



Request to the CLC World Executive Council of Christian Life Community for full incorporation of CVX Slovakia

Dear Denis, Daniela, Daphne, Catherine, Diego, Najat, Manuel, James, Anne Marie and Fr José SJ,

We, members of the leadership of the Christian life community in Slovakia, would like to kindly address you, the members of CLC World Executive Council, with this official request for full incorporation of CVX Slovakia into the worldwide community of lay brothers and sisters gathered in Christ in CVX-CLC.

We are doing so with all the humbleness and joy for having received so many gifts and grace through the Ignatian spirituality and being able to experience warm welcome by the whole community, especially by the community of CLC Malta.

We have been journeying this path together with the help and support of the god-parenting community of CLC Malta nearly a decade. It was a long and nice journey of discovering beauties of the Charisma and way of life in CLC. With their care, love and accompaniment we did recognize that this is our way to respond to God's merciful love and so to become the apostles of the good news and thus being a gift for the Church and the world.

In order to comply with our request, hereby we send you the following documents in annexes according to your request as per Standing Order 1 (GN article 16e):

1. A short history of the development and growth of the new community
2. A short report in which the fulfillment of the above criteria is explicitly addressed
3. Statute of the CVX Slovakia (English translation)
4. Community Profile attached with the Status Report Observer Community and full history of CVX Slovakia
5. Covering Letter from Malta CLC to World ExCo proposing Slovakia for full membership in World CLC

On behalf of

CVX Slovakia leadership

and

CLC Malta Executive Council

Martin Gabaj
President

Alison Vella
President

Members:

Iveta Babicová

Katarína Blaščáková

Katarína Raková

Monika Šoltýsová

Ján Turza

EA:

Jakub Garčár, SJ

Members:

Veronica Perici Calascione

Danica Mifsud

Jacqueline Padovani

James Schembri

EA:

Christopher Vella, SJ

Bratislava, on the feast of Annunciation, 25th of March 2023

Spoločenstvo kresťanského života CVX

Námestie padlých hrdinov 7, 900 28 Ivanka pri Dunaji, kancelaria@cvx.sk



A short history of the development and growth of the new community

CVX in Slovakia had its beginnings in the late 90's with a voluntary project of Jesuits volunteers (JEV) and later developed as an offshoot, growing from the same Ignatian roots as JEV.

Initially it was another, external way of developing young adults, but the need for continuing to meet in adult communities was felt and this led to the formation of CLC communities.

Meetings were held in the Jesuit Spiritual Centre Loyola in Ivanka pri Dunaji, a town near Bratislava where the JEV were situated. Later, groups were formed at the Jesuit College in Bratislava as well.

In those early years, several local groups were created in other cities (Trnava, Žilina, Martin, Trenčianske Teplice, Zlaté Moravce, and Prešov) but only some of them have continued to meet.

Initially, Fr. Bernard Mišovič SJ oversaw the process as an appointed Jesuit in Spiritual Centre Loyola and later ecclesial assistant of CVX. Some young Jesuits and several sisters from Congregatio Jesu (CJ) became group leaders.

Fr. Bernard Mišovič SJ started to compose formation material for the very first groups, which eventually led to a three-year formation programme based on "The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius in Daily Life". In 2009 Fr. Bernard Mišovič SJ started to organize courses of Spiritual Accompaniment for the future group guides and spiritual guides.

Before the World Assembly of 2013 we approached the ExCo to invite CLC Malta to become our god-parent community. At the World CLC Assembly in Beirut in 2013 CLC Malta became a god-parenting community in the process of our incorporation to the world CLC community. This god parenting was welcomed and received very well by us. Since then, we experienced several meetings with CLC Malta both in Slovakia and Malta and have been visited and assisted by Saviour Borg, Jenny Zammit, Chris Micallef, and James and Lilian Schembri.

We survived the crisis and lockdowns by meeting online and surprisingly, a newly formed community which we thought would not survive lockdown, was actually a source of inspiration and consolation to the older communities. On the other hand a new group for people over 40 years of age was opened too.

Having a new ecclesial assistant, leadership focused more on the community itself and discerned how to set a new formation programme/standard for new group guides since there was no one to lead the Courses for spiritual guides. We put more stress on the preparation of new group guides, working on guidelines and helping manual for group leading. A small formation team was formed simultaneously.

In February 2023 we had an online meeting with the leadership community of CLC Malta to discuss our application to join World CLC. We were advised by them to hold a discernment process, supported in prayer while doing so, by CVX Slovakia. They also offered us their prayers. As a result of this process, the decision was taken to apply for affiliation to the World CLC.

At present, there are about 149 members in CVX Slovakia who meet on regular basis in their groups (weekly, once or 2 times a month) in 16 small groups based in 3 local communities (Bratislava, Žilina and Prešov). We register 72 members in 9 "local" groups ("life group" according to General Norm 39a) who finished the initial formation. The rest are new groups or members in initial formation. There are 2-3 Jesuits who directly work with CVX. Fr. Jakub Garčár SJ is the temporary ecclesial assistant as of May 2021.

Since a year and half ago, we succeeded to find and rent our own premises in Bratislava downtown.



A short report in which the fulfillment of the above criteria as per standing order

1. CVX Slovakia's adult members have experienced the full Spiritual Exercises and are fully living the CLC way of life as it was an essential part of formation as laid out by former EA Fr. Bernard Mišovič SJ.

2. Currently, there are 16 small groups registered in Bratislava, Žilina and Prešov.

3. There are existing structures as requested:

Leadership: 6 members + EA: Jakub Garčár SJ

President: Martin Gabaj

Members: Ján Turza, Katarína Blaščáková, Katarína Raková, Iveta Babicová, Monika Šoltýsová,

Each member has their role: statutory/CEO, treasury and accounting; formation and guides' care; eurolink and international relationships; commitments; spiritual guiding.

4. There is acceptance of World CLC's General Principles, General Norms, and any other documents approved by the World CLC by Slovakia CVX members. We renewed the Statute of CVX Slovakia according to all CVX Principles and General Norms in May 2017 when the first official National Assembly of CVX Slovakia took place. There are currently 11 members who have made permanent commitments between 2017 and 2022. There are also 4 members who have made temporary commitments that time.

5. In 2019 we completed the Spiritual Exercises for Apostolic Discernment in Common (ESDAC). We have been given the name of grace 'The Community that accompanies the Breath of God'. From this name our mission is driven: to be accompanied by the Breath of God, to accompany the Breath of God – discipleship and to be companions along the way.

6. There is an understanding of CLC as an apostolic community within the Church and in May 2011 an official CVX Slovakia was established and registered as a church organization. Our community members adopt an open and loving attitude towards the Church and are accepting of the Church's teaching.

7. We have participated in a world General Assembly as an "Observer". This was the CVX World Assembly in Lebanon, Beirut, 2013 where Malta became a god-parenting community in the process of our incorporation to the world CLC community. In 2018 we also took part in the World Assembly in Buenos Aires, Argentina.



To the CLC World Executive Council

28th March 2023

Dear Denis, Daniela, Daphne, Catherine, Diego, Najat, Manuel, James, Anne Marie and Fr José SJ,

It is with great joy that we recommend the Slovakia national community for incorporation as full members of the CLC world community, and we submit this recommendation for your consideration and approval, with the hope that they will also receive a welcoming confirmation of this during the upcoming CLC World Assembly in Amiens in August 2023.

For ten years we have accompanied the Slovakia national community in their exploration and formation, also regularly sending members from our community and receiving members from theirs to reach the point at which they are today. As the reports submitted show, we are confident that they are ready to be full members of CLC, and will continue their journey and growth with enthusiasm.

May their desire to join the world CLC be fruitful and result in always more generous service for God's kingdom.

May you all live a blessed Holy Week and the joy of Easter,

Alison Vella

Jacqueline Padovani

James Schembri

Danica Mifsud

Veronica Perici Calascione

Fr Christopher Vella SJ

CLC in Malta ExCo



Full membership of the Christian Life Community.

National Executive Council
CLC in Slovakia

Dear friends in the Lord,

Peace be with you!

It is with great joy that I deliver this news to you: **in accordance with the terms of General Norm N° 31, the World Executive Council of the Christian Life Community, has approved the application for incorporation of the CLC in Slovakia!**

We are currently in the process of reviewing your statutes and we will be giving you feedback in due course, so that you can work on it after the assembly, if it is necessary.

We eagerly anticipate your presence in Amiens, where you will be presented by your godparent community, CLC in Malta, and hopefully be confirmed by the General Assembly.

This will begin a new stage in your life as an incorporated member of the lay, Ignatian, apostolic community. We hope for your continued immersion and engagement in the life of the world community, as you continue to bring life to the charism that is our gift to the Church and the world.

We ask the Lord to give them the gift of wisdom to continue to respond faithfully to his invitations and may Mary, Our Lady of the Way, accompany you.

On behalf of the World Executive Council,

Denis Dobbstein
President

Manuel Martínez Arteaga
Executive Secretary

Rome, 21st April 2023

