**COMBONI PRESS NETWORK**

**The News Service of the Comboni Missionaries**

CPN

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| **GLOBAL NEWS** |

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**Deadly “Human Organ Mafia” challenged in North Sinai/Egypt.** According to global media and to human rights groups, Bedouin smugglers have been kidnapping Eritrean, Ethiopian and Sudanese refugees in North Sinai and are harvesting their organs as part of an evil “spare parts” trade. Those killed failed to pay the large amounts of cash to be taken into Israel. ***In this month dedicated to “human rights,” can a new public awareness turn the tide and save lives?* See** **the** **article and links** at [**www.jpic-jp.org/54-en.html**](http://www.jpic-jp.org/54-en.html).

♦  **Learn** what the *World Council of Churches* had to say at [**www.harnnet.org/index.php/news-and-articles/top-headlines/2682-wcc-expresses-concern-over-human-trafficking-in-sinai-desert**](http://www.harnnet.org/index.php/news-and-articles/top-headlines/2682-wcc-expresses-concern-over-human-trafficking-in-sinai-desert).

♦ **According** **to CNN**, 100s of African refugees were released from captivity after its documentary aired. Egypt’s *High Commission for Organ Transplantation* is investigating, [**www.harnnet.org/index.php/articles-corner/english-articles/2596-youm7-reveals-the-secrets-of-organ-trafficking-in-sinai**](http://www.harnnet.org/index.php/articles-corner/english-articles/2596-youm7-reveals-the-secrets-of-organ-trafficking-in-sinai).

**♦ Video: *Second by Second***, [**www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xa2ZZLsyaew&feature=related**](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xa2ZZLsyaew&feature=related), was shown, with graphic images, on Egyptian TV channel 25. (Arabic with English subtitles).

 **The planet is not in danger. Humanity is.** As the **U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development “*Rio + 20*”** gears up for next June, many are preparing to do battle to defend our planet, but not all have the right intention to do good for humanity. Even a quiet partisan reflection can awaken the critical spirit that’s needed. **See** **the** **article and links** at [**www.jpic-jp.org/52-en.html**](http://www.jpic-jp.org/52-en.html)**.**

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| **TAKE ACTION** |

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♦ **Speak Out: Control Arms Now!** The campaign has launched! The purpose is to ask for a robust *Arms Trade Treaty.* Negotiations begin in July 2012. **Take action,** [**http://controlarms.org/speak-out**](http://controlarms.org/speak-out)**.**

♦ **STOP illegal gun smuggling: it fuels violence in Mexico** where every day is the “day of the dead” (more than 50,000 killings in five years.) **See** video at [**www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4mAB2L93ds**](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4mAB2L93ds),and then sign the petition for President Obama at [**www.change.org/petitions/pres-obama-stop-illegal-gun-smuggling-that-fuels-violence-in-mexico**](http://www.change.org/petitions/pres-obama-stop-illegal-gun-smuggling-that-fuels-violence-in-mexico)**.**

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| **AROUND THE UNITED NATIONS** |

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♦ **December 1, 2011:** ***World AIDS Day 2011: Getting to Zero*** honors the victims of the AIDS pandemic and focuses attention on the prevention and treatment of HIV and AIDS-related conditions. **Find out more** at [**www.worldaidscampaign.org**](http://www.worldaidscampaign.org)and, on UNAIDS strategy, [**www.unaids.org/en/**](http://www.unaids.org/en/.).

♦ **December 10, 2011:** ***Human Rights Day*** marks the anniversary of the ***Universal Declaration of Human Rights.* Watch** [**www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cI3-BRwadA**](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cI3-BRwadA) with excerpts from “OCCUPY.”

♦ **December 15-16, 2011: Second Intersessional Meeting of the U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development** in New York City, [**www.uncsd2012.org**/**rio20**](http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20).

♦ All **U.N. Observance Days for December** at [**www.un.org/observances/days.shtml#december**](http://www.un.org/observances/days.shtml#december).

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| **OUR CORE PARTNERS** |

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## ♦ AFRICA EUROPE FAITH & JUSTICE NETWORK (AFJN): TheWorking Group on *Food Sovereignty* published *Land Grabbing in Africa:* *An* *Ethical and Biblical View on Land Grabbing*;read [www.aefjn.org/index.php/action-347/articles/land-grabbing-ethical-and-biblical-view.html](http://www.aefjn.org/index.php/action-347/articles/land-grabbing-ethical-and-biblical-view.html).

## ♦ USG/UISG Secretariat: The Commission for Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) in Rome has initiated a *Congregational JPIC Guidelines’ Project* with resources to help congregations create their own manuals. The *Franciscans JPIC Manual of 1999* is available as a model. In Spanish, French, German and Japanese; see <http://jpicformation.wikispaces.com/EN_JPICCongGuidelines>.

## ♦ VIVAT INTERNATIONAL (V.I.) has submitted its *Statement on Poverty and Trafficking* to the *U.N. Commission on Social Development*, set to meet in February 2012. Comboni Sister Ilaria Buonriposi is a key author. Request an English copy at combonipn@combonimissionaries.org.

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| **RESOURCES** |

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♦ **Africae Munus: *In Service to Reconciliation, Justice and Peace*** is the ***Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation*** that the Pope handed over to the bishops at a mass in Cotonou, Benin. **Read** it at [**www.zenit.org/article-33862?l=english**](http://www.zenit.org/article-33862?l=english)**.**

♦ **From the G-20 Summit at Cannes, France**: The **Final Declaration** offers summations at [**www.g20-g8.com/g8-g20/g20/english/for-the-press/news-releases/g20-leaders-summit-final-communique.1554.html**](http://www.g20-g8.com/g8-g20/g20/english/for-the-press/news-releases/g20-leaders-summit-final-communique.1554.html)**.** At the invitation of President Sarkozy**,** Bill Gates spoke to the finance leaders on *Innovation with Impact: Financing 21st Century Development*. **Download** his multilingual report at [**www.thegatesnotes.com/ Topics/Development/G20-Report-Innovation-with-Impact**](http://www.thegatesnotes.com/%20Topics/Development/G20-Report-Innovation-with-Impact)**.**

♦ **How many Slaves are working for you?** Although prohibited by the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), slavery is still one of the least discussed issues. Calculate your personal impact at [**Slavery Footprint**](http://www.slaveryfootprint.org/); get a slave-free impact map and educational DVDs at [**Call+Response**](http://www.callandresponse.com).

♦ ***Towards Reforming the International Financial and Monetary Systems in the Context of Global Public Authority*** by the Pontifical Council on Justice and Peace/Vatican is the proposal sent to the G-20 deliberations at Cannes, [**www.justpax.it/eng/home\_eng.html**](http://www.justpax.it/eng/home_eng.html)**. Find** *Towards Reforming the International Financial & Monetary Systems,* then click **“more info.”**

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| **OTHER EVENTS OF NOTE** |

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**♦ January 8-14, 2012: National Migration Week 2012: *Welcoming Christ in the Migrant*:** This annual week is a teaching opportunity for classrooms and groups. **See English and Spanish** resources at[**http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week/**](http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/national-migration-week/)

**♦ January 11-13, 2012: USCCB National Conference: *A 50-State Issue: A Focus on State and Local Immigration Initiatives*** is set for the Radisson Hotel in Salt Lake City. **Register** via [**www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/upcoming-events.cfm**](http://www.usccb.org/about/migration-and-refugee-services/upcoming-events.cfm).

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| **JPIC COMBONLINE** |

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**♦ Comboni Missionaries in the North of Esmeraldas (Ecuador):** Sustainable Development is related with a real urgency but also with a real hope. It is affecting the present and the future! Watch the **Spanish** video [**http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EeTnS65cD7I&feature=player\_embedded#**](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EeTnS65cD7I&feature=player_embedded).

**♦ Comboni Lay Missionaries (CLM) Blogsites:** Many CLM are serving in Mission Projects. **Read about** their experience in Ethiopia at [**http://markmaggie.wordpress.com**](http://markmaggie.wordpress.com), and Malawi at [**http://mcsorleymissionaries.blogspot.com**](http://mcsorleymissionaries.blogspot.com). Others? Yes, please share!

**Note:** Look for **CPN Newsletter,** in four languages, at [**www.combonimissionaries.org**](http://www.combonimissionaries.org). To receive online, email **combonipn@combonimissionaries.org.** Articles appear at [**www.jpic-jp.org/en.php**](http://www.jpic-jp.org/en.php).

**Comboni Press Network (CPN) newsletter provides access to information on global issues from Church and Mission-related sources. Our focus is on Justice and Peace issues, and on how the U.S. policies affect the Third World countries. Please share your suggestions and ideas with us—we’re only an e-mail or fax away!**

**1318 Nagel Road ♦ Cincinnati, OH 45255-3120 ♦ (513) 474-4997 ♦ FAX: (513) 474-0382**

**♦ Email:** **combonipn@combonimissionaries.org** **♦ Web site:** [**www.combonimissionaries.org**](http://www.combonimissionaries.org)