May 9, new large-scale offensives, and an expansion of the war to other countries have failed to materialize, the war continues from the Russian side after the fall of Mariupol with undiminished harshness as well as brutal rocket and bomb terror even against the civilian population, and could continue for years. Many medium- and long-term global consequences are not yet foreseeable. Ships with over 25 million tons of Ukrainian grain are in the port of Odessa and are prevented from leaving by Russia. In addition, Russia has imposed an export ban on Russian grain. Unfortunately, we citizens can only look on helplessly and try to help Ukraine and the refugees who have fled to us, but also to the millions of people in Africa who are now threatened by starvation (due to missing grain deliveries from Ukraine and Russia), as far as we can do so (see below donation campaigns). JIK tries, despite all uncertainties, to expand the fundraising activities and to continue the other activities of the association in the vague hope that an imminent severe global crisis will not materialize and that there will be a temporary humanitarian ceasefire in Ukraine at least before the end of this year.

3. JIK commitment to Ukraine aid internationally and in our region.

We have already donated 5 T € via Caritas International and 2 T € via Caritas Bonn for the Ukraine aid. We would like to increase these amounts considerably with your help. The association Cassiopeia e.V., which is supported by us, has started 2 new projects (support of aid shipments to the Ukraine as well as child care for refugees in Bonn). We are also trying to start new integration projects of after-school care for young Ukrainian refugees at schools or institutions, e.g. Caritas in our region. We have tried to get 50 T € from "Aktion Mensch" from the funding pot "Special grant Ukraine", but unfortunately we were too late, because already on 17.5. funding applications for 60 Mio, so that no further applications were accepted by "Aktion Mensch". A very sad example especially for the very limited personnel capacities of our association, which, with the help of even more committed volunteers, could have received could also receive such funding for its new projects.

In addition, it is not uncommon for the application, evaluation, accounting and final report to be more time-consuming than the preparation and implementation of these projects. **We are therefore not only happy about monetary donations, but also if you donate your free time to us through committed cooperation with us. As the example of "Aktion Mensch" shows, time really is often a lot of money.**

4. Current situation in Israel-Palestine

Recently, we have also received a lot of very disturbing news from Israel-Palestine:

1. During Ramadan and the Passover festival around Easter, there were numerous violent clashes between Muslims and Jews on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, with 250 Palestinians injured.
2. 16 people have died in several attacks on Israelis since late March. The Israeli military responded with an anti-terror operation, killing 32 people there.
3. At the end of Ramadan, there was renewed rocket fire from Gaza and a corresponding military action by Israel. However, there was no further escalation as in 2021.
4. In mid-May, the Israeli government came under considerable pressure to justify its action because of the police action during the funeral of journalist Shirin Abu Akleh. Police officers had attacked the funeral procession and beaten the pallbearers so severely that the coffin almost fell to the ground. Police leaders justified the operation by saying that the rioters had taken control of the coffin and thrown stones and plastic bottles. High-ranking church officials and the Catholic St. Joseph Hospital in the occupied East Jerusalem Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, where the funeral procession began, strongly rejected this account. In a media conference, the highest representative of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land accused the authorities of serious media conference of serious violations of the law. He said that the disproportionate use of force was disrespect for the Church, a health facility and the memory of the deceased, said Latin Patriarch Pierbattista Pizzaballa.
5. The Israeli government coalition with the Arab Ra'am party has lost its majority and may soon be on the verge of collapse, as the Ra'am party has temporarily suspended its further cooperation, partly because of confrontations between Israeli security forces and Palestinians. Therefore, a motion to dissolve parliament with new elections could gain a majority.
6. According to the Israeli human rights organization Peace Now, Israel is continuing to expand settlements in the occupied West Bank. The Planning Committee of the Israeli Civil Administration of the Palestinian Territory gave final approval to the construction of 2791 housing units. For 1636 additional housing units, the planning committee issued a preliminary permit. Not only is the U.S. opposed to all settlement construction in Palestine, but so is the EU, with 15 European countries (including Germany) calling on Israel to "reverse" its decision to build nearly 4,500 housing units for Israeli settlers in the West Bank. These were "another obstacle to a two-state solution" and "clearly constitute a violation of international law," they declared.

Unfortunately, such events keep repeating themselves, with settlement construction and the associated gradual reduction of Palestinian territory being the main obstacle to peace.

5. New information about Tent of Nations (ToN) and Daoud Nassar



Daoud Nassar and his motto:



"We refuse to be enemies"

Against this background, it is not surprising that the court date for the re-registration of the ToN has been postponed again until probably August.

At a Zoom conference on 20.5. with Daoud and representatives of the many German support groups it was decided to draw attention to the untenable situation on the ToN by nationwide actions until this date. Daoud reported that unfortunately there were again attacks on the ToN with further destruction. Nevertheless, the number of international visitors has increased greatly and will reach well over a thousand by the end of May this year, including 300 from Taizé.

Thanks to the increase in volunteers on the ToN, many vines and trees have been planted and reconstruction work has continued. Daoud would like to start again from the summer with the previous summer camps for young people and the numerous work camps. Both Christian churches are considering making the ToN a Christian meeting place, especially for Germans, by holding regular church services in order to enhance its importance also for our federal government.

We would like to encourage young people from Germany and abroad to work there as volunteers for a few weeks or longer and thus also to show international presence - the best protection against further attacks on the ToN. JIK will support these volunteers e.g. by paying the flight costs.

We hope that Daoud will be able to come back to Germany in September 22 and then also to us. This visit to Germany would certainly give a great boost to the many and growing circles of supporters.

6. Istanbul Don Bosco: Report + thanks from Rita Baus for JIK funding (5 T €)



Here is a very clear report from Rita Baus (with 2 photos) about her Don Bosco project in Istanbul (see also under No. 8 the two events 9/10/09, 19:30: Beethoven moves - Don Bosco: Street children Colombia - Dance & Performance with young people from Medellín, Bonn and the Rhein-Sieg-Kreis as well as the Beethoven Orchestra Bonn). JIK will definitely continue to support these projects.

Dear Mr. Schröder

I returned from Istanbul late last night, we had to postpone the trip twice because of the pandemic. My first mail today is to you, to say thank you that through your donation of 5 T € we can support Culture without Borders: M.O.V.E Istanbul Part 1 could implement. Every day, up to 80 young people were in the Don Bosco facility to make music with the violinist and conductor Anna-Sophie Brünig, among others. For a first small concert we could win 4 musicians of the opera Istanbul, who sang and made music with the young people.

About 98% of the young people had no experience whatsoever with this form of music, they had neither sung nor played music regularly under guidance.

It is impressive how much they could learn in the 4 workshop days. We want to go to Istanbul again in July with 2 musicians from Germany in order to achieve sustainability on site. We also want to instruct the teachers of the Don Bosco Leasing Center so that they can make music with the young people on a regular basis. In the meantime, there are some very good studies that prove the positive effect music has on traumatized people. We were able to experience this impressively ourselves on site.

If you can spare some money from your donors, we would be very, very grateful if you could make another contribution to this project. So we could buy some instruments and pay some musicians of the Istanbul Opera (they earn 350 € per month as professional musicians, we were shocked) in July. They earn so little that we would like to pay them adequately, as they also travel up to 1.5 hours from their home to the Don Bosco facility. If we had a little more money, we would try to give some talented youngsters some musical encouragement.

Kind regards Rita Baus

7. New information about our fundraising activities

Due to current events, we will once again expand our fundraising activities with your help, especially for Caritas International: Ukraine and Africa, Caritas Bonn: Ukraine-Hilfe, Don Bosco (Rita Baus), the Tent of Nations (ToN), Open Doors Deutschland e.V., etc. Due to the worldwide crisis situations, my wife and I have donated 95 T € for various purposes since the beginning of 2020 (not only for JIK projects), also in the (hopefully justified) hope to find as many imitators as possible.

Here again our bank details:
JugendInterKult e.V., Volksbank Köln-Bonn; BIC: GENODE33BRS; IBAN: DE09 3806 0186 0704 8870 (If you provide your address, you will receive a donation receipt for donations of 100 € or more. Donations up to 300 € will be recognized by the tax office without a donation receipt). If you would like to donate for a specific fundraising campaign or project, please indicate this in the purpose of use (e.g. ToN, Africa, Ukraine Bonn etc.).

With the help of your donations, many thousands of children and their families, as well as Christian institutions (monasteries, schools, etc. in Palestine, among other places) and persecuted Christians worldwide could and can be helped through food and medical aid as well as care in all areas of life, especially in disadvantaged countries that have fallen into particularly great need due to the Corona pandemic and wars. Once again, we would like to thank all donors for their generous support of our projects! Hopefully you will continue to support our work as benevolently as you have in the past.

Stay healthy, confident and donate joyfully!!!

Very dear greetings
Your Gregor (+49-163-6335535, WhatsApp)

8. Calendar of events 22 (update)

Calendar of events:

- 03.06.22, 19:00: Reading with ZDF correspondent N. Albrecht "My Israel and I", Breitestr. 70, Bonn (10 €).
- 10.06.22, 10:30: EdK Action Day - 2 Sculptures for Peace, Beit-Jala-Platz, Bergisch-Gladbach
- 18.06.22, 11:30: **Youth exchange from Bethlehem with many workshops and great events/leisure activities until 25.06.22 (free for participants, members and host families)**
- 18.06.22, 20:00: Circus Roncalli, Rheinpark (Robert-Lehr-Ufer) Düsseldorf (20 €)
- 19.06.22, 18:00: GOP-Theater Bonn (Show WunderBar), Karl-Carstens-Platz 1, Bonn (30 €)
- 20.06.22, 15:00: Visit of the University of applied sciences Bonn Rhein-Sieg with reception by president Prof. Ihle
- 20.06.22, 17:00: Reception by Mayor Prof. Leittersdorf at the Sankt Augustin City Hall
- 21.06.22, 16:00: English-language guided tour of the House of History (90 minutes)
- 22.06.22, 14:00: Visit to Phantasialand in Brühl (30 €)
- 23.06.22, 15:30: English-language guided tour of Cologne Cathedral (60 minutes)
- 24.06.22, 10:30: Departure from Königswinter for the 2-hour boat trip on the Rhine, lunch at Hotel Maritim, ride with the rack railroad to Drachenfels (total price: 35 €)
- 24.06.22, 20:00: Big Farewell-Party at Laredo in Siegburg (Wahnbachstr. 23) with all participants, host families etc.
- 25.06.22, 09:00: Departure from Budapest Str./Friedensplatz for the 2-hour city tour (15 €)
- 25.06.22, 13:00: International summer party of Don Bosco, Sträßchensweg 3, Bonn
- 9/10.09., 19:30: Beethoven moves - Don Bosco: Street children Colombia: Dance & Performance with young people from Medellín, Bonn and the Rhein-Sieg-Kreis as well as the Beethoven Orchestra Bonn (15 €)
- 11.09.22: Daoud Nassar's Germany tour (until 21.09.22)
- 25.09.22: Start of the intercultural week in Sankt Augustin (until 02.10.22)
- 01.10.22: Israel-P.-Jordan trip from 1.-16.10.22 (waiting list for further registrations)

*Wird diese Nachricht nicht richtig dargestellt, klicken Sie bitte hier.

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