



Dear brothers and sisters of our CLC: World, Latin American and National Communities, as well as our brothers and sisters of the Ignatian Family,

CLC, particularly through the Latin American Reflection Group on Migrations, was invited to participate in the Ignatian Pre-forum, organized by the Society of Jesus, to promote a common reflection on the issue of migration and refuge from the socio-economic, political, and theological-pastoral perspectives, aiming into concrete actions towards promoting an advocacy platform inside the Universal Society of Jesus together with its collaborators. Our participation in the pre-forum was represented by CLCers from Bolivia, Ecuador, Spain, Mexico and El Salvador, and close friends from Venezuela who have been linked to CLC in the past.

This was a particularly important initiative for us as CLC as the pre-forum provided us a wide space for growth and an excellent preparation, and communal experience, previous to our participation in the World Social Forum on Migrations held in Quito on October 8, 9 and 10.

We intend to send you a wider report of our presence in both spaces as soon as we can, and we hope for this to be an opportunity to share with the whole CLC apostolic body our reflections and thoughts about what we have experienced, and of course some of the materials, conclusions, and so on.

For now, our motion is to share with you the fruits of the spontaneous meetings we had during the pre-forum, where we experienced once again the value and strength of the common vocation that unites us, even without previous knowledge of each other in some cases, and the blessing of having experienced the richness of the world community, and the possibility of sharing, as sisters and brothers in Jesus, with our Jesuit brothers, and some of their collaborators, who all together shared our dreams, opportunities and gaps in our quest for the building of the Kingdom; and particularly on this issue of migration that concerns us all and which presents itself as a major priority in the present, and which, as CLC, we are committed to at a world, regional, national, and local level recognizing it as an urgent global apostolic priority.

With great joy we share with you that during the "World Social Forum on Migrations" we chose to give a testimony of apostolic visibility, actively participating in some of the preparatory committees (methodological, technical and, Sigvol-Ecuador, in coordinating and preparing volunteers for all the Forum), and organizing and coordinating as CLC, one of the panels which was titled "Migrant Faces: voices that construct narratives"; it was a very appreciated space by those who attended it. Attendance at our panel was not only sufficient, but also nurtured compared to other panels we attended. Faithful to that which has to be our approach, instead of giving an academic discourse, or a merely political standpoint, CLC proposed and forecasted a reflection space in which five CLCers presented life narratives to present a name and a concrete face representing the millions of migrants throughout the world, bearing witness of each one's experience of encounter and relationship with them, which helped everyone to go to the depths of the heart and from there, recapture their own stories, names and faces, and provided the possibility for everybody to reflect, and several could share their own stories, rather than just asking questions to the panelists.

We concluded the session with a time of reverent silence, and many of the opinions on our panel received later in the halls or other meetings were all positive, and with reference to motions that helped participants renew their commitment to those who experience this situation of forced migration, those who arrive in new places without anything or anyone, or those who are displaced even within their own countries ... among us was One who as a newborn had to emigrate to Egypt because his life was in danger!

In this space the following members of CLC participated sharing their professional experience and Apostolic Life: Ana Lucia Torres (CLC Ecuador- Women, mothers and wives, who stay in an indigenous community in Michoacán, Mexico), María Luisa Urrelo (CLC Bolivia- transformations of youth identities of teenagers in El Alto, Bolivia who yearn to migrate to Argentina, as well as the reality of their mothers who must migrate to support their families), Lina Moreno (CLC Colombia-The painful process of forced displacement in Colombia, its effects on the lives of men and women who must runaway to save their lives and are in total uncertainty), Adelaida Lacasta (CLC Spain-The experience of migrant children from Morocco to Spain. The family breakups, the personal difficulties and the dangerous process of migration, arriving to a new space with a reception and reintegration in the destination place), and Mauricio Lopez (CLC, World EXCO member, presenting the experience of Mexican immigrants without documents, with a large numbers of years residing in the U.S., who despite having given their lives working and supporting that country continue to feel excluded, exploited and persecuted, but who also keep their hopes in the new generations of their sons-daughters who do not sense or understand any US-Mexico border in their identity.)

This whole experience that we will continue to evaluate and deepen, confirms the importance for us to be present and active in these spaces and forums to which the CLC has been sent to offer, with humility and modesty, a sign of hope and “parresía” with a contribution to never forget the importance of being witnesses who respond with great courage and generosity to the call received.

As a Latin America reflection group on migration we could meet during these days, and we also had some work sessions: We reviewed our objectives and agenda, and we decided to ask Ana Lucia Torres (CLC Ecuador) to assume the service of coordination of the group, to which she generously agreed. In the meantime, we invite you to visit both the forum and the pre-forum web-pages where you will find more extensive information of the presence of World and Latin America CLC.

<http://www.preforumsj.org/> and <http://www.fsmm2010.ec/>

We would also like to express our gratitude to God, the World ExCo, the world community, and each and everyone who made our participation possible in these events, a special mention to the members of CLC in Ecuador, who with their hospitality and openness helped us in many ways, for making us feel the brotherhood in the National Council meeting and in the Sunday Eucharist, and for his presence and companion that also enriched our panel and presence at the WSF-M. And thanks also to María Magdalena Palencia of CLC Mexico, who very wisely managed to capture our shared motions in this document, expressing the fruits of the experiences of the Ignatian Pre-Forum and the World Social Forum on Migrations.

**Latin American Group for Reflection on Migrations and Refugee
CLC Latin America**