



## FEMMES INTERNATIONALES MURS BRISÉS

### THE STRENGTH OF THE NETWORK

#### Trait d'Union

December 2016 Issue

#### Editorial

The Tower, be on guard!

From the nightly depth of times, **the spirit of diversity** embodied itself in the world... Then, long after many tribulations, came the peak of discord between these diversities, the biblically known episode of the Tower of Babel... a significant milestone for languages and cultures, customs and traditions, colours and modus vivendi. And always the same refrain, but who will dominate the world? Battles of egos and linguistic pirouettes, a reverse use of values, a collapse of civilization about which few persons really care, if only for reigning as an undisputed master.

Will man finally start to foresee that he has taken the wrong road and that the role of diversities today ordered in a pyramid scheme, are facing the same fate than the Tower of Babel.

Does he envisage a shorter harder path, but more beneficial, the opening a confidential passage at the heart of his self where **the spirit of unity** sits. The Goal. And lastly, how should one consider the persons who work for the betterment of the world and who are unable to unite in the very name of diversity. Yet, it only needs to delicately draw a thread from the heart and the world would change. A very long time ago, a few *sages* began...

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##### Together for the Values of Education

On April 21<sup>st</sup>, we invited specialists of the education field for an exceptional event at Palais des Congrès de Perpignan. The many attendees of this event entitled *Together for the values of education* discovered tangible solutions adapted to all periods of life, from prenatal to adult time. The complementary stakeholders all share a desire to build a better world for the children and to pass on core values such as responsibility, mutual help, courage, perseverance and the sense of duty and effort.

After a long difficult recovery, **Jacques Salomé** (patron of FIMB), renowned French social psychologist and writer, made his first public appearance in 3 years, his wife Valeria on his side. Other participants were:

- **Evelyne Lemoigne**, president of Association Nationale pour l'Éducation Prénatale (ANEP) France
- **Dr. Christian Peyrat**, neonatologist paediatrician and patron of FIMB
- **Marie-Liesse Mandula**, general secretary of Make Mothers Matter (MMM)

**Evelyne Mesquida** closed the debates with a presentation of the FIMB network. With its vocation, defend life in all its aspects, our network of 350 million people in a hundred countries encompasses all spheres of society and creates a link between all those who recognize the importance of core values.

A relaxing moment was offered by a company of artists at the service of non-violence, **The Blue Swan Guild**.

## Pages 4-5

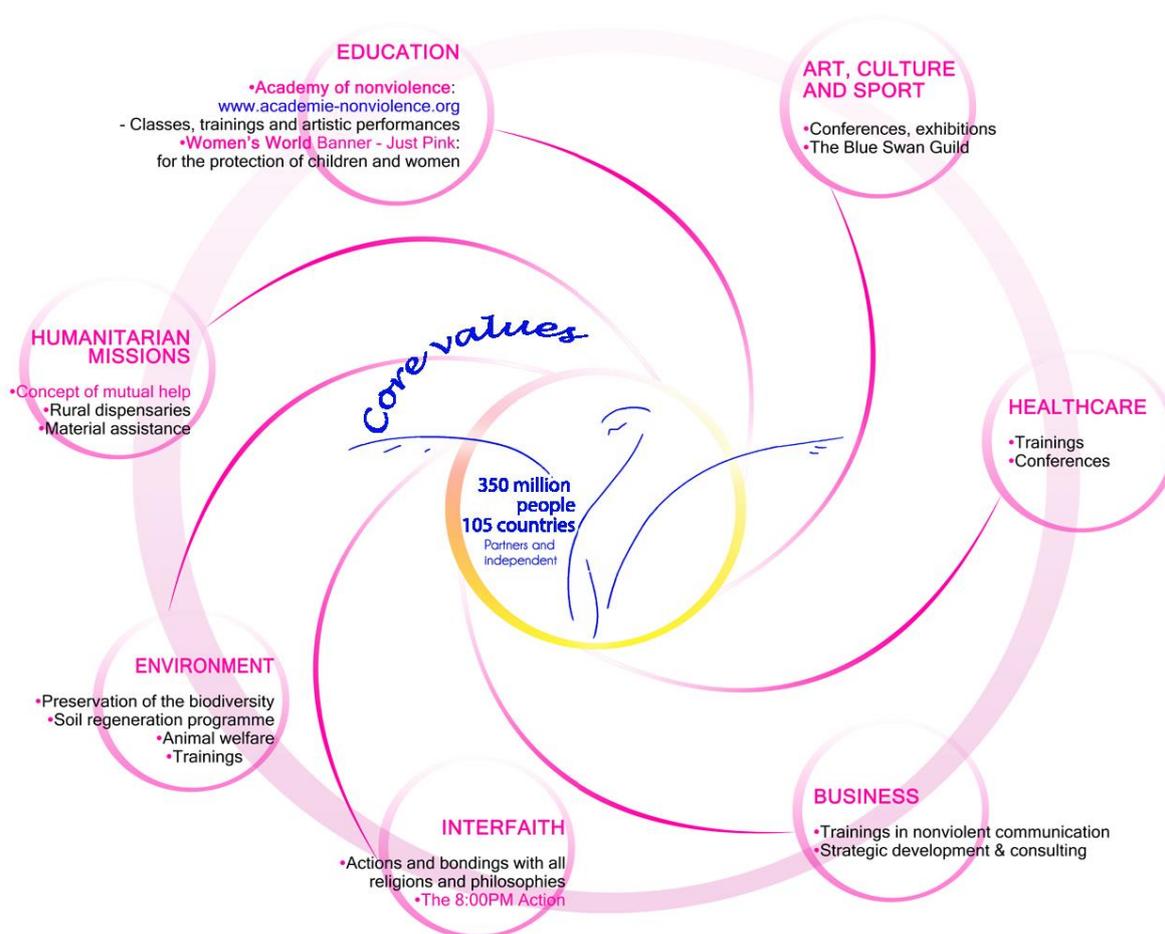
### General presentation of FIMB

#### Who are we?

Femmes Internationales Murs Brisés (FIMB), founded in 1990 by Evelyne Mesquida, is a worldwide mutual help network who creates links with all actors of society who contribute to building a better world. It is a network of networks that are partners and independent. FIMB is a non-political and non-religious organization who counts on the sensitivity of women facing difficulties of the world and their commitment to resolve them. Men who share our values support us. FIMB federates, in 2016, 350 million people who work in the field in 105 countries.

**Our vocation:** the protection of life in all its aspects. Core values are the heart of our actions.

#### Our fields of action



#### Our Network

##### The concept "Murs Brisés - Broken Barriers"

Beyond borders and individual convictions and ideals, this concept federates means, skills and know-how. It integrates the notion of diversity of cultures and ideas. The links created open the possibilities for actions for a better world.

##### Components of our network

- A Board of directors of 8 members
- A distinguished member committee
- The Ambassador Circle
- A Patrons' Committee
- International representations
- National representations
- International delegates
- Relay points
- Members
- Volunteers

## Pages 6-10

### Our patrons

#### New patrons

**Jean-Philippe Brébion:** Trained as a massage therapist, he has elaborated the concept of bioanalogy. His first book, (*Imprint of Birth*) has become a reference in the field of personal development and a best-seller.

**Conrad:** He is not attached to any traditional, spiritual or religious movement. He lives in harmony with nature and dedicates his life to the Earth. He spreads his knowledge in seminars, Satsangs and conferences in many countries.

**Geneviève Delpéch:** Painter, she married Michel Delpéch in 1985. Author of *Le Don d'ailleurs*.

**Ginger Gilmour:** An American sculptor and author, she was the first wife of David Gilmour, guitarist of Pink Floyd. In 2015 she published a book on her life with her husband, *Memoirs of the Bright Side of the Moon*. In June 2007, she received the British Red Cross Award for services to humanity.

**Marc Leval:** French journalist, head of ABC Talk, whose leitmotif is personal growth with another opening of mind.

#### News from our patrons

**Naty Duncan:** the painter organized a travelling exhibit called *Bleu Blanc Rouge* in tribute to the victims of the Nov. 13, 2015 Paris attacks. The tour ended on November 13 this year with about sixty artists and The Blue Swan Guild.

**Pierre Rabhi and Pr Henri Joyeux** gave a conference *From Farmer to Health*.

**Pr Henri Joyeux** gave a conference *Change your diet, the Mediterranean paradoxes for health*.

**Nicole Dron:** the writer published her new book.

**Agnès Bricard:** the business woman recorded a program on BFM Business on the Cost of labor.

**Dorota Anderszewska:** The violin soloist and concertmaster from the Montpellier National Orchestra performed at the Lysenko Concert Hall of the National Philharmonic Orchestra of Ukraine in Kiev.

**Elizabeth Sombart:** the renowned pianist and founder of the Foundation Women with Broken Wings initiated an artistic project bringing together five artists and a poet, proposing a response of love against pain.

**Pr Korotknov:** Russian scientist who gave a conference on the theme *Quantum Medicine, the Science of Measuring the Energy Field for Health and Well-Being*.

**Dr. Jean-Jacques Charbonier:** The anesthesiologist gave a conference on his book *Death Explained to Children but Also to Adults* ; FIMB presented the network and an artistic performance of The Blue Swan Guild, a choreographic art for non-violence.

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### Humanitarian missions

The philosophy of our Humanitarian sector is based on a specific concept: education to mutual help and autonomy. This ethics, firstly spread by women, helps to make understand the importance of working with all diversities, regardless of difficulties encountered on the field, which is a true challenge. Thanks to the richness of its components, the network has once again put in place various initiatives. Each of us is a resource-person.

#### Senegal:

- Collection of clothes, shoes and school supplies organized by **FIMB Toulouse** and shipped to our partner association **Les amis de Maguette Thiène** for the village of Malika.
- **FIMB Marseille** sent packages of children's clothes to Pikine, a suburb of Dakar, with the help of **Solidarité Afrique**.
- At the request of our **Dakar Health Delegate, Fatou Kaba**, baby clothes and medical supplies were collected and shipped to a health centre.

**Ivory Coast:** We responded to the request of **FIMB Sinfra** and sent 80 kg of clothes, shoes and games.

**Burkina Faso:** We supported the many initiatives of **CCIDS**, our relay point, and of **FIMB N'Diaye Orodara** in favour of women, those in needs and children.

**Liban:** Our partner **Rafiqeldarb** (which means my brother and my road companion) in Beyrouth, helps Iraqi, Syrian and Palestinian refugees who arrive in great number due to the events in the Middle East.

**Ukraine:** We support the projects of our ambassador, **Princess Karina Bagration-Moukhransky**, who works for the education of handicapped and blind children.

**France:**

–In Marseille we gave packages of clothes to our partner **A.A.P.I.** (an association that helps immigrants).

–Ad hoc support actions are also organized in Perpignan, Toulouse, Bordeaux, Le Var, Paris...

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### Our representations

**Brazil:** The eco-reserve of Sapiranga in Brazil is the home of 190 traditional families who do not have access to modern comfort, schools or health centre. Today, they are fighting for their rights to stay on their land. Actions were taken by different stakeholders of the community and **Lucia Pires**, former teacher and FIMB delegate of Education and Culture of Salvador (Brazil), led speech workshops, interviews and debates on the themes of feminism, responsibility and violence toward women.

**Burkina Faso:** FIMB N'Diaye de Orodara has welcomed a new president, **Philomène S.Kabore-Zongo**. Director of l'Hôte Maternelle (the maternal host), a house for children in distress from 0 to 3 years of age, she aims to open a new section for the 4 to 15 years old and another for pregnant teenager who are excluded from their families.

**Great partnership between FIMB N'Diaye de Orodara and CCIDS:** The two structures have worked together on support and community actions such as raise awareness for a smooth election process, set up a petition to get partners to finance and enhance access to water and hygiene conditions in sectors 5 and 6 of Orodara and organize community meals with women and youth of seven associations.

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**Canada:** Mikaël Zayat gave a conference on aromatherapy and how to use the essential oils for therapeutic or health applications. Thanks to the generosity of our patron, all proceeds of this conference were given to FIMB Canada.

**India:** Sanjeeta Singh Negi, president of FIMB-NOSD Gujarat (India) was invited by Brahma Kumaris to speak at the National conference for youth and women, where she addressed the role of women in creating a healthy and happy society. The spiritual organization at the origin of this conference is the largest of its kind that is led by women. India has a long history and the role of women has drastically changed over time. We can now feel the need to understand they have a great power for changing society. A balance between traditional and modern values is needed.

**Democratic Republic of the Congo:** FIMB DRC is a particularly active and committed representation, working for the development and support of its community in a difficult context. This dynamic team comprised of president Masika Mahamba Mwamini, vice-president Justin Masinda and coordinator Sister Emmanuella Mbake has realized many projects for rural development or education.

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### Academy of nonviolence

She has left...

With a well-tempered character and a body of ageless girl, a good will at the service of her commitment in the FIMB team, Josy François leaves our heart full of her example of fidelity at work and an extraordinary drive to duty. A lot of seriousness in her research and also a nice bit of humor and fantasy. Our dynamic vice-president passed away on September 11, after a disease that took her in 5 months brutally at the age of 71.

She discovered Chindai® 30 years ago when she was a sports teacher, and quickly she became passionate about the teaching. She never ceased to pass on what she had learned from this discipline: rigor, honor, respect, solidarity.

She naturally became a pedagogical adviser and, in liaison with the technical director Evelyne Mesquida, she was in charge of the continuous education of trainers, training courses for Team leaders and Speakers, as well as leading children's workshops on Wednesdays afternoon. Without forgetting the retranscription of the teaching of Alexandre Homé, creator and founder of Chindaï ©.

She led a busy life, in which she also found time to take care of her family - she had a deep relationship with Gilles and Didier, her two sons - to paint magnificent illuminations, to work her garden in Prats-de-Mollo...

Thank you Josy for this wonderful journey with us and your sincere friendship. We are already missing you!

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### **Summer training session: to be calm and centered in all circumstances can be learned**

Our summer training course was designed both for professionals and researchers: how to deal with our everyday life in serenity, to take distance or be efficient at work?

Especially as the pace of life increases, time for oneself lacks, and stress and fatigue accumulate.

As usual at the Lembrun estate (Le Temple-sur-Lot - 47), the trainees were immersed in a mindset of non-violence and letting go, in a beautiful and relaxing setting. The workshops, were varied - martial art, choreography (music), stick, method of education and communication, relaxation, meditation ... and have allowed to propose simple exercises to assimilate and to put into practice in all circumstances and at home).

Next summer session: August 6 to 10, 2017 at the Lembrun estate (47)

Information & registration: Magali Domin +33 (0)6 63 46 82 65 [direction@academie-nonviolence.org](mailto:direction@academie-nonviolence.org)

### **Training sessions with caregivers**

For the third consecutive year, Nicolas Lamole gave a training session on non-violence communication to 30 future care assistants of the Educational Association for Private Hospitalization (AEHP).

The students tackled fundamental themes (efficiency, distance, fatigue ...) with the aim of better managing the pressures inherent in their work, with reproducible in their professional daily life

### **Speaker Training Class**

In this one-year course (six week-ends), the trainees acquired techniques allowing them to intervene in their own fields of competence: professorship, management, personal assistance... The use of our teaching tools improves the daily life and allows adjusting the behavior while remaining calm and centered in all circumstances – a key competence in the professional world also. The method is designed in such a way that with the assiduity and the will, the results are fast and are obtained in fluidity.

### **In retirement homes**

Our weekly workshops for seniors had a great success with the residents of the Perpignan institutions.

About 20 persons meet regularly to work assiduously. They feel and appreciate the beneficial effects, as confirmed by the supervisors and the management of these retirement homes. The service continues in 2017!

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### **BORDEAUX**

Many teachers, parents, preschool assistants... have benefited from the sessions given by Marie Elkiné, a trainer for 9 years. They take place over 3 full days. Each day is 5-7 weeks apart to ensure the application on the pupils.

Feedbacks are always praiseworthy: appeasement of children (and adults!), more peaceful relations with their surroundings, empowerment, better management of stress and emotions. Contact: [marieelkine@gmail.com](mailto:marieelkine@gmail.com)

### **TOULOUSE**

#### **The children's workshops take the open road**

Nearly 300 children practiced Chindaï © this year, either outdoors, weekly, or in discovery workshops:

- a dozen children attended our extracurricular activities in school every week.
- thanks to Sandra Albanese of the Bouquet de Dames (our partner), we organized a discovery afternoon and a creativity workshop for a group of children from 7 to 12 years old.
- at the invitation of the Ramonville Cultural Center, we participated in the "Les extras" festival on the theme "*Out of the shell*". 50 children (4-6 y.o. & 7-12 y.o.) discovered the discipline.
- the eco-district Maragon-Floralies hosted the 5th edition of the Cherry Stem Readings on the theme All out! This event has allied outdoor readings and games, and our activities for the youth.

- at the request of the recreational center associated with the Falcucci School, 6 workshops were given with more than 60 children (from 2.5 to 8 y.o.) and their supervisors . Contact: [fimb.toulouse@free.fr](mailto:fimb.toulouse@free.fr)

### **Human Show from March 18 to 20**

During this event, we resumed contact with Sophie Bouquet-Rabhi and attended her conference *The challenge of benevolence and the change of society*. She presented her farm school with children from 3 to 9, experiencing the Montessori pedagogy, and the eco-village of the Hameau des Buis (with the implementation of a new mode of life). We gave an interactive lecture on the method for teaching non-violence. About fifty people were present and we received requests to organize training sessions.

### **CANADA**

#### **The training school takes off**

We have graduated several Speakers (1- yr course) and Team Leaders (2 yrs). For 2016-2017, register on [canada@academie-nonviolence.fr](mailto:canada@academie-nonviolence.fr)

#### **Lucien-Pagé - School for the Deaf**

For the third consecutive year, we have renewed our workshops at the Lucien Pagé High School, thanks to the support of the Québec Foundation for the Deaf. The theme: The calm to promote positive communication. Teachers also benefited from the training on the aims and principles of the method. Our interventions ended up by a performance by the whole group at the end of school year show.

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#### **New schools adopt the method**

For many years, we have been proposing our method in the education sector. Already adopted by several schools in the School Board of Montreal, it promotes success and participates in the prevention of bullying and violence within institutions. It helps restore calm, reduce stress, develop concentration and healthy relationships.

The key points of the project are:

- practical workshops in every class (30 minutes once a week)
- training of ambassadors to non-violence (graduate students who pass on the method to the youngest)
- teacher training
- The Grand Gathering

In 2015-2016, two primary schools, Gilles-Vigneault and Lucien-Pagé (Deaf Sector), joined in. We also had courses at Sainte-Bibiane where all the pupils and teachers performed together two choreographies. For the year 2016-2017, two new schools are already joining the project and have chosen to integrate it into their success plan with more than 50 teachers trained on-site: Saint-Andrew-Apostle and Sans Frontières.

#### **Children, ambassadors of non-violence**

Over the past four years, this program has been expanding rapidly with the involvement of children and adults in schools. Volunteer students in Grades 5 and 6 are trained and pass on the principles of non-violence to their classmates (Kindergarten to Grade 6) in the form of hands-on exercises.

The Ambassadors of Saint-Bibiane welcomed those of Gilles-Vigneault. In the presence of their teacher, Sylvain Courcelles, they opened and led the event in an exemplary manner. Having demonstrated with great accuracy their know-how in front of more than 250 students and professors gathered in the gymnasium, the whole assembly realized a beautiful choreography!

#### **Journées de la Culture**

The Academy opened its doors for activities on the program of the 20th Journées de la Culture.

We have welcomed more than 60 children, 5 educators and 2 teachers:

- 3 and 4 y.o. children discovered Chindai © in the workshop *Awakening to creativity*, with storytelling and dance.
- 2nd-year students (8 and 9 y.o.), including a group with hearing impairments, took part in the Ambassador's workshop on non-violence.

#### **Agnés in Canada**

Agnès Micheneau, a preschool teacher and speaker of Chindai © in Bordeaux, followed Olivier Béranek in his work sessions in classes; she particularly appreciated the involvement and seriousness of the children, who were calm and posed during the class, when they were all disguised and ready for Halloween.

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### Grand Gathering: Hymn To Peace

In Montreal, on May 20, at the National Bank Court at the Uniprix Stadium, more than 1,000 children and 100 adults took part in the Grand gathering Hymn to Peace.

From the Gilles-vigneault, Hélène-Boullé, Lucien-Pagé (Deaf Sectors) and Saint-Noël-Chabanel schools, students who benefited from workshops in Chindai © during the year made a touching demonstration of their courage and their belief in a better world.

A slideshow of pictures taken by students from Dawson College during the event is available online (keywords "Hymne Paix Canada May 20, 2015" and link <https://youtu.be/PFs4eEe9hXQ>).

For the Grand Gathering next spring 2017, we invite of people from all walks of life on the theme "A Culture of Peace, for a citizen success". It will be a unique opportunity to realize, together, a choreography demonstrating "that over and beyond the walls, a better world" is possible.

### The method for all

- Our partner, the Girls Action Foundation, invited us to give a workshop as part of its Focus on Girls in Quebec City. Focused on issues related to girls and young women, the Zoom gatherings aim to support and strengthen action strategies, networking, and the sharing of knowledge, experience and resources at a regional level. We led a workshop on *The practical keys for respectful and creative leadership* to 23 women working in various community organizations in the Quebec City region.

- At l'Alchimiste (herbalist shop), workshop on anxiety.

- Practical keys for a respectful and supportive classroom environment for primary school teachers. To be proposed again in 2017.

- National Mental Health Week: Stress management workshop for administrative staff of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at Université de Montréal.

- Workshop-conference *Resolving the violence of anxiety* for 10 staff members and the Director of Accès-Cible - Daily stick workshops (15 min), for a group of 8 to 12 y.o. from the Saint-Simon-Apôtre school 4 days a week.

### Testimonials

On March 19, following the radio interview with Gabriela Guilbault, co-ordinator of FIMB Canada and Olivier Béranek, director of the Education at FIMB Canada, journalist Robert Lauture of Radio Centre-Ville wrote to us: *I really enjoyed your time on the show and I hope to have another opportunity to see you again, to serve you. At a time when mistrust and intolerance are striking in every country, I find that an organization like yours has a place in society, more than ever. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Be well and see you soon.* "

Excerpts from the testimonies of teachers, educators or school principals about the benefits of the method:

"The non-violence education project is now part of our success and fight against bullying plan." (Sylvie Mimeault, Director of Sainte-Bibiane) -

"We found a better concentration among our students and a better behavior management." (Maryse Maheux-Dion, director of Saint-Noël-Chabanel) -

"Chindai © is a soothing routine. It allows the child to create a bubble and to focus on himself. This awareness brings calm and a better concentration. The pupils are now anchored, rooted" (collective of teachers of Gilles-Vigneault)

## SWITZERLAND

### Discovery workshop in Geneva

Professionals from diverse backgrounds - humanitarian, communication, health, education, art - attended our first discovery course in Geneva in July. In the premises of the dance studio of the Aeka Academy, the trainees experimented Chindai © on a theoretical and practical level.

We would like to thank all participants and partners present for the occasion: The Meal, Eliane Chappuis and Lucis Trust, represented, among others, by the Geneva office manager, Mintze van der Velde.

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### METAMORPHOSIS

On the evening of June 4th, the cultural center El Mil.lenari of Toulouges (66) vibrated to the rhythm of the choreographic art of The Blue Swan Guild, the company of artists of our network, presented by our Founding Director. The numerous audiences have appreciated the charms of the first representation of Metamorphosis.

In the show, the heroine says "Stop! to the violent world in which she lives and meets a school where high values are taught. It evolves at the end in an ideal world, a society where mutual aid, respect, taste for effort, responsibility, courage ... are honored.

Sarah Mesquida, the young choreographer, has been staging and training the company for 10 years, a real challenge met with flying colours. Her dance career since the age of 5 reveals her on stage as an accomplished artist.

In *Metamorphosis*, the 6 scenes reveal the choreographic art of Chindai®, a genuine inner centering art that allows 17 non-professional artists (18 to 75 years old) to produce fluid choreographies, martial katas, stick and rhythmic gymnastics solo with a ribbon. The harmony revealed shows a team spirit in the service of non-violence, taught throughout the world by the trainers of the network.

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### Arts and Culture

FIMB Bordeaux: **Patricia Montaud** presented a conference entitled *Talking with one's angel... yes but how?* As a supporter of FIMB, Patricia has invited the audience to observe two minutes of silence at 8 PM (the 8 PM Action).

**Christian Bordes** gave a conference in Bordeaux entitled *Electromagnetic waves: dangers, solutions*, where he explained how to help prevent the adverse effects of long-term exposure to artificial electromagnetic fields.

FIMB Toulouse: **Françoise Jadas**, bio-dietician and naturopath led a debate on nutrition and health, where she gave advice on cooking and conservation methods and prevention of ORL-related problems.

FIMB Var: **The choral Vent des collines** (45 singers) sang to the benefit of our representation in the church of Sainte-Marguerite who was graciously lent to us by priest Augustin Gempp.

FIMB Headquarters: **Anti-ageing medicine, a new and unique colour-sound method?** Following a speech that attracted attention at the Anti-Aging Medicine European Congress (AMEC) in 2015, Damien Barberà, physician and business development adviser for FIMB, was invited by Dr. Claude Dalle to attend the Aesthetic & Anti-Aging Medicine World Congress (AMWC) in April and the 2016 edition of AMEC in Paris. Our speaker developed the theme of the effect of light and sound waves on well-being, rejuvenation and the hormonal system, based on a 30-year research by Alexandre Homé.

During the week of Russian culture organized in Montpellier by the association **Amitiés Russes**, Sylvie Baranger presented the life and work of Nikolai Roerich (1874-1947).

User guide to get to know one's self: Certified professional coach and consultant in stress, time and conflict management for companies and individuals, **Laurent Espinosa** is passionate about building a world more respectful towards humans and the Earth. FIMB has organized a series of conferences in Bordeaux, Narbonne and Perpignan where he presented his book (*I create my user guide*) and gave all proceeds of these conferences to our movement.

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### We were there

#### Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust

Every year since 1992, the l'Association Zakhor pour la Mémoire (Remember & Souviens-toi) has been organizing a ceremony on January 27, the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Camp, as part of the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust.

Many personalities participated in this moment of contemplation and sharing in front of the gravestones in the Espace Mémoire of the Rivesaltes Camp (Pyrénées-Orientales): Nicole Bringmann (Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany), Ghislaine Marco (Director of the department of the National Office for Veterans and War Victims, representing the Prefect Josiane Chevalier), Lieutenant- Colonel Francis Leibgott (Departmental Military Delegate).

Monique Carmona, our President, was invited by Philippe Benguigui, President of the Association Zakhor pour la Mémoire and Regional Delegate of the Association of Sons and Daughters of Jewish Deportees from France.

### **Presentation of the 2016 Zakhor pour la Mémoire Prize**

The Association Zakhor pour la Mémoire, chaired by Philippe Benguigui, advocates the importance of remembrance and the duty to learn History (in Hebrew Zakhor means Remember).

Established in 2004, the Zakhor pour la Mémoire Prize rewards "a commitment to an action that has been a significant reflection on the themes of the Shoah, tolerance, humanism, or the fight against all forms of exclusion". The eleventh ceremony was held June 19 in the wake of the inauguration of the roundabout Arno Klarsfeld, in the presence of an impressive number of personalities, including Anita Mazor, Consul General of Israel in Marseille, Philippe Vignes, prefect of the department, the famous lawyer "Nazi hunter" Serge Klarsfeld, president of the Association of Sons and Daughters of Deported Jews from France, and his wife Beate Klarsfeld, both honorary ambassadors and special envoys of UNESCO, and their son Arno Klarsfeld, State Councilor.

During this event, which was brilliantly orchestrated by Philippe Benguigui, Anita Mazor gave Monique Carmona, President of FIMB, a medal as an honorary member of the Zakhor Association. After the ceremony, Mrs. Mazor listened attentively to the presentation of our network. [www.zakhor.fr](http://www.zakhor.fr)

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#### **The Beautiful Days of Well-being**

Laurent Espinosa, a dynamic partner, invited us to participate in this beautiful show on *Exchange and Sharing*. We also led a workshop conference on Chindai © and the method for teaching non-violence.

FIMB thanks Laurent Espinosa for his generosity. [www.lbjdbe.com](http://www.lbjdbe.com)

#### **Charity Gala at the Cannes Film Festival**

In Cannes, at the International Film Festival, we were invited to the 8th edition of the Ciné-Arts charity gala, thanks to our partner Eliane Chappuis – an actress, model and singer based in Switzerland. Alexandre Bodart Pinto (founder of the VIP BELGIUM company based in Brussels) was invited to the cocktail party. The event is dedicated to his association Wheeling around the world that helps people with disabilities to travel. [www.galacinearts.com](http://www.galacinearts.com)

Note: Eliane Chappuis presents her children's book *Starrydance*, her song albums *Christmas Time & Plumvillage Kid* and her documentary film *One week in Plum Village*. [www.elianechappuis.ch/products.html](http://www.elianechappuis.ch/products.html)

#### **Conference "The Family, a response to globalist totalitarianism"**

To talk about his book, Eric Letty gave a lecture, organized by our partner Action Française section Roussillon (AF). Magali Domin was warmly welcomed by the leaders Françoise and Edouard Baux, very devoted parishioners of the Priory of Christ the King in Perpignan (FSSPX). Eric Letty, a journalist and editorial writer for *Le Monde et Vie* magazine, published the book *Résistance au Meilleur des Mondes*, in collaboration with Guillaume de Prémare, consultant in communication.

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#### **Talent Show**

The Cercle des Amis de l'Aviron de Perpignan, which counts 50 members for its first year of existence, launched the first edition of its Talent Show. The Blue Swan Guild received congratulations from the organizers for its non-violent performance. Congratulations to Albert Escrig, the dynamic president of CAAP66, for this great success.

[www.caap66.fr](http://www.caap66.fr)

#### **Festival pour l'école de la Vie**

Our two representations of Bordeaux and Toulouse took part in the second edition of the Festival pour l'école de la Vie in Montpellier. The event brought together 150 exhibitors and offered many lectures on alternatives to rethink the education of our children and, more broadly, our society. We held a booth, very visited, especially after our intervention dealing with violence in schools and our response: the method of education to non-violence. There we met with Jean-Philippe Brébion, founder of bioanalogy, and Conrad, a great nature lover and visionary, advocating non-duality and non-judgment for a serene and fulfilling education. They both became our sponsors.

[www.festival-ecole-de-la-vie.fr](http://www.festival-ecole-de-la-vie.fr)

#### **Agnes in Myanmar**

"In February I had the chance to spend two weeks in Myanmar (Burma) and I took advantage of this trip to develop the network:

- I met Nyunt Nyunt Thein, the director of the Mary Chapman School in Yangon (Rangoon), a school for deaf and dumb children.

- I visited the Buddhist monastic school Aung Myae Oo for young novices, 60 teachers for 2,506 students.

- I was fortunate to be welcomed by the association Share Mercy. Daw Ni Ni Than, a young woman with a bright smile, explained with passion the actions carried out in the country: schooling for 200 children with English courses, water treatment, access to land for peasants, interreligious dialogue... It was surprising to discover how this association works with the same values and the same commitment as our movement.

This strong meeting led us to sign a partnership and to stay connected at 8 pm.

- Ngwe Sandar Htun, the guide who accompanied me throughout the stay and provided the translation during my appointments when necessary, also agreed to become relay point. "

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### **Love and Non-Violence at the Heart of Mother's Day**

May 6 marks the day that Easwaramma, the mother of Bhagavān Śrī Sathya Sai Baba, died, a celebration that is followed in all the centers of the international organization Sathya Sai.

The Geneva center renewed its attachment to tradition by organizing, on Sunday May 8, Mother's Day in Switzerland, a program around Love, one of the five fundamentals of the movement including Truth, Right Conduct, Peace and Nonviolence.

During the event, the children of the center marveled the participants with a show in English mixing theater, songs and Indian dances. Two of our artists from The Blue Swan Guild, Sarah Mesquida (choreographer) and Laurie Alberti (coach) came on stage to present a snippet of our show *Metamorphosis*. This performance captivated the attention of the audience, among whom we counted several of our partners in Geneva.

We thank the Sathya Sai Geneva Center for its warm welcome as well as Arun Pabari and his team for the quality of the organization.

### **Weekend in Rome**

We participated in the International Peacekeeping Assembly "Birth of the World" on September 24 in Rome.

The aim of this initiative is to develop, by 2020, a first rehabilitation center for child victims of war and terrorist acts (reception, health, post-traumatic stress management ...). Declined in several cities of the world (Europe, Russia ...) since 2014, the event brings together major players in order to create a vast diplomatic, media and financial network. Arts, science, culture and initiatives for a better world are honored. In this context, we gave a lecture on our network concept and our tools to help children.

The participation of Antonia Di Francesco, scientific director of the IOMED laboratory in Lecce (Italy), came to present the basics of the biophysical work of our sponsor Dr. Konstantin Korotkov, very involved in the project. Congratulations to Natalina Litvinova, President of the Children of the Sun Foundation, our partner, for the quality of the organization and for her outstanding work. Next event in spring 2017, in Greece.

[www.gfrd.ru](http://www.gfrd.ru)

### **Hispanic Day**

On October 12, the Spanish National Day, or Hispanic Day, commemorates the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. Our communication officer, Isabelle Torrente, participated in the event organized by Gaudencio Villas, Consul General of Spain in Perpignan.

An evening rich in meetings and exchanges with different personalities of the political world, in particular Chantal Gombert, deputy mayor of district Perpignan West.

### **CGPME 75**

What a pleasure to meet the team of the CGPME 75 (General Confederation of Small and Medium Companies) on June 24 for an afternoon golf in Apremont (60)! It was also an opportunity to meet the new chairman of the Paris delegation, Bernard Cohen-Hadad, and Jean-François Roubaud, former president (national and Ile-de-France).

[www.cgpme-paris-idf.fr](http://www.cgpme-paris-idf.fr)

## **Pages 26-29**

### **News from our partners**

"FIMB is a platform for hosting all shades of opinion.

Our communication mission: to display the information about our networks –partners and independent-, based on our charter of ethics."

### « Proudly fly Tibet's colours!

This is our new campaign since the year 2016: Mini Tashi (tashi means sincere wishes in Tibetan) was the star in various actions intended to enhance awareness about the situation in Tibet.

It is a 7-m high radio guided mini balloon; a new element in the landscape of associative support for Tibet, following an idea initiated by another French institution, UFOLEP (the French Physical Education Union).

From the 11th to the 14th of August, at the rally of the Bristol International Balloon Fiesta (England), in front of 20,000 spectators, we presented it officially to Tashi, a large navigable balloon. It is a beautiful symbol of determination in our common struggle for the preservation of a people and its culture. »

Marcelle Roux, president of France-Tibet [www.tibet.fr/actualites/et-si-mini-tashi-metait-contee/](http://www.tibet.fr/actualites/et-si-mini-tashi-metait-contee/)

### Gulabi Gang

We are in 2008. The phone rings in a hotel room in Deauville where the Womens' Forum takes place. Evelyne Mesquida hopes to speak to the leader of the "gang of the pink saris", a group of women overwhelmed by repeated violence and determined to enforce Indian law using their lathis, an intimidating bamboo stick. Sampat Pal Devi, commander of the Gulabi Gang, picks up the phone. Communication in English is short, punctuated by bursts of laughter and words of hope. Soon after, Sampat Pal Devi signs the Just Pink World Women's Banner and becomes a partner.

Today, the mission of the Gulabi Gang, based in southern Uttar Pradesh (in the hinterland of the Bundelkhand, formerly a warrior stronghold), is primarily to support and train women to become economically self-sufficient, to develop confidence to protect themselves from domestic violence. The Brigade acts mainly as a mediator in the event of conflict, as the stick has become successfully deterrent. They also organize self-defense training courses and fight for their rights more than ever.

From 3,000 in 2008, there are 400,000 to date, they are found in Bihar and Haryana (states where statistics of violence are the highest in the country). They paint their lathis and nails in pink. The membership of 500 rupees (a little less than €7) includes the flamboyant pink uniform, the membership card and participates in the common pot, among other things.

Why pink? During a demonstration, a woman lost herself among the crowd ... precisely the day when Sampat Pal Devi decided to have a formal identity for her group. As the pink was already her favorite color, that of her wedding sari, the choice of a very visible uniform finally confirmed. This colour also has the advantage of being absent from those associated with Indian political parties.

[www.gulabigangofficial.in](http://www.gulabigangofficial.in)

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#### Ekta Parishad

Women's International Meeting in India: Mobilization and Non-Violence

Ekta Parishad's International Women's Action for Nonviolence was held from October 2 to 13 at the Gandhi Research Foundation in Jalgaon, Maharashtra, India.

Under the leadership of its founder, P.V. Rajagopal, our partner is supporting and networking nonviolent activists for human rights, women's rights and land rights with civil society organizations.

The event brought together representatives from 24 countries for 12 days: 3 days of conferences, 6 for visiting villages (each with a specific project) and a film festival for a large audience, with films from around the world on commitment to peace and justice.

Meetings between the 200 activists (including 150 Indian women) helped to exchange and establish strategies of mobilization and actions in various contexts. An international solidarity network was set up with a calendar. It will reach its peak in October 2020 with the walk to Geneva (departure in India).

This assembly inaugurated a new wave of nonviolent initiatives for social change, reinforcing the existing movements. The participants expressed an urgent need for the full implementation of socio-economic and political rights for all. [www.ektaparishad.com](http://www.ektaparishad.com)

#### The Planetary Week for a Better World

For the 7th edition, the Planetary Week for a Better World (SPMM), founded and chaired by Edel Gött, invited all citizens to take initiatives to improve the quality of life on the planet. FIMB has associated with the event launched the first week of June in Paris from the Sacré-Coeur.

In Perpignan (at the headquarters of our Academy), the children benefited from a workshop led by Micheline Cervera, an artist and president of FIMB Marseille. They painted the Tree of Commitment, a symbol of SPMM, and decorated it with colorful leaves, and by messages for a better world. [www.the-planetary-week.org](http://www.the-planetary-week.org)

## **Los Amigos**

Tying the two together: humanitarian mission and sport!!!

The Toulouges-based association Los Amigos is continuing its humanitarian and sporting activities through motor sport, and in particular the rally raid.

Under the impulse of the president Noël Abel, the buggies of the Catalan team showed off on the African races counting for the world championship. They conveyed school and medical supplies to various Moroccan children's associations. Once again, a check was given to Evelyne Mesquida, to help our actions. Thanks to the team of Los Amigos for their faithful support!

[www.facebook.com/TeamLosAmigos66](http://www.facebook.com/TeamLosAmigos66)

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### **Natalina Litvinova – The Child and the Universe**

More and more people think that the key to a better world is held by the children. Our Russian partner, Natalina Litvinova, a psychologist and a lawyer, director of the Children of the Sun association, is the author of an innovative book, directly written for the children: *The Child and the Universe*. In a simple and poetic language, using tales, colours, short meditations, she guides them with gestures and images on the path to well-being, of harmony with oneself, others and the universe. The texts are accompanied by magnificent illustrations that appeals to the imagination.

Published in Russia in 2013, it was translated into French this year by Sylvie Baranger, our representative for Russia.

[www.gfrd.ru](http://www.gfrd.ru)

### **Princess Carina Organization**

Responding to the invitation of the leaders of the International Forum of Crans Montana and HSH the Prince of Liechtenstein (Honorary President), Princess Karina Bagration-Moukhransky actively participated in the 18th Homeland & Global Security Forum held in Brussels (Belgium) from 19 to 21 October. For many years, this privileged platform has brought together senior officials, international organizations, parliaments, specialized administrations, intelligence agencies and companies from all over the world.

The Summit began with a special day organized by the European Parliament under the aegis of the African Women's Forum, whose Honorary Committee is chaired by the Director-General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova.

Her Highness, Founding President of Princess Carina Organization and Ambassador of FIMB, received the New Leaders of Tomorrow Award from His Excellency Didier Reynders, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium. The New Leaders of the Future is a unique group of young leaders from Africa, the Arab World, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, South America and the Far East selected through their professional experience, their ability to promote peaceful dialogue around the world. Together, they form a powerful community to guide global priorities and meet the major challenges of the 21st century. [www.princesscarina.org](http://www.princesscarina.org)

### **Le Meilleur de Soi - Thérèse Néroud, FIMB ambassador at the Berlin IPB Congress**

The IPB (International Peace Bureau) 3-day Congress was held in Berlin under the slogan "Disarm for a climate of peace". The Saturday evening gathered hundreds of participants around the same message: "We are gathered today to send a sign of support to the millions of people in the world who demand peace. To send a sign of hope to all those who live in war. To tell them that we do not forget them. To send a warning to those who feed wars and violence, so they know we are not sleeping. " Our partner had some great encounters that will build lasting relationships with FIMB: Madeleine Rees of the Womens' International League for Peace and Freedom, Susan Smith of Muslim Peace Fellowship and Jonathan Frerichs of Pax Christi. [www.coachscolaireetprofessionneltoulouse.fr](http://www.coachscolaireetprofessionneltoulouse.fr)

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### **Les Amis de Gitta Mallasz**

We were delighted to meet Patricia Montaud and the Toulouse team of Friends of Gitta Mallasz for a dinner-debate on the theme *And if our everyday worries were an invitation to question our Angel?* This initiation to dialogues with the Angel was the occasion for a beautiful moment of sharing with our partner.

The Friends of Gitta Mallasz Center, located in the Castle of Touche Noire (Indre), is a magnificent haven of peace and serenity. Study weekends are regularly proposed: Bernard Montaud presents an aspect of Nuclear Psychology® and Patricia Montaud shares her reading of the book *Dialogues avec l'ange*.

Evelyne Mesquida gave a conference on 1) her own journey since her youth, peppered with strong events which led her to found the FIMB network in 1990; 2) on the construction of the network, on the resulting actions, a genuine global network. Our founding director was accompanied by President Monique Carmona who managed the logistics.

Bernard Montaud is firstly a physiotherapist who received training in acupuncture and osteopathy. In 1983, he founded a spiritual movement, Art'As, and at the same time, a technique of research of the past, based on the memory of the body, which later became Corporeal Psychoanalysis. This leads him to a different understanding of human interiority, the Nuclear Psychology®.

Patricia Montaud is a former teacher, as much passionate about the body as the human psyche, she meets her future husband, Bernard Montaud in 1982; for twenty years, she has participated in his research on the internal mechanisms managing human behavior.

In 1985, they meet Gitta Mallasz, scribe of Dialogues with the Angel, who will live 4 years with them, transmitting her experience of the inner dialogue.

In 2007, concerned about the continuity of the work of Gitta Mallasz, Bernard and Patricia Montaud wrote the book *Dialogue with your angel*, a Western spiritual path.

The key to happiness is to accomplish what we are made for. Or, in the words of Gitta, discover our task, our own way of being useful somewhere on this earth.

Noteworthy is the valuable assistance provided by Thérèse Roesch (Revue Reflets), who is very efficient in communicating and organizing conferences. Reflets, created by Thérèse and Christian Roesch, takes another look at current events. [www.revue-reflets.org](http://www.revue-reflets.org) [lesamisdegittamallasz.org](http://lesamisdegittamallasz.org)

Calendar: Bernard Montaud and his collaborator Christophe Roux-Dufort (a professor at Laval University in Quebec City) will be hosting a conference in Montreal in February 2017 based on their new book, *La dernière paix*, to be published by Québec Livres.

Patricia Montaud gave two lectures in Switzerland, organized by the Friends of Gitta Mallasz and Art'As: one in Lausanne on November 28 and the other in Geneva the next day on *Yesterday and today dialogues with the angel*.

### **Les Enfants du Dragon**

The NGO Les Enfants Du Dragon (LEDD) aims to create a reception center for some 100 orphans and abandoned children in South Vietnam (30 km from Ho Chi Minh City) . The aim is to ensure their education and prepare them to integrate into the local social and economic life.

On November 19, the association inaugurated the first building of this reception center, in the presence of the authorities and the Consul General of France. Our congratulations to our relay point Marc de Muynck, permanent representative of LEDD in Vietnam and responsible for local operations.

## **Pages 30-32**

### **New partners**

**BNB Social Clubs:** dedicated to improving the quality of life by training in mindfulness and collaborative activities in Bordeaux

**Cercle des Amis de l'Aviron de Perpignan :** creates a social network around Catalan rowing by bringing together lovers of this sport, rowers' families, faithful supporters, one-day practitioners. CAAP is an opportunity to meet and share sports events.

**Mandora:** based in Bordeaux, develops actions to promote access to culture and strengthen social ties. Its activities are organized around six axes: cultural, digital, youth and sport, international cooperation, solidarity and sustainable development.

**Un repas pour notre avenir – The Meal:** founded and chaired by Michel Baumann in Versoix (Switzerland), proposes to share a meal the same day everywhere on the planet, on the Saturday closest to the autumn solstice, against a fee. The objective is to favour peasants and fishermen, by consuming local, and support local and international projects. The benefits are distributed between the locally chosen cause and one global project selected each year (in 2016: rescue of Inle Lake in Myanmar - Burma)

**Accès-Cible SMT (Santé Mentale Travail):** guides persons who live or have experienced mental health problems towards the labor market and whose professional experience demonstrates their difficulties in integrating or maintaining a job.

**Com Turquoise:** communication agency/media relations to promote everything that brings a being to its personal evolution through events, conferences, books, schools, ourselves ... for an evolution of the whole humanity.

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**Le Collectif Alliance pour la Santé:** brings together associations, health practitioners, representatives of the alternative press and citizens who are aware of the emergency of jointly promoting an innovative public health project.

**Share Mercy:** an NGO created in 2010 by a group of volunteers to help families and children affected and/or displaced by Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar (Burma): emergency food aid, access to drinking water, temporary shelters, care for orphans and vocational training for adults. Current actions include: daily meals for 2,520 children, English classes given to 350 young people in Bogale and Yangon (Rangoon), the purchase of bicycles for 100 children to go to school, training for women, seed distributed to farmers, planting trees, constructing a well supplying 7,626 people and providing legal assistance to the dispossessed peasants of their land.

**Le Meilleur de Soi:** Thérèse Néroud, a psychopedagogue and trainer, created this educational support structure. It helps children and young people with learning difficulties, guides students in their academic orientation and adults in their personal and professional life choices.

**InterActions & Solidarity Monaco (I&S Monaco):** NGO with actions in Kenya since 2004. Vision: in a dynamic of sustainable development, I&S supports communities in their transformation process and aims to reduce poverty and preserve the environment.

**Le Centre d'Union Multiculturelle et Artistique des Jeunes (CUMAJ):** a non-profit organization, a space for intercultural exchanges dedicated to young people, particularly those in the Ahuntsic neighborhood (Montréal - Canada).

**Association Culture Sport Plus International:** in Togo, conducts solidarity actions for women and girls to fight against violence and poverty.

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**Chasseurs de rêves (Désordres Poétiques):** artistic company that has been working between circus and street theater for more than 20 years. It has performed on all continents, in many international parks and in the most famous festivals.

**International Foundation Mahatma Gandhi:** in 2006, Suraj Sadan, a visual artist, created the International Foundation Mahatma Gandhi to promote messages of peace and nonviolence in the world through representations of Mahatma Gandhi accompanied by quotes from his key messages.

**S.F.B.L.S.P. (Solidarité des Femmes Burundaises pour le Bien-Être Social et le Progrès au Burundi):** founded in 2004, during inter-ethnic events in Burundi (more than 300,000 victims). The aim of the association is to defend the rights of women and girls through practical advocacy, social dialogue, training and information.

**Terre de Sérénité:** aims at promoting the well-being and culture of India. Its founder, Nirmala Gustave, is a Reiki teacher, relaxologist-sophrologist and holistic accompanist. For 13 years, she has been leading workshops specifically dedicated to women and girls who are inspired by the rituals of the Indian woman. She has published two novels on femininity and co-organizes the 1st Festival du Féminin© in Auroville (India), on 17-18 and 19 February 2017.

**Zakia Chelbab – A gluten-free organic couscous:** based in Paris, she has created a concept of healthy couscous with no gluten or animal fat, with fresh vegetables. She now imagines a women's cooperative for the production of gluten-free organic couscous based on rice semolina. Her product is already being tested with Parisian restaurants and she is looking for networking in Morocco to realize her project. FIMB accompanies her in this adventure.

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### TRADI-LINK

Our state of mind, based on mutual help, has created relationships with all. For several years, we have opened the network to religions, traditions and philosophies because "*what unites us is stronger than what divides us*". (John XXIII, quoted by John-Paul II in his encyclical letter UT UNUM SINT)

## Editorial : SHARING, BROTHERHOOD AND RELIGIONS

By Rabbin Haim Samama, Deputy for Beth Loubavitch Chantilly

How can we positively invest the space of exchange in order to make religions a leverage of fraternity and sharing? This question which animates the debates cannot be answered without an unreserved commitment of the religious actors, in order to make the values of our Republic alive.

Unanimous condemnation of violence in the name of religion is a first necessary step but its effectiveness will be measured in terms of our ability to offer our faithful, and especially to young people, the ambition of contributing to the society under construction.

Nothing is more destructive than mistrust and ignorance of the other.

This causes indifference at best and violence at worst. While openness to the other, friendly dialogue and sharing are likely to create trust and empathy. These qualities must, now more than ever, be the basis of our action and the intellectual enrichment that our mission invites us to renew daily.

***I hope that this initiative will be the foundation of a fraternal peace and joy to meet and enrich each other.***

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#### ***They support us***

##### BROTHER SIMON-PIERRE ARNOLD - PERU

Brother Simon-Pierre Arnold promoted his latest work, « God behind the door, faith beyond confessions », in Montreal, in May. Our representative, Laure Pic, attended the event.

This Benedictine monk, born in Belgium, has lived for more than 40 years in the monastery he founded in Peru, on the shores of Lake Titicaca, in one of the poorest areas of the Altiplano in the Andes.

A writer, theologian and doctor of communication sciences, he was in charge of the Latin American Confederation of Religious (CLAR)'s team of theologians. He is also the founder and co-director of the Emmaus Spirituality Center and the founding president of the Institute of Andean Culture Studies and the pan-andina Diálogos magazine.

Brother Pedro, as he is called, has signed the 8PM Action.

##### FATHER CLAUDIO MONGE - TURKEY

On February 26, at the Dominican church in Montreal, Laure Pic attended Father Claudio Monge's lecture on Hospitality in Judaism, Christianity and Islam: from simple interaction to the exchange of a gift. From Italian origin, he has been living in Turkey for fifteen years. In 2014, Pope Francis appointed him consultant to the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. He is the Director of the Center for Documentation and Intercultural and Religious Dialogue of the Dominicans of Istanbul (DoST-I, dost means *friend, comrade* in Turkish), Superior of the Dominican Community and former President of the Union of the Religious of Turkey. He is also a researcher and professor, invited to several universities in Europe and America. Father Monge supports the 8 pm Action.

#### ***LINKS INTER-TRADITIONS***

##### WORLD CONFERENCE OF RELIGIONS FOR PEACE

On April 28th at the Pauline Bookstore in Montreal, Laure Pic participated in the conference of Ghaleb Bencheikh, Islamologist and President of the World Conference of Religions for Peace on contemporary issues of the Islamic religion. His colleague, Pascale Frémond, President of Religions for Peace - Quebec and Canada was also present. Both support the 8PM Action.

##### FESTIVAL OF THE MAWLID IN TOULOUSE - FRANCE

In January, we responded to the invitation of our partner AISA ONG Internationale as part of the Mawlid festival. The screening of the documentary « Islam, Women Voices » took place in the presence of its director, Boualem Guéritli. This film, initiated by the Sufi association at the International Women's Congress for a Culture of Peace in 2014 (Algeria), offers a reflection on the status of women in the Qur'an. Indeed, from the beginning of Islam, women played major roles in the elaboration of Muslim doctrine and in the practice of faith: in the time of the Prophet, women were imams, renowned exegetes and spiritual guides... At the end of the debate following the screening, we met the president of the AISA federation, Hamid Demmou, and our friends from AISA Midi-Pyrénées and the Muslim Scouts of France. AISA ONG Internationale and the Muslim Scouts of France support the 8PM Action.

## POPE FRANCIS, A MAN IN THE SERVICE OF PEACE

The Holy Father is engaged in the service of the neediest and the most vulnerable, he never stops astonishing and surprising us. Ever since having taken office, Pope Francis sticks to the news of our world, he does not hesitate to position and above all to act, drawing from the fundamental sources of the values of the Church: honesty, reliability, exemplarity... Journeys, reforms and openings, this resolutely modern pope even has a mobile application "click to pray"! so that pilgrims pray in communion with him.

Whether in Mexico, Cuba, Greece, Poland, Sweden, Armenia, Georgia or Azerbaijan the Pope calls for openness and dialogue in opposition to the construction of new walls and the rejection of others: "I've always said that making walls was not a solution [...] We must build bridges. But bridges must be built intelligently. They are done through dialogue, through integration ". He does not accuse, he soothes, wishing that humanity learns to overcome evil with good, focusing on building a world of peace.

### **Christian churches and interfaith dialogue**

Pope Francis is working to bring together of the Christian churches in a process of unity (meeting with the Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church, an ecumenical commemoration on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the Reform alongside Reverend Martin Junge). He stressed out the importance of interreligious dialogue that has become unavoidable in this worrying time. He refuses to associate Islam and violence as a single fact, violence existing in all religions and all parts of society.

On September 20, the Pope traveled to Assisi for the closing of the 30th World Day of Prayer for Peace, in presence of numerous dignitaries of other religions.

### **The 31st edition of the WYD in Krakow: action and concrete things for young people.**

The Pope, present in Poland for the traditional World Youth Day (WYD), once again encouraged young people to become involved, to take concrete action and not to confuse happiness and slackening: "The time that we live in today does not need couch potatoes ».

Today's world asks you to be protagonists of history, because life is beautiful provided we want to live it.

### **The protection of future generations**

On 31 August, the Sovereign Pontiff established the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development whose wide scope of competences includes the protection of Creation. It includes three committees, with one dedicated to ecology. The Bishop of Rome regularly denounces the culture of "waste", consumerism and financial greed ... He expresses his concern at the accelerated development of biological and medical sciences and technologies, the respect, integrity and dignity of the human being should always be preserved.

### **Responsibilities of women in the church**

Faithful to his declarations on the necessary responsibility of women in the Church, Pope Francis appointed in August a study commission on the role of women deacons in the history of the Church, especially during the primary times of the Church. And if the function of priest must remain masculine, it does not exclude the possibility for a woman to lead a dicastery...

### **The Family**

In April, he published a post-synodal exhortation, *Amoris laetitia*, the joy of love. A dense and voluminous text (9 chapters and 300 paragraphs) on the rich and complex reality of the family.

'NONVIOLENCE: A STYLE OF A POLITICS FOR PEACE' is the title of the Pope's message for the 50th World Day of Peace (1 January 2017). Extracts: "Jesus walked that path of nonviolence to the very end".

"Nonviolence is sometimes taken to mean surrender, lack of involvement and passivity, but this is not the case ».

He gives the example of Mother Teresa, Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr, Leymah Gbowee... "May charity and non-violence guide the way we treat each other in interpersonal, social, and international relationships."

## THE DALAI LAMA

In France, His Holiness arrived in Strasbourg, France on 17 and 18 September. His last visit in the Alsatian capital dated back to October 2011. This year he responded to the invitation of the Tibetan Buddhism Federation. He (among others) transmitted the Avalokiteshvara and gave the public lecture on Ethics beyond religion.

In Europe, the Tibetan spiritual leader also gave his precious teachings:

- in Switzerland (Geneva and later Zurich)
- in Belgium (Brussels), he participated in the Power & Care debate
- in Italy (Milan), the public conference on Universal ethics
- in Latvia (Riga), Slovakia (Bratislava) and the Czech Republic (Prague)

## CHEIKH KHALED BENTOUNES - LIVING TOGETHER

Following the deadly attacks in Brussels on 22 March, AISA ONG Internationale reacted to condemn these terrorist acts by sending a press release 'Let's remain united when facing this tragedy' that we have relayed in our networks. Our honorary member, Sheikh Khaled Bentounes, spiritual guide of the Alâwiyya Sufi brotherhood and honorary president of AISA and the Muslim Scouts of France, was present alongside the Mayor of Paris, the representative of the Belgian Embassy, the Minister of Foreign Affairs ... during the minute of silence at the Paris Hotel de Ville. Unfortunately, the news has led the two associations to express themselves again: for the attacks in Nice on July 14 and Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray on July 26: "It is urgent to unite in order to face this scourge by educating the respect for the sacredness of life, the Wisdom and nobility of character, and strengthening the bonds of fraternity of the human family more than ever."

Sheikh Bentounes courageously advances the notion of "Living together" through his many travels around the world. For two years, he has been campaigning to promote a World Day of Living Together (JMVE) and launched a petition that we supported and widely relayed. In October, the United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations refused to support the Initiative. Discussions are under way.

*We note the publication of the book "Paroles de femmes", proceedings of the International Women's Congress for a Culture of Peace organized at the initiative of Sheikh Bentounes by AISA ONG Internationale and the Foundation Djanatu al-Arif in Oran and Mostaganem (Algeria) at the end of October 2014. In this book is the presentation of the workshop "The culture of peace, how to build it?" moderated by Monique Carmona, president of FIMB. Aisa-net.com*

## THE 8PM ACTION - CAMPAIGN OF MASSES OF MAY 5, 2016

A mass campaign in honor of St. Philomena, our spiritual godmother, was launched for the anniversary of the first blessing of FIMB - May 5, 2007. These thanksgiving actions support the work of our movement for Children and all those who suffer. We thank the many participants for this constantly renewed momentum.

## THE 8PM ACTION IN CANADA

Thanks to the kind support of Brother Manual Thachuthara Pylee, rector of the Sanctuary of the Sacred Heart and of Saint-Padre-Pio, Fr. André Blais of Saint-Ambroise church, Fr. Alain Vaillancourt of the cathedral basilica Marie-Reine-du-Monde, and Fr. Raül Garcia of the Saint-René-Goupil church, the 8PM Action is regularly presented and proposed within the parishes of Montreal. A breath of hope for the faithful, from whom we receive encouragement.

## SYRIA

Bishop Samir Nassar, Maronite Archbishop of Damascus (Syria), explains the four challenges that Christians are facing in the East:

- an historical challenge: the first ecumenical councils divided the Eastern Christians into thirteen churches that were unable to cope with Islam in the seventh century. And for supporting the Crusaders who came to liberate Jerusalem, these Christians suffered persecution in the 14th and 15th centuries. The collective memory of Christians and Muslims does not forget these wounds...
  - a demographic challenge: the Christians of the East have become a minority and are weakened by a declining population growth rate and high emigration.
  - a challenge of evangelization: Catholic schools are nationalized, there is no longer any training for children and they therefore lack knowledge of their faith (5% of children benefit from the catechism).
  - an economic challenge: these Eastern churches are not viable without the assistance of Western churches and charitable solidarity movements. Without this support, 80% of the places of worship would be closed.
- In front of this long and heavy calvary, some have changed their religion, others have chosen to leave. The small remaining flock looks at Mary at the foot of the Cross and meditates on the words of Christ: "and anyone who does not take up his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me."(Luke 14,27).

Ever since 2011, a special intention is taken to help Syria while doing the 8PM Action.

## WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

Established by Saint Pope John Paul II in 1992, this day is celebrated on 11 February, which is the anniversary day of the apparitions of Holy Mary in Lourdes. The main celebration in 2016 was held in Nazareth, in the Holy Land. To celebrate all the suffering patients, FIMB International Headquarters joined forces with this solemn event with a Mass given in Perpignan in honor of Marthe Robin, who was seriously ill all her life.

And on February 15, FIMB N'Diaye de Orodara (Burkina Faso) took part in the Mass given by the parish priest Joseph Bambara for the patients of the CMA (Medical Center with Surgical Antenna) of the city in the presence of the Health Agents Fellowship. After the ceremony, the Parish of Our Lady of Africa hosted the Cultural Center for Integration and Social Development (CCIDS), our partner, for a show in support of the afflicted people. Every day, all over the world, the sick and the suffering people benefit from the 8PM Action.

### **SUPPORT TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

#### **THE INTERIOR PATH OF THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS AND THE HOLY FACE**

This book traces a search, an encounter, and recognition which led Thérèse Néroud \*, psychopedagogue and trainer, to the spiritual experience of the reconciliation, through the discovery of the inner path of Saint Therese of Lisieux. An immersion in the heart of the writings of the saint, which reveals the deep essence of her journey and takes a new look at her "little way". \* Founder of the structure Le Meilleur de Soi, our partner

#### **SAINT PADRE PIO, CHAMPION OF MERCY**

FIMB joined the invitation of the Centre of Padre Pio prayer groups (San Giovanni Rotondo) to pray all together at the occasion of the 14th anniversary of Padre Pio's canonisation, in June. This moment was dedicated to Pope Francis and to the victims of violence. In order to help people affected by the violent events worldwide (Berlin, Bruxelles, Orlando, Paris), FIMB implemented a particular one month intention of union at 8PM with Saint Philomena and Saint Padre Pio, Shield of Faith and Protector of the Action.

#### **BIRTHDAY MASS OF FATHER PAGÈS**

Fr. Jean Pagès, emeritus priest, has always given much to his parishioners who love him in return. To celebrate his 87 springs, many people, including Jerome Badrignans who visits him every week (Jerome was his confirmation Godson), attended the Mass. The choir interpreted its composition Ô Philomène, a magnificent tribute to the virgin and martyr, composed by Thérèse Sinote & Elisabeth Anne.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF MONSEIGNEUR VINCENZO PAGLIA**

Bishop Vincenzo Paglia was appointed Grand Chancellor of the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family and President of the Pontifical Academy for Life. The Italian Archbishop was until then President of the Pontifical Council for the Family since 2012. Bishop Vincenzo Paglia, born in 1945, was ordained priest in 1970 for the diocese of Rome. John Paul II appointed him Bishop of Terni-Narni-Amelia in the year 2000. Successor of Saint Valentine at the head of this bishopric, he developed there the pastoral of the betrothed by organizing each year special celebrations for the 14th of February.

He was also President of the International Catholic Biblical Federation and from 2004 to 2009, President of the Commission for Ecumenism and Dialogue of the Italian Bishops' Conference.

MOTHER TERESA of Calcutta was declared a saint by Pope Francis on 4 September. The mass of canonization gathered 120,000 people. World figure of the charity beatified by John Paul II in 2003, she was already celebrated in the canonical calendar on September 5, the anniversary of her death. It will be "a little difficult to call her Saint Teresa." [...] Her holiness is so close to us, so tender and so fruitful that spontaneously we will continue to tell her Mother Teresa", emphasized the Catholic leader on the occasion of a homily.