



ORDINE OSPEDALIERO | di  
SAN GIOVANNI DI DIO



# TWINNING

RISPETTO SPIRITUALITÀ

OSPITALITÀ

RESPONSABILITÀ QUALITÀ

# TWINNING

*"In solidarity with our Brothers,  
we overcome the desire to amass things  
and we practise the sharing of possessions  
with the different communities and provinces of the Order"<sup>1</sup>.*

## INTRODUCTION

"Encourage the Order's Hospitals, Centres and Services in Europe, North America and Australasia to conclude TWINNING agreements, alliances, with the Order's Hospitals, Centres and Services in the poorest countries."

"By encouraging the establishment of closer ties between the Order's Hospitals, Centres and Services in the industrialised countries and those in the developing countries through TWINNING we hope to create better understanding, and form closer links of friendship between Brothers and Co-Workers to the benefit of both. This initiative can help to develop a sense of belonging to the Order as a whole especially by those might feel somewhat distant from it because of communication, transport and other difficulties, causing them perhaps to feel isolated from the rest of the Order."

"Closer ties between the Brothers and the Co-workers of different cultures and experiences can be mutually enriching, challenging, and can support, inform and form them professionally. This would bring about a more efficient and an improved service to the people we care for in our centres."<sup>2</sup>

"Increasing and encouraging Twinning between centres or between Provinces ... Not only between the global North and South, but also in the opposite direction ..."<sup>3</sup>

"Continuing to develop and create Twinning between the Provinces an/or the centres of the Order throughout the world, under cooperation agreements for the exchange of knowledge and human and material resources in such areas as formation/training, management, care, research, fundraising to mention but a few."<sup>4</sup>

"Promoting Twinning between Centres performing similar activities, in order to improve the mission, professional practices and formation."<sup>5</sup>

The purpose of these guidelines was to approximate to what we intend to do when we talk about Twinning between Centres, that is to say the wish to give a fresh boost to cooperation between different centres of the Hospitaller Order in different geographical areas and also working in different social conditions even though they may not necessarily be in different regions.

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<sup>1</sup> Constitutions of the Hospitaller Order, No. 14c.

<sup>2</sup> Letter of Brother Donatus Forkan. | December 2004.

<sup>3</sup> Declarations of the LXVI General Chapter. Letter presenting the programming for the Sexennium.3. Priorities of Hospitality.3.3. priorities in the matter of cooperation, 5.

<sup>4</sup> LXVIII General Chapter. 2012. Instrumentum Laboris: cooperation ad Intra and ad extra. Proposal N° 2

<sup>5</sup> LXVIII General Chapter. 2012. III.III cooperation ad intra y ad extra (Networking). N° 16

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By working towards establishing a global and open-ended alliance between all the Centres of the Order (in the global North and the global South) which will enable those performing the same mission as to complement one another and to become mutually enriched. It is essential to have this open-ended character in Order to continue pursuing the goal of universality without certain centres focusing exclusively on certain others, and by fostering free access by all the organisations to the cooperation requirements of every Centre, channelled through the Missions and International Cooperation Office.

## HISTORY

Some of the Provinces that were established early on, particularly in Europe, in the 16th and 17th centuries, began again in the 20th century to establish themselves in other poor countries following the missionary drive of the Church, and with the institutional aim of once again sharing hospitality in less favoured areas of the world.

This gradually led to the incorporation of local-born Brothers and Co-Workers, working beside the European Brothers, and the opening of new Centres etc., and also the gradual constitution of Delegations, Vice Provinces and subsequently, in some cases, new Provinces.

Together with the expatriate Brothers from the founding Province (with canonical ties) they remained committed to providing financial contributions through different channels and in various forms, as their customary way of cooperating with them.

## THE NEW SITUATION

We are now living in a different context with dwindling numbers of expatriate Brothers incardinated into these jurisdictions, and Centres and Communities have been established which are juridically independent of their founding Provinces.

The links and the criteria for corporation between them has also gradually changed. Cooperation is increasingly being performed by supporting specific projects, or with very clear-cut terms of reference, as a result of the needs, and in terms of the features and with the participation of the local community to meet its needs.

Various types of programmes, development projects, humanitarian assistance, education and sensitisation for development, and international voluntary service have been involved in this type of international cooperation. Some Provinces have actually created special agencies or organisations through which to supply their contributions.

These agencies and organisations are committed to raising other public and private resources to continue to cooperate in this way, because the financial possibilities open to the European Provinces are no longer the same as they were in the past, and in this new context, what is becoming increasingly necessary is to invest in ways which will update the response to the needs of the population being served and to provide them with adequate solutions to their needs.

All of this is being done according to a model based on contemporary professional expertise giving value to the ethical context of the work and current methods that ensure transparency and good practice in addition to adequate networking both between institutions and within institutions,

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especially with agencies engaged in welfare and social activities (fundraising) and voluntary service in the Centres.

Following the October 2006 General Chapter, the General Curia set up the Missions and International Cooperation Office, and the November 2012 Chapter enforced the criteria by which it performs its work in that field.<sup>6</sup>

## NORTH-SOUTH AND SOUTH SOUTH COOPERACIÓN BETWEEN CENTRES

In addition to the foregoing, other commitments have to be undertaken to support the parts of the Order in the global South or in less favoured countries. The question is how to continue to feel solidarity with situations with which we have established ties not only through the Charism, but also through our original relations, and our feelings of friendship and our specific mission. How can we continue to feel linked not only with the Brothers, but also with the Co-workers?

### 1. **Twinning** can be used as a **Tool** enabling us to:

- Respond to the appeal is being made within the Order to share with them, and to practise Communion more deeply with other realities in the Order, and to UNIVERSALISE HOSPITALITY.
- Exploit and channel the synergies that exist in the Order.
- Enrich one another through the experience of exchanging and sharing. When talking about charismatic management, it is important to include exchanging criteria, and experiences with management, leadership and the commitment to Hospitality.
- Open up our horizons so that we are not inward-looking in our own Centre and its immediate environs, and spreading knowledge and enabling our Co-workers to become more universally involved.
- Establish a number of stable and well defined circuits and agents able to effectively channel and multiply the human capital and the resources that can be exchanged between Centres.

### 2. **Coordination-collaboration:**

- Establish by the Missions and International Cooperation Office priority channel should be established linking Provinces and Centres according to the readiness of the Order's Centres to establish these Twinning ties both as givers and receivers (data bank),
- Promoting cooperation between Centres working on the same mission: mental health centres, psychogeriatric care, shelters...<sup>7</sup>
- This kind of twinning can be established not only outside, but also inside one and the same region; centres whose situation or experience or development in recent times enable them to do so can provide their support to other centers who are developing in the same direction.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Cf. LXVIII General Chapter. 2012. III.III Collaboration ad intra and ad extra (Networking). N° 20

<sup>7</sup> Cr. LXVIII. General Chapter 2012. III.III Collaboration ad intra y ad extra (Networking). N° 16

<sup>8</sup> Cf LXVIII General Chapter. 2012. III.III Cooperation ad intra y ad extra (Networking). N° 19

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## 2.1. How can this be done?

Based on relationships and on the experience of working together with the involvement and expressed wish to take part on the part of managers of the Centres; the management of one or another centre can establish agreements and decide on specific functional and ordinary aspects of the cooperation they intend to provide.

All of this should be done with full knowledge, and with the agreement, of the relevant Major Superiors and in coordination with the General Curia's Missions and International Cooperation Office.<sup>9</sup>

## 2.2. Which spheres?

The areas for cooperation could be:

- Human resources: possible exchanges of professionals (including management and administrative personnel , technicians to implement infrastructure projects, or for installing equipment etc.)
- Training in specific subjects, lecturing and in some cases conducting research
- Welcoming Volunteers and/or International Cooperators

If agreements are made to run any particular type of campaign or to raise funds to finance projects through the Missions and International Cooperation Office of the General Curia and/or in conjunction with the St. John of God Fundraising Alliance, involving the organisation of international cooperation, social/welfare entities (fundraising office) etc. having competence for that particular area, and able to work in that particular sector.

## 3. Funding

Both centres must draw up a budget, making provision for the resources needed to cover the work to pursue the objectives they have laid down.

Rome, 23 October 2014

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<sup>9</sup> LXVIII General Chapter. 2012. III.III Cooperation ad intra y ad extra (Networking). N° 20: "20. The General Government, through the Missions and International Cooperation Office shall promote and coordinate solidarity within the Order. It shall lay down viable forms of financial cooperation to assist the sustainability and development of all the Centres. It shall collect and publish information on all the action is being performed at the level of the Order in the matter of cooperation."