



# WUJA IN A NUTSHELL

**The World Union of Jesuit Alumni (WUJA) was created in 1956.** For a long time, it was a rather sleeping body, mainly organizing world congresses every six, then more recently every four years. In 1986, at the Versailles congress, the Pedro Arrupe World Association was created. As of the Bujumbura congress, the Council adopted a rhythm of meeting once a year.

WUJA is managed by an Executive Committee (Bureau) and guided by a Council, both elected at the occasion of the general assembly held during a world congress every four years.

WUJA brings together former pupils or students of Jesuit schools and universities in the entire world in order to build international relationships between these people, to contribute to the mission of the Society of Jesus and to promote the universal dynamic of Jesuit education.



To these purposes, WUJA organizes world meetings of Alumni around themes related to the commitment in the world and the society in the perspective of Christian and humanistic values, as practiced and promoted by the Society of Jesus in its educational work.

With the broad network of member associations, WUJA also launches or supports initiatives for solidarity or development, particularly in the field of education or in partnership with Jesuits.

WUJA WANTS TO DEVELOP ITS COMMUNITY TO FEDERATE AND MOBILIZE AS MANY ALUMNI AS POSSIBLE WHO ARE SENSITIVE TO THIS DIMENSION OF THEIR EDUCATION AND INTERESTED IN THIS GLOBAL DYNAMIC, BY REACHING THEM VIA THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS IN THE JESUIT SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE AND THE NATIONAL STRUCTURES OR LOCAL GROUPS OF JESUIT ALUMNI. JOIN US ON WUJA.ORG AND HELP SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS!





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#### **FORMER PRESIDENTS**

1956 - Founders

Enzo Sala (Italy), Pietro Addonino (Italy) and Théo Lombard (France).

1967

Antonio Uribe Portocarrero (Colombia)

1986

José Gamazo Manglano (Spain)

199

John Bowie (Australia)

1997

Fabio Tobon (Colombia)

2003

Bernard Thomson (United Kingdom)

2009

Tom Bausch (United States)

2013

Alain Deneef (Belgium)

### **FORMER JESUIT COUNSELORS**

Before 1971: Fr Paolo Dezza 1971-1981: Fr John Blewett 1981-1987: Fr James Sauve 1987-2004: Fr Vincent Duminuco 2004-2010: Fr Pierre Salembier 2010-2014: Fr William Currie 2014-2018: Fr Jose Morales Orozco



### **OUR OBJECTIVES**

#### Our objectives, as expressed in our statutes, are:

- 1. To preserve and develop bonds of friendship, communication and solidarity among Jesuit alumni/ae throughout the world.
- 2. To encourage Jesuit alumni/ae to co-operate actively with the Society of Jesus in its various missions, particularly in education, spiritual life, community service and social justice.
- 3. To help Jesuit alumni/ae to stand by the education which they were given, based on Christian humanism and Ignatian spirit, above all so that they play their part, through their
- personal life and their social action, in the building of a world where persons can fulfil themselves with complete dignity; for this, to encourage them to address their minds to all issues of spiritual and moral life leading to personal and collective commitment.
- 4. To offer Jesuit alumni/ae the opportunity of continuing formation to help them to integrate their Ignatian obligations into their personal and professional lives



## **OUR CHALLENGES**

WUJA faces some challenges it needs to address if it wants to become an effective body in the future.

Firstly, our members are not the Jesuit Alumni themselves, but associations of Alumni where they exist (for instance, there are none in the US where Alumni are being taken care of directly by the schools and colleges).

Secondly, WUJA is a totally pyramidal structure of 56 national federations, which oversee 350 local associations.

Thirdly, membership fees are the only resource of WUJA. Each functioning Alumni association of a high school or university is supposed to pay 100 or 200 EUR/USD (respectively) per year. That allows to barely support a light voluntary structure, unable to engage in big projects.

Still, we have three main objectives in the years to come.

 We want to harness the enormous potential of Alumni for a greater good. We want to tap from a heteroclite body of 10 millions Alumni worldwide to mobilize a few thousands of them, convincing them to join a pool of skilled and dedicated individuals, interested in their future with the Society of Jesus, rather than in their school years, willing to act as Men and women of depth, for and with others, putting themselves at the service of the Jesuits and their works and apostolates.

- 2. We want to create a 90° shift towards horizontality in our activities. We want to communicate directly with as many Alumni as possible via our social media. We want to establish local chapters of international Alumni in cities where they are plenty, such as the Loyola club in the US, regardless of their school of origin, motivated by what they could do together and not by the issue of their school of origin. We want to focus only on projects which require international cooperation and which cannot be done at the local level.
- 3. We want to create a structure that is more professional, allowing us to pursue our projects, help the Jesuits in their networking effort and enhance our communication effort. It requires a permanent secretariate, which on its turn requires a regular funding flow. Steps are undertaken in the direction of structured funding from well established foundations.



### **JESUIT SCHOOLS WORLDWIDE**

### A fascinating network

If you'd like to make yourself an idea of the incredible number of our Jesuit schools worldwide, why not check this interactive map?

https://www.educatemagis.org/current-map/





### WUJA AND THE JESUIT NETWORKS

The main idea is to make everyone aware of the importance of starting to think in terms of networks in a world that has become horizontal.

The second idea is to begin to think about **the possibility of networking Jesuit or Ignatian networks**, that are numerous and extensive, but work too often in silo.

WUJA currently participates in the reflection effort of a group of dedicated Jesuits under the leadership of Father Dani Villanueva sj. This initiative, called 'International Jesuit Networking', aims at networking all Ignatian groups in the world that are for now very widespread: CLC's, Fe y Alegria, IAJBS, JWL, Educate Magis...





In that regard, WUJA wants to promote Jesuit networks by

encouraging the community of Alumni to connect with them,

and by showing how some already do around the world.















Individual Alumni, local associations and national federations all do interesting projects.

WUJA should only focus on projects that make sense at an international level. These projects should be pursued only if they are closely related to our very DNA, can only be done by us and offer added value. Here are a few examples of these.

# EXCHANGES OF YOUNG ALUMNI FOR EXPERIMENTS OR MASTERS

WUJA organizes exchanges of young Alumni who as students will accomplish a Master in another country. Other types of exchanges relate to young Alumni who are volunteers to practice a social work. Finally, the sending of professionals, Alumni, for example doctors in medicine, occurs in countries where they can practice during a few weeks. WUJA intends to multiply these exchanges as soon as it will be able to call upon to a professional secretariate.



### **BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF FAMOUS ALUMNI**

WUJA wishes to launch in 2018 the first preparatory works for a **Biographical Dictionary of Jesuit Alumni** who made themselves known by their merits and actions.

Each association of Jesuit Alumni in the world will be invited to submit (following to a well defined process) a few names of deceased Alumni and Alumnae.

A scientific committee will see to it that the notices are qualitative and that a balance be struck between all periods of time (from 1548 and the first college of Messina until today), all regions of the world and all walks of life within the world of Alumni.

The Dictionary will be published electronically in 3 languages and printed only if the demand is there.





## OUR PROJECTS (2/3)

PREPARING THE NEXT WORLD CONGRESS IN BARCELONA (2021)



Every four years, WUJA invites all Alumni of Jesuit educational institutions to take part in a great world encounter. **Each congress is held on a general subject linked with Jesuit education and its values.** The different world regions organize the congress alternately, as defined in the statutes.

At the end of a congress, WUJA's General Assembly votes some resolutions about the theme of the congress and the main guidelines of the world movement and elects the members of its world bodies (Executive Committee and Council).

The congresses were held in Loyola (1956), Rome (1967), Versailles (1986), Bilbao (1991), Sydney (1997), Kolkata (2003), Bujumbura (2009), Medellin (2013), Cleveland (2017). The next congress will be held in Barcelona (2021).









FOSTERING COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL JRS OFFICES

In Rome in September 2016, Pope Francis urged the representatives of the European Confederation and of the World Union to work, as Alumni, in close cooperation with the offices of the Jesuit Refugee Service in each

country where they exist.

In some countries, activities have since been launched, like conferences, seminars, fund raising campaigns, etc.

SETTING UP SEMINARS TO ENCOURAGE ALUMNI TO ENTER POLITICS, IN COOPERATION WITH THE JESUIT SOCIAL CENTERS

Pope Paul VI once said that politics was the highest form of charity. And his successor Pope Francis has repeatedly said that the associations of Alumni should encourage their members to enter politics.

In that regard, some national federations have organized and some others will organize seminars, targetted at their fellow Alumni, in particular the younger ones, on **what it takes to engage in political action and what should be the ethical, humanist and christian values** on which this action should be rooted. In this regard, Alumni will particularly cooperate with the social centres of the Society of Jesus.









### PEDRO ARRUPE WORLD ASSOCIATION



The Pedro Arrupe World Association was created in 1986 at the World Congress of Jesuit Alumni in Versailles, in response to a specific appeal of Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, then Superior General of the Society of Jesus, who wished that the Alumni formed for themselves the instruments that will enable them to act for refugees.

The Association is named after **Father Pedro Arrupe**, **former Superior General of the Society of Jesus**, **as a tribute to his action towards refugees**, which he wanted to serve and to accompany by creating the Jesuit Refugees Service in 1980.

Under the umbrella of WUJA, the Association became its means of action (its "social arm", after the expression of Fabio Tobon, former President of WUJA, passed away in 2013) for its social work around the world towards "refugees, poor, excluded people" and victims of humanitarian catastrophes.

Its resources come from donations made by Alumni individually or through their Associations and Federations within the "Arrupe Dollar Campaign", launched ever year, on 5th February, anniversary of Fr. Pedro Arrupe's death.

The Pedro Arrupe World Association has helped the project <u>Foi et Joie</u> in Haiti, together with the Jesuit Spanish NGO Entre-culturas.

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#### **SOCIAL PLATFORMS OF WUJA**

WUJA has a web site: <a href="www.wuja.org">www.wuja.org</a>. It is intended for Alumni and friends of Jesuit education, the different components of the global network of these institutions, the Society of Jesus and every interested person.

It publishes articles in English, French and Spanish about WUJA, Jesuit education, the Society of Jesus, as well as any matter of international interest about Alumni, their activities and commitments.





WUJA has a Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/WUJA.official">www.facebook.com/WUJA.official</a> and a Twitter account: <a href="mailto:@jesuitalumni">@jesuitalumni</a>





## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF IGNATIUS

### FORMER SUPERIOR GENERALS OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS









Jean-Baptiste Janssens (1946-1964)

Pedro Arrupe (1965-1983)

Peter Hans Kolvenbach (1983-2008)

Adolfo Nicolás (2008-2016)

### **IN TODAY'S WORLD**







Pope Francis



### HELP WUJA EXPAND THROUGH YOUR DONATION

REGISTER ON WUJA.ORG TO BE KEPT AHEAD OF THE NEWS AND HELP SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS!

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE VIA CREDIT CARD ON PAYPAL.COM USING THE ACCOUNT NAME: PAYMENTS@WUJA.ORG

DONATIONS CAN ME MADE VIA BANK TRANSFERS TO THE ACCOUNT "UNI. MOND. ANC. ÉLÈVES COMPAGNIE DE JÉSUS" IBAN: LU 33 0141 2335 2250 0000 - BIC (SWIFT): CELLLULL OF ING BANK - 52, ROUTE D'ESCH - L-2965 LUXEMBOURG