PAIVA NETTO writes "Human machine and the oil of feeling"

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GOOD WILL

Education

ELEVAÇÃO

SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES

Educate to transform the planet

Innovative proposal of the Legion of Good Will (LGW): Formal and informal education for the development of nations and the eradication of poverty

Culture of Peace: Values of ecumenical spirituality in educating solidary citizens

Success stories: results achieved by the LGW in *favelas* and schools in Brazil and several other countries

LGW 61 years

LGW: Brazilian organization with general consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council submits its recommendations to the participants of the ECOSOC High-Level Segment, in the *Palais des Nations*, in Geneva, Switzerland, from July 4 to 7, 2011.

BV Especial Educação INGLÊS.indd 1 29/06/11 15:57

morya / dep

Abrir e fechar a geladeira o tempo todo? Me poupe!

- Evite banhos demorados e coloque o chuveiro na posição "verão".
- Se ligar o ar-condicionado, feche bem as portas e janelas.
- Junte as roupas para passar ferro de uma só vez.
- Não demore com a porta da geladeira aberta.
- Não deixe lâmpadas acesas e aparelhos ligados sem necessidade.

No verão o consumo de energia aumenta.
Siga as dicas e economize.

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SUMMARY

A Thought of GOOD WILL

"Education, a theme always on the agenda. It is urgent that it be disseminated and faced by all of us as a safe path that shortens the distance among social classes. Education is also an efficient antidote against violence, criminality, diseases and everything that harms the healthy development of the people."

Paiva Netto

Extract from the book *It is urgent to re-educate!*, by writer Paiva Netto, which has reached the expressive amount of more than 230 thousand copies sold.

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In Brazil, the UN Secretary-General receives publications with an ecumenical message from the LGW

The Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN), Ban Ki-moon, re-elected unanimously on June 21 to serve a second term, was in Brazil on June 16 and 17 on an official visit to South America. Before embarking, the diplomat received from representatives of the Legion of Good Will publications of the Organization containing recommendations and good practices for the sustainable development of the planet, which have been prepared based on the experience of more than 60 years of work of the LGW.

Among the material handed to him were the magazines *Good Will Women*, *Globalization of Fraternal Love* (2nd edition), a pamphlet about the Temple of Good Will, and two of the most recent statements sent by the LGW to the UN — during the Commission on the Status of Women, in February 2011, and ECOSOC's High-Level Segment, in July 2010.

As soon as he received the publication the UN Secretary-General carefully looked through the *Globalization of Fraternal Love* magazine and commented on its content with his wife, Mrs. Yoo (Ban) Soon-taek. He also pointed out the name of the magazine and thanked the LGW for it.

Photos: José Gonçalo

The UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, and his wife (R), Yoo (Ban) Soon-taek, during official visit to Brazil.

Eduarda Pereira

HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT (2007) LGW representatives, from left to right: **Noys Rocha** (Portugal), **Maria Albuquerque** (USA) and **Rosana Bertolin** (Brazil) holding the LGW magazine. In the center, the UN Secretary-General and on the right side of the photo Mrs. Hanifa Mezoui, former Chief of the UN/DESA NGO Section. Both authorities received the publication of the Legion of Good Will.

GOOD WILL Education

Non-political and non-partisan magazine of Ecumenical Spirituality.

Special edition — 6/24/2011

ELEVAÇÃO

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The LGW on the Internet

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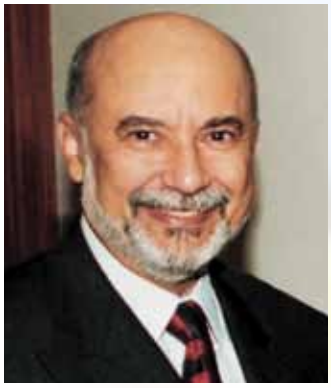
Human machine and the oil of feeling


João Preda

José de Paiva Netto, writer, journalist, radio broadcaster, composer and poet, was born on March 2, 1941, in Rio de Janeiro/RJ (Brazil). He is the President of the Legion of Good Will (LGW), effective member of the Brazilian Press Association (ABI), of the Brazilian International Press Association (ABI-Inter), of the National Federation of Journalists (FENAJ), of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), of the Union of Professional Journalists of the State of Rio de Janeiro, of the Union of Writers of Rio de Janeiro, of the Union of Radio Broadcasters of Rio de Janeiro, and of the Brazilian Union of Composers (UBC). He is also a member of the Academy of Letters of Central Brazil.

Education, a theme always on the agenda. It is urgent that it be disseminated and faced by all of us as a safe path that shortens the distance among social classes. Education is also an efficient antidote against violence, criminality, diseases and everything that harms the healthy development of the people.

Attending to popular demands, I present here some excerpts from a speech I made on March 9, 2010, in Rio de Janeiro/RJ (Brazil), with the participation of people from various regions of Brazil and abroad via Internet. Among the subjects addressed was the Pedagogy of God, created by **Alziro Zarur** (1914-1979), which throughout the years we have extended to the socio-educational thesis of the Legion of Good Will. This pedagogical proposal aims to combine the cognitive development of the student with the culture of plural respect.

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Alziro Zarur

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“Here one studies—Brain and Heart are formed.”

Paiva Netto’s quote from the 1970s exhibited at the LGW’s schools in Brazil and abroad since the inauguration of the Jesus Super Day Care Center, located in São Paulo/SP (Brazil), on January 25, 1986.

João Periotto

Archive BV

▶ Montevideo/Uruguay

Mônica Mendes

▶ Belo Horizonte/MG

Archive BV

▶ Belém/PA

Leila Tonin

▶ La Paz/Bolivia

Vivian R. Ferreira

This is why it is important to always apply Ecumenical Spirituality, about which I have spoken many times. That gave rise to the Pedagogy of Affection (for children) and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy (for youth and adults), respectively.

Reflecting on the subject, I affirmed that it is not enough to learn only humanly rational things. As I said in February 1984, speaking to the women involved in actions of the LGW, and later in an article published in the *Folha de S.Paulo* newspaper on July 27, 1986: Instruction, for us, is that learned at school, university, and at any other teaching institution, and should be associated with the home as a form of Education. This alliance is indispensable. Without Instruction and Education there is no progress. Nevertheless, instructing and educating is not only to teach how to read, to delve into books. It involves, above all, the enlightening of intelligence in order for Human Beings to perform their harmonic functions in society. In fact, both society and government should permanently join forces to establish a structure that indeed builds a better country and a happier world. The worse education is, the worse the future will be. So, to educate is not only to teach the ABCs of earthly sciences, even if it is the most advanced Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, etc. If there is no good nutrition for the Soul—enlightened by spiritualization, which means more than to educate, but to re-educate—, this ultra-instructive learning will lead the Human Being without such good nourishment to direct his/her thoughts to increasingly destructive actions.

To educate is to transform, re-educate, under the auspices of Peace, Love and Justice, inspired with Kindness and, in this way, to sublime the character.

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Without Instruction and, above all, Education, there is no tomorrow. Do you recall the Marshall Plan for Europe, of which I have already spoken many times? I highlight, for instance, Germany, in the West, and Japan, in Asia, with **MacArthur** (1880-1964), which recovered strongly. However, the production of these two countries—and many more—would have collapsed during that period and in any other as well, if a generation had not been prepared with in-depth education to serve as the base for others.

Vinicius Ramão
Curitiba/PR

Leila Tonin
Recife/PE

Archive BV
Buenos Aires/Argentina

School Picture
São Paulo/SP

Affection and Respect

Much is said about violence in schools. If a student goes there to learn and expand his/her own reasoning in order to become capable of absorbing the lessons necessary for his/her technical formation, parallel to this, **the best possible care of one's feelings should also be taken into due consideration.**

Affection for children and respect for youth is similar to a machine operating: in one of the gear wheels is the mind, logic; and on the other, the Soul, feelings, which prevents us from becoming more and more like savages! See now, the teeth of the wheel engage with those of another wheel making the mechanism move. However, if you do not put into that gear the oil of Fraternity, of Solidarity, of Mercy, of Compassion, then everything stalls, locks, creates rust and fails!

Paramount function

Cida Linares
Paulo Parisi, Italian journalist.

Have any of you ever seen a machine work well if it is not properly lubricated? What is Humanity? It is like an extraordinary engine that needs to be treated with the oil of feeling that comes from God, when He is understood as Love, therefore Charity. And do you know what its gear wheels are? **Us!** We are not pieces of metal that become rusty, unless we are infected by paralyzing idleness.

That is our paramount function: to be instructed, educated, re-educated, in order to efficiently instruct, educate and re-educate.

That is why Education, when correctly applied, sets free. And with Ecumenical Spirituality, it sublimes.

To see beyond the intellect

In an interview I granted on October 10, 1981, to the experienced Italian journalist settled in Brazil, **Paulo Rappoccio Parisi**, I declared that in the Legion of Good Will we strive for Education and Culture allied to the illuminating action of Ecumenical Spirituality. By the way, in order to achieve a sublime synthesis **between the brilliance of the intellect and**

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André Fernandes

▶ São Paulo/SP

Lucian Fagundes

▶ Rio de Janeiro/RJ

Débora Verdan

▶ Campina Grande/PB

Arivaldo Oliveira

▶ Natal/RN

the Luminosity of Spiritual Knowledge, the LGW pioneeringly advances when it brings to the classrooms—as we have seen with the Ecumenical Citizen, or Solidary Citizen Pedagogy, and the Pedagogy of Good Feelings, of Affection (for children assisted by the LGW) being consolidated in the Organization's schools—a training for ethical discernment, aiming at Eternal Life, and more important, a training in accordance with the real challenges that exist on Earth. As in Cartesian geometry, it is necessary to make material Education (the x-axis or the abscissa axis) find the knowledge derived from the highest levels of Divine Wisdom, which is Love (the y-axis or the axis of ordinates). A sage understands and uses intelligence, the intellectual faculties, the technical or specific knowledge in favor of Human Beings. Nevertheless, there are many highly intelligent people in this planet practicing evil deeds. By any chance, is a person who causes harm to his/her fellow creature, wise? Of course, not! **Thus, may we acquire Wisdom from Jesus, who, as a Master in Israel—and hundreds of years later was considered by Islam as one of the most respected prophets—washed His brothers' feet**, according to **John**'s narrative, chapter 13 from the fourth canonical Gospel. **Solomon**, in Proverbs 16:16, wrote: *"How much better to get wisdom than gold, and to get insight rather than silver"*.

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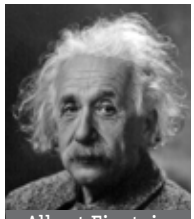

Albert Einstein

And then, we will be on the right path to enlighten the Spirit under **a Light that does not produce shadows: the Light of God**, understood, I repeat, as Love. Never as an anthropomorphized god, who was repudiated by **Albert Einstein** (1879-1955). Or, for those who do not believe in Him, the light of the most sublime feelings that justify the survival of the human race, even after so many people have spent centuries and centuries, *lato sensu,* insensately governing it. But not only those who live in palaces govern in an imprudent way. (...) At the entrance of the LGW's Educational Institute in São Paulo, at its schools in Brazil and abroad, the following motto is clearly shown: **Here one studies—Brain and Heart are formed**. One needs the other.

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Emmanuel

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Francisco Xavier

Inspired on the Gospel of Jesus according to **Matthew**, chapter 18, verse 10: *"See that you do not despise not one of*

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these little ones…", **Emmanuel**, under the subheading "Children", in his book *Fonte Viva*, received by automatic writing by **Francisco Cândido Xavier** (1910-2002), wrote the following:

"Children

Emmanuel

"When Jesus advised us not to despise the little ones, He expected from us not only providential measures relating to bread and clothing.

"It is not enough to feed hungry little mouths or to cover freezing little bodies. It is essential to afford a moral shelter that provides the reborn spirit with a working atmosphere necessary for its sublimation.

"Many parents ensure the material comfort to their little ones but they abandon their souls to a regrettable situation.

"(...)

"So, do not despise a child, abandoning it to an animalized instinct.

"(...)

"A meal is important for the development of an individual. However, we must not forget that 'Man shall not live by bread alone'.

"We must remember the nourishment of the little ones through our behavior and examples, warnings and corrections in due time. To morally abandon a child today means to condemn this child to feel contempt for itself, for the tasks it will have to perform in the future".

To this purpose, in a document we sent to the United Nations on the occasion of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, held in March 2009, I reaffirmed that **world stability begins in the hearts of children.** That is why, at the LGW, we have been applying for so many years now, what we call the Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy. (...)

Clayton Ferreira
▶ Joinville/SC

Leila Tonin
▶ Campo Grande/MS

Archive BV
▶ Cuiabá/MT

Vivian R. Ferreira
▶ Brasília/DF

The affection that inspires our pedagogical model, taken in its highest sense, is, besides a lofty feeling of the Soul, a **political strategy**, equally understood in its most elevated nature, in consonance with Social Justice, as a **survival strategy** for individuals, peoples, and nations. Human Beings—therefore citizens, among them the hopeful young ones—are much more than a bag of flesh, bones, muscles, nerves, and blood. They love and suffer. They dream, wish, create and get frustrated, and, despite everything, they continue, they forge ahead... Besides laws, they deserve respect so that obscure privileges are never established and so that these laws can be fulfilled for the benefit of all (…). ●

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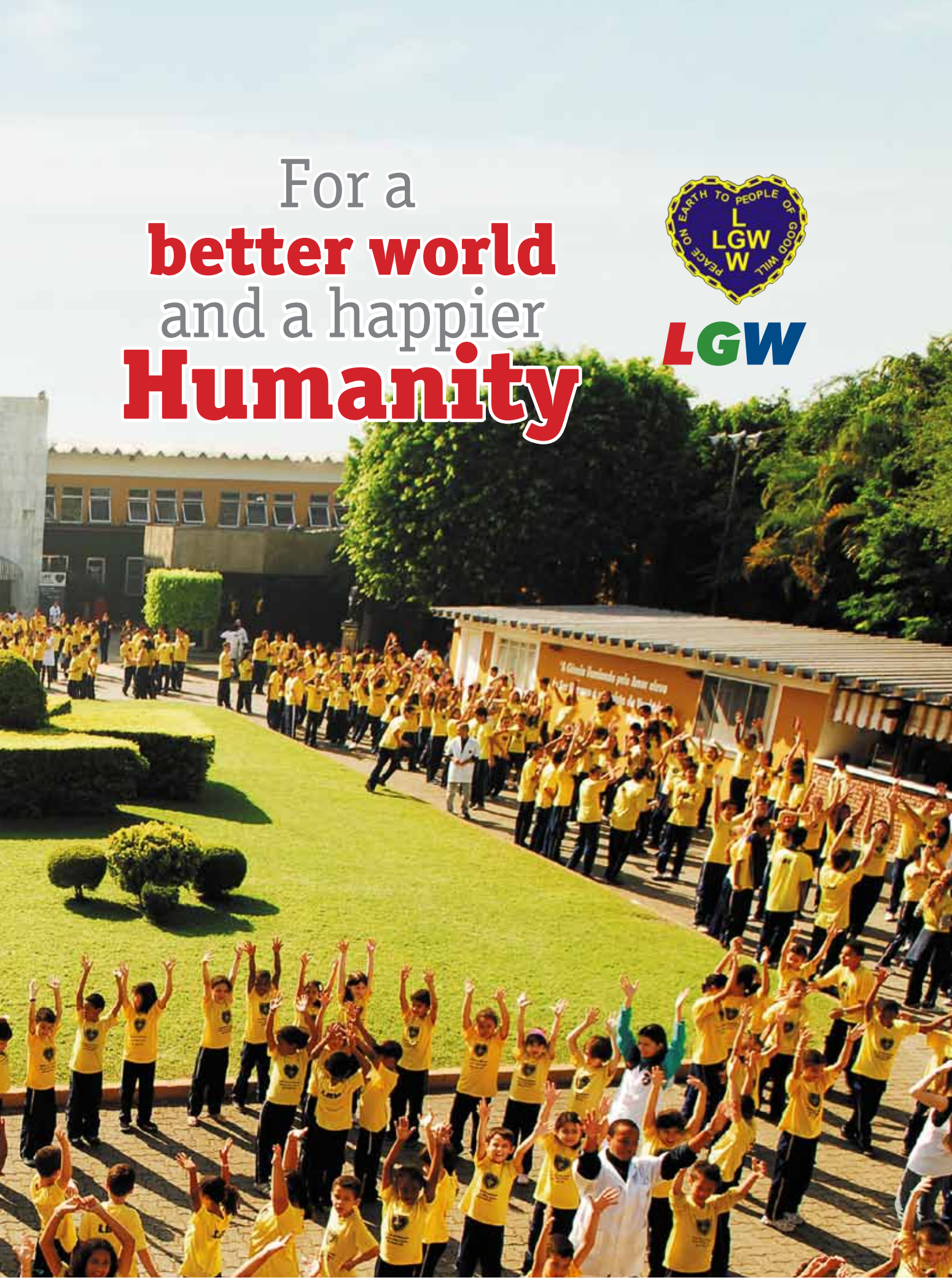
GET TO KNOW THE LGW

The LGW's José de Paiva Netto Educational Institute in São Paulo/SP (Brazil), demonstrates that quality Education, Solidarity and the indispensable Ecumenical Spirituality are the effective keys of the Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy, created by Paiva Netto. On the Institute's façade, the Organization's president requested that the following quote by **Aristotle** be put: *"All who have meditated on the art of governing Humankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth"*.

André Fernandes

For a **better world** and a happier **Humanity**



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Cities of Brazil

For over six decades, the Legion of Good Will has been present in more than 70 Brazilian cities and has autonomous units in other six countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, Portugal, the United States and Uruguay, consolidating itself as one of the largest humanitarian movements on the Planet.

The LGW is internationally acknowledged for the work conducted in its socio-educational units and for its awareness campaigns and social mobilizations—carried out with the differential of Education with Ecumenical Spirituality, as the dear reader will notice in the following pages.

It is a gigantic operation financed by donations from individuals and multi-stakeholder partnerships. This has been made possible thanks to the Organization's credibility, achieved

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USA
Archive BV

Portugal
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Bolivia
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Brazil
André Fernandes

Paraguay
Archive BV

The Mission of the LGW

To Promote Education and Culture with Ecumenical Spirituality, so there may be Food, Security, Health and Work for everyone, in the formation of the Planetary Citizen.

Argentina
Archive BV

Uruguay
Archive BV

Vinicius Bueno

Maringá/PR
Archive BV

Cuiabá/MT
Jolson Nogueira

Vinicius Bueno

through transparent management and proven results.

Only in 2010, more than 8.5 million services and benefits were provided to families living under a situation of vulnerability in Brazil. This vocation to serve and celebrate Life is present in all the triumphant stories of children, adolescents, young people, adults, and the elderly who have been cared for by the LGW.

A Commitment to Education

Since it was founded on January 1, 1950 (World Peace Day) by poet and radio broadcaster **Alziro Zarur** (1914-1979) in Rio de Janeiro/RJ (Brazil), the LGW has been expanding the reach of its programs focused on giving total support to the Human Being, aside from strengthening its work in favor of the sustainable development of nations.

When journalist and writer **José de Paiva Netto** took over the presidency of the LGW in 1979, he widened the Organization's mission by inaugurating model schools and Community Centers for Social Assistance—a network that, on a daily basis, cares for thousands of children, adolescents, young people, adults and senior citizens in social and/or personal vulnerability, including students from public schools.

These buildings serve as base for developing an even greater educational project: the Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy (see page 46). In this manner, the LGW proposes the adoption of a teaching platform that is not restricted to curricular content, for it encourages a renewed awareness

Archive BV
Ipatinga/MG

School Picture
São Paulo/SP

Clayton Ferreira
Salvador/BA

Elisângela Spinola
Cachoeiro de Itapemirim/ES

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of citizenship, producing an effect on the remaining spheres of society. As Paiva Netto, creator of this pedagogical proposal, defines: *"It is urgent that Education be disseminated and faced by all of us as a safe path that shortens the distance among social classes. It is also an efficient antidote against violence, criminality, diseases and everything that harms the healthy development of the people"*.

The level of excellence of this educational proposal has been drawing the attention of educators both from Brazil and abroad. This acknowledgement has resulted in invitations for the LGW to train teachers and prepare materials for several schools interested in adopting its pedagogical proposal. It is also present in congresses addressing Education, and reaches millions of homes through radio and television programs, websites and publications.

Cities of Brazil

Mogi das Cruzes/SP

Foz do Iguaçu/PR

Londrina/PR

Anápolis/GO

Curitiba/PR

Nova Friburgo/RJ

Ponta Grossa/PR

Cabo Frio/RJ

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Vivian R. Ferreira

Clayton Ferreira

School Picture

Ledilaine Santana

Amicucci Gallo

Our work

The LGW's socio-educational units are represented by schools, shelters for the elderly and Community Centers for Social Assistance. Its actions, which are based on a feeling of Solidarity, are also focused on moral and spiritual re-education, in other words, awakening fraternal values in those benefited so they are capable of exercising citizenship and ethics within their families and the society in a conscious manner.

Schools

These have the mission to educate with Ecumenical Spirituality, forming *"Brain and Heart"*. They aim at promoting in several age groups the harmonious development of the body and the Spirit's intelligence with quality, competence and effectiveness. The activities conducted in formal education are extended to all stages of primary education.

- Elementary school
- Junior high school
- High school
- Education for Young People and Adults (EJA)

Shelters for the elderly

These are residential units for senior citizens without references and/or those who do not live with their family. By offering physical, social and recreational activities, the goal is to preserve or re-establish the bonds between these elderly people and their families, besides helping those assisted to live with dignity, to be active and to have a healthy life.

Community Centers for Social Assistance

In these units, social assistance programs are developed to provide support for individuals and families, contributing towards the development of their skills, talents and values; making them aware of their rights and duties; and improving their self-esteem so that they can fully exercise their citizenship.

Socio-educational programs

- ***Baby Citizen***

Provides assistance for pregnant women and those with children up to one year of age. It contributes towards the gestation process and family development by means of social, psychological and legal assistance, talks and therapies.

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Vivian R. Ferreira

• ***LGW — Children: The Future in the Present!***

Contributes towards the protagonism of children between 6 and 12 years of age through activities that awaken their talents and skills, enable the experience of values and strengthen the bonds between family members. It includes art, ecumenical culture, sports and music workshops, digital inclusion, pedagogical and psychological support, and a toy library. Children stay at the LGW during their off-school hours.

Mônica Mendes

• ***Training and Productive Inclusion***

Prepares adolescents, young people and adults for the job market through courses focused on the development of technical and personal skills.

Archive BV

• ***Learning and Interaction Program***

Collaborates towards sociocultural insertion and the strengthening of citizenship among adolescents, young people, adults and the elderly. Provides a favorable environment for the building of interpersonal, intergenerational and family bonds by offering group activities, sporting events, therapies and so on.

Campaigns

The Legion of Good Will conducts throughout Brazil several social mobilization and awareness campaigns that work towards the valorization of Life, children and families. Through these actions, other activities are carried out to complement the full development of those cared for, such as handing out school supplies and non-perishable food baskets.

Clayton Ferreira

A⁺ Child – Without Education There is no Future!

With the distribution of more than 12 thousand kits, this campaign affords financial benefits to parents who do not have the resources to buy school supplies for their kids, aside from improving the self-esteem of children and adolescents attending the Organization's Basic Education Schools, as well as of the participants of the program *LGW – Children: The Future in the Present!*

João Preda

• ***LGW's Permanent Christmas — Jesus, Our Daily Bread!***

Hands out non-perishable food baskets to the families assisted all year round in the LGW's social assistance programs, to the families cared for by the organizations that belong to the Solidary Society Network and to those supported by the LGW's partner organizations.

Vivian R. Ferreira

• ***SOS Disaster***

It is a campaign conducted in partnership with several agencies and with the support from hundreds of volunteers. These are immediate and urgent actions to help people and/or communities that have been affected by calamities. It distributes non-perishable foods and basic need items (clothing, footwear, domestic utensils, diapers, bottled water, cleaning materials and personal hygiene products, etc.), aside from providing other services.

LGW at the UN

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United Nations General Assembly Hall

Visit the LGW's Representative Office to the United Nations in Manhattan: 36 W 44th Street - Mezzanine (between 5th and 6th Avenues), New York, 10036. Phone: (+1646) 398-7128.

Vinicius Bueno

In order to carry out its programs and projects of social inclusion and sustainable development, the LGW establishes partnerships with society's major sectors (governments, companies with social and environmental responsibility, international organizations, schools, community associations, and other civil society organizations). Agents of this type of initiative must have the following traits in common: a spirit of cooperation and commitment to the spontaneous feeling of Love for one another.

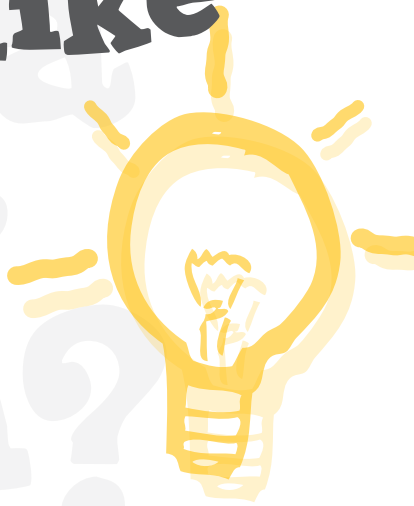
The Legion of Good Will was the first civil society organization from Brazil to become a member of the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) in 1994. In 1999, the LGW also became Brazil's first civil society organization to obtain from the UN general consultative status at the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), unanimously voted by representatives from 28 countries. The Organization gained in this manner the right to participate in conferences of all areas of the UN, with an active voice in recommendations on international public policies. In the following year, it began to take part of the Conference of NGOs with Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO), in Vienna, Austria.

In 2004, it co-founded the NGO Committee on Spirituality, Values and Global Concerns in the UN. It is currently part of its executive council.

In 2010, the Legion of Good Will of the United States inaugurated its new Representative Office in New York. With this, the LGW strengthens the voice of Latin American civil society over the issues discussed at the UN, especially at ECOSOC. Besides this responsibility, the new office has the task of mobilizing New York citizens and members of the international community to volunteer in the LGW's socio-educational programs and projects, such as those that the Organization conducts in five other countries through its autonomous bases as well as in Brazil.

AN INVITATION FOR EDUCATORS!

Would you like to take this good idea into your classroom?



LGW

Receive training on the Good Will Pedagogy (the Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy), created by educator Paiva Netto, in Brazil and abroad.

Information

Website: www.boavontade.com/english | E-mail: english@boavontade.com
Telephone: (+55 11) 3225 4590 | Address: Avenida Rudge, 700,
Bom Retiro, São Paulo/ SP - Brazil.

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LGW's Statement for ECOSOC 2011 High-Level Segment

André Fernandes

The following excerpts are from the statement of the Legion of Good Will (LGW) forwarded to the United Nations Economic and Social Council 2011 High-Level Segment, which has Education as its main topic. The recommendations are the result of the experience of more than six decades of the LGW in this area and the result of extensive social mobilization efforts promoted by the Organization through the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum – 5th Innovation Fair, having held 13 events between 6/22/2010 and 4/1/2011, in South America and Europe. (Read full report on these meetings on page 28)

Rio de Janeiro School Massacre

This document was prepared under the emotional impact of the tragedy that took place on April 7, 2011, when 12 children were victims of a massacre at the public school where they studied in Rio de Janeiro. As with similar cases in other parts of the world, the assailant was a victim of bullying earlier at the same school and also suffered from mental illness. The fact that these individuals grew up without such disturbances being precociously diagnosed and treated deserves the reflection of the entire society.

For this reason, the LGW promotes discussions on education with a different approach: *"a view beyond the intellect"*, as extolled by educator Paiva Netto. Showing a concern that goes beyond

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curricular content, the LGW considers the values and subjectivity of each student, formed by a pedagogical proposal that combines development of the intellect with the perspective of Ecumenical Spirituality, guided towards a Culture of Peace. The Organization's work is therefore best summarized by the expression: *"Here one studies—Brain and Heart are formed"*.

At the Legion of Good Will, Ecumenical Spirituality guides towards a Culture of Peace.

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Shana Reis/ABr

Tasso da Silveira Municipal School's entrance after the tragedy.

This new concept expands the sense of citizenship and renews the hope that tragedies like the massacre in Rio will never be repeated. Moreover, it multiplies the positive impact of innumerable stories of triumph by demonstrating that a complete development of individuals is possible for a solidary society. (Read more about this proposal on page 46)

Education in troubled areas

In the largest public safety operation in recent Brazilian history, the Rio de Janeiro government in partnership with other spheres of public power has installed Pacifying Police Units (UPPs) at various *favelas* throughout the city. In areas formerly under the control of drug traffickers and clandestine militias, the state has begun to offer essential public services, complemented by the decisive action of non-governmental organizations, such as the LGW. In this way, the exclusion conditions that favor criminality are gradually reversed.

The case of 12-year-old Maria (a pseudonym to preserve the girl's identity) is emblematic. As a resident of Providência, a poor community in Rio, Maria's brother was enticed by drug gangs and killed in a confrontation with the police during the takeover of the *favela*. As a result of this tragedy, she became apprehensive that her life would follow a similar fate. After the confrontation, the police started building ties of trust with the community, counting on specific training and the support of partner associations.

The girl and her family now live in a new reality. Currently, she takes karate classes offered by the UPP-Providência and has even won medals in competitions. These achievements reflect an even greater transformation made possible through the UPP's project, which is supported by the Legion of Good Will. According to reports from the LGW's multidisciplinary team, the emphasis on emotional development helped the girl overcome her trauma. Anger and fear gave way to kindness and hope, expressed in a new harmonious way of life.

Her story reflects those of many other children and adolescents in the community and demonstrates the success of this methodology, which can be replicated around the world, especially in conflict areas.

Recommendations

Among the recommendations gathered, based on a broad survey, we highlight the following:

— improve the use of information and communications technologies in schools, involving educators, parents and

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Community of Providência

The community of Providência in the central region of the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

With the creation of the Pacifying Police Unit (UPP, in Portuguese) of Providência (central region of the city of Rio) and the karate course in the community, in 2010, the LGW expanded even more its actions developed in that location.

relatives in educational programs, as well as developing interdisciplinary projects that allow the use of these tools in actions that benefit communities;

— involve various social actors (such as companies, universities and civil society organizations) in joint strategies to strengthen the teaching process, creating new educational spaces in communities;

— strengthen the performance of professors, emphasizing academic courses oriented to education, adopting continuous learning programs and incentives to make an educational career more attractive;

— train and prepare teachers to work with diversity, including children with special educational needs. Greater emphasis should also be given to themes aimed at promoting social justice and sustainable development;

— develop actions to promote multilingualism in Latin America, beginning with teacher training courses, in order to rescue the people's native culture;

— create or strengthen mechanisms to make the management of schools more decentralized, counting on the effective participation of parent associations and members of the community;

— improve the management of schools and education networks, optimizing spending and relieving professionals of the pedagogical area from bureaucratic and administrative processes;

— establish effective legal mechanisms for cooperation between the public power and community schools, considering their specificities;

— promote a broad global discussion regarding the parameters for testing

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Visit, fall in love with and help the LGW! In Rio de Janeiro/RJ, Brazil, the José de Paiva Netto Educational Center is located at Av. Dom Hélder Câmara, 3.059 — Del Castilho. For further information call (+55 21) 2501-0247 or access the portal www.boavontade.com.

Photos: Vivian R. Ferreira

students, considering the cultural characteristics of each country and the needs of the new economy.

The LGW thanks all of its partners, especially the support and participation of various organs of the United Nations System in Latin America. It also thanks Mr. **Andrei Abramov**, Chief of the NGO Branch of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, who as a keynote speaker attended the main conferences and provided invaluable insight and guidance throughout the whole process.

The organization makes itself available to collaborate with UN Member-States and civil society organizations committed to strengthening education worldwide. And it reiterates its vanguard defense that the deepest and longest-lasting social transformation begins with education.

In the words of the LGW's leader: *"Educated, instructed and ecumenically spiritualized people are those who have broken the chains of poverty and thrown them away. (...) While efficient education desired by all those of common sense does not prevail, any nation will suffer the captivity of the limitations it imposes upon itself"*.

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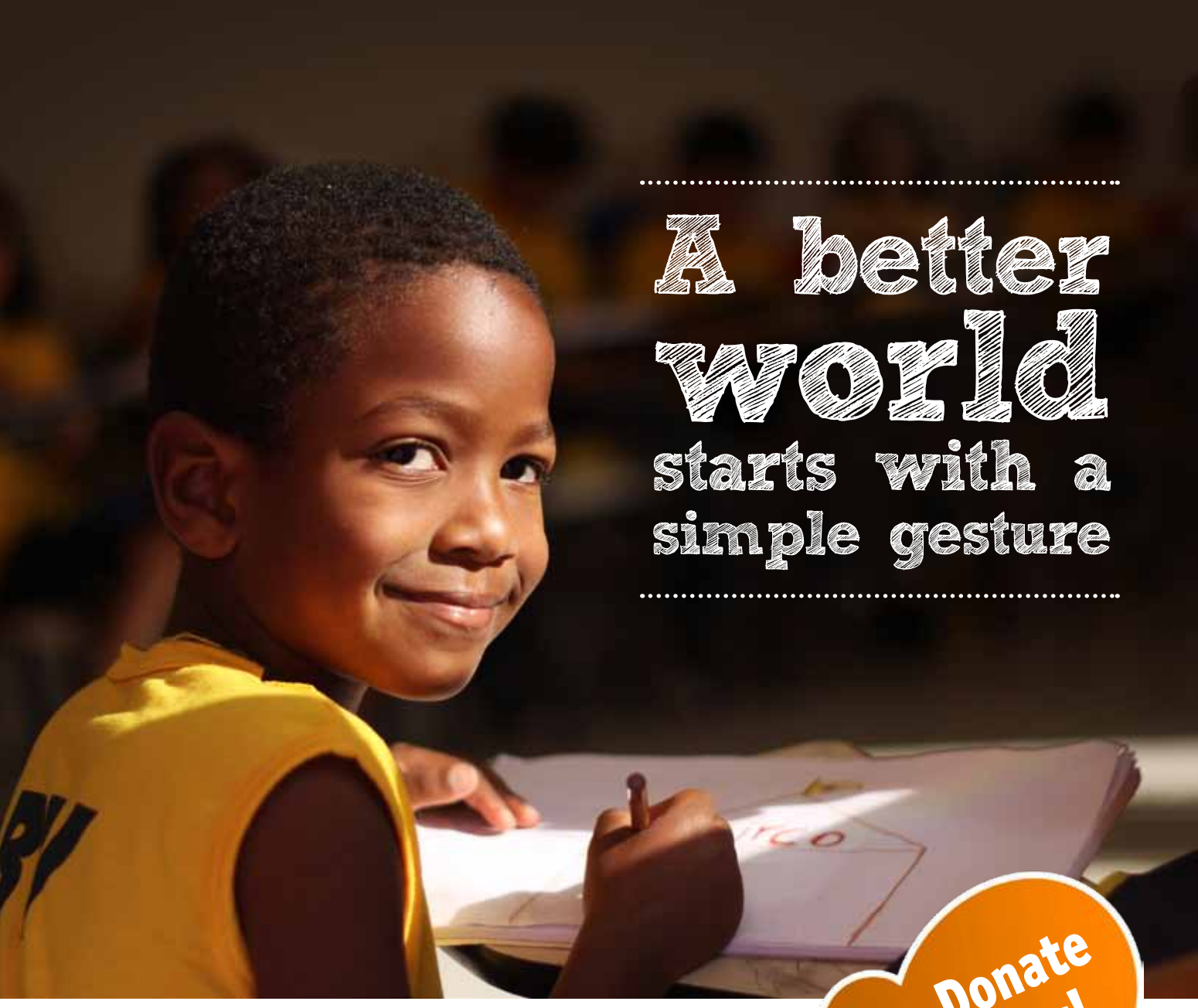

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United for Education

Event promoted by the LGW in South American and European cities debated the quality of teaching

Leila Marco

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To fulfill the goal of "Achieving Universal Primary Education", one of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)—proposed by the United Nations (UN) as commitments to be achieved by 2015—, means to effectively work for the improvement of the well-being of billions of people, as well as for jobs and economic prosperity. After all, it is a fact that education holds the key for the development of a nation.

With the objective of spreading practices that contribute towards the fulfillment of this goal, the Legion of Good Will—that has been dedicating itself for over 60 years towards an education for Peace, valuing the individual as a complete Being—organized the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum — 5th Innovation Fair in support to the Annual Ministerial Review of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The Forum was held in South American cities (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay) and in Portugal between June 10, 2010 and April 1, 2011. The central theme of the series of events was "Education for global development: a view beyond the intellect". In order to achieve all this mobilization, the LGW counted on the support and participation of several departments of the UN System, highlighted by UN/DESA and the United Nations Information Center for Brazil (UNIC-Rio).

According to the EFA Global Monitoring Report 2011, launched by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on March 1, *"the past decade has witnessed extraordinary progress towards the Education for all goals in some of the world's poorest countries"*. Notably, affirms the document, there has been an increase in the number of children enrolled in basic education, especially girls and young people. However, the same report states that *"the quality of Education remains very low in many countries. Millions of children are emerging from primary school with reading, writing and numeracy skills far below expected levels"*. The factors that contribute towards this scenario are insufficient classroom hours, outdated technological equipment, a high level of school dropout rates and distortions between age and grade/academic year, besides cases of violence and the presence of drugs in teaching institutions.

The Report verified that nations where *"armed conflicts occur face alarming challenges"*. The study reveals that *"over 40% of out-of-school children live in conflict-affected countries"*.

Countries that hosted the event

Argentina

Bolivia

Brazil

Paraguay

Portugal

Uruguay

Photos: Vivian R. Ferreira

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Education
in the fight against poverty

Rio de Janeiro/RJ

One of the conclusive stages of this series of events occurred at the LGW's Educational Center in Rio de Janeiro/RJ, on March 28, 2011, where the theme "Brazil's Challenges — Education in the fight against poverty" was debated. In the meeting's opening, participants were welcomed by the Legionnaire of Good Will **Alziro Paolotti de Paiva**, representing the Legion of Good Will's President, **José de Paiva Netto**. In his words, he reminded everyone of an important message from the Organization's leader. *"I quote from the book* It is urgent to re-educate!*, which has reached the expressive amount of more than 230 thousand copies sold: 'Educated, instructed and ecumenically spiritualized people are those who have broken the chains of poverty and thrown them away.'. And, further on, he continues: 'While efficient education desired by all those of common sense does not prevail, any nation will suffer the captivity of the limitations it imposes upon itself'. (...) We will certainly have an excellent forum!".*

Alziro de Paiva

Participating in the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum, in the capital city of Rio de Janeiro, the Chief of the NGO Branch of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA), Mr. **Andrei Abramov**, brought a valuable contribution to the debate. In his speech he acknowledged the efforts of the LGW in organizing the event: *"I would like to specially thank Mr. Paiva Netto, the President of the Legion [of Good Will] and his team for the sterling work and dedication. The LGW has been advocating for the importance of Education for a long time and also the creation of a culture*

A general view of the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum, in the city of Rio de Janeiro.

Photos: Nathalia Valério

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Photos: Nathália Valério

From left to right: **Tânia Zagury,** MA in Education from UFRJ, philosopher, conference speaker, writer and teacher; **Gisela Portilho,** Principal of the LGW's School in Rio de Janeiro; **Andrei Abramov,** Head of the NGO Branch of the UN/DESA; **Claudia Costin,** Municipal Secretary of Education of Rio de Janeiro; and **Francisco Potiguara,** Project Coordinator of Viva Rio.

of respect within the family. They also work to build schools, train teachers and provide school materials. The Legion of Good Will has been among the first organizations to acknowledge the value of Education for the well-being of families in combating poverty".

Schooling and income

The public policies for the sector were emphasized in the talk given by Professor Dr. **Claudia Costin**, a specialist in the area and Secretary of Education of Rio de Janeiro/RJ. For her, exams such as the SAEB, ENEM and Prova Brasil*[1] provide important tools to measure the learning results and, from this data, contribute to plan more effective policies that have a strategic persistence.

Claudia commented that despite access to primary school being almost universal, only 58% of students that begin basic education conclude the last year of high

*[1] **SAEB**: National System for Basic Education Evaluation; **ENEM**: National High School Examination; and the **Prova Brasil** — evaluates students from the 4th and 8th grades of primary education, from public and urban schools.

"Brazil has very few institutions that can match the work carried out by the LGW, because it is very difficult to find a pedagogical project that focuses mainly on forming a new Human Being. The LGW does this through a major project of pedagogy with devotion, which I called in an article as 'a major strategy of affection'."

Dr. Cármine Antonio Savino Filho
Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Rio de Janeiro

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Priscilla Antunes

From left to right: the President of the Superintendence of Sports of the State of Rio de Janeiro (SUDERJ), **Everardo Candido da Silva**; the LGW's administrator in Rio de Janeiro, **Eliel Brum**; the Chief of the NGO Branch of UN/DESA, Mr. **Andrei Abramov**; **Alziro Paolotti de Paiva**, representing the President of the LGW, **José de Paiva Netto**; the representative of the LGW at the UN, **Danilo Parmegiani**; and the Commander of the UPP-Providência, Captain **Glauco Schorcht**. On the occasion, karate athletes welcomed the distinguished visitors.

Visit to the Pacified Community of Providência

The Chief of the NGO Branch of the UN/DESA, Mr. Andrei Abramov, got to know the work carried out by the LGW in the Pacified Community of Providência on the morning of March 28. There, the Organization is present with its Learning and Interaction Program that contributes towards the development of people and families living in a situation of vulnerability. Another successful initiative of the LGW in that location is the help offered to the community children who participate in karate classes—conducted by the Pacifying Police Unit (UPP)— , as part of the campaign *Sport is Life, not violence!*.

On the opportunity, the karate athletes presented some of the sport's techniques to the UN representative. *"Today's visit of the* favela *in Providência was an eye opening experience for me. First of all it is a really ground breaking experience which could be replicated in many many countries where the similar situation of poverty, extreme poverty, and crime and drugs exist, and where children and also youth do not see another way but to repeat the same cycle of violence. This experience is particularly valuable for countries emerging from conflicts, like Haiti and many others. I think that this experience also shows great partnerships between government, the private sector and the organizations like the Legion of Good Will"*, Mr. Abramov commented.

The LGW's work in Providência is the result of a partnership between the Organization, Super Radio Brazil — 940 AM and the government of the State of Rio de Janeiro, which, through Rio's State Secretary of Sports and Leisure, supports the work within the project *Rio 2016*.

school. The secretary also said that one of the main factors associated with the reduction of poverty is the level of permanence of students in school. *"Each year of schooling increases in 15% a person's income in Brazil*[*2]. It's worth investing in school dropout prevention"*, she affirmed. Claudia also spoke of the good performance of the *Escolas do Amanhã* [Schools of Tomorrow] program developed in communities that have high levels of violence in the capital city of Rio de Janeiro.

The teacher

For conference speaker **Tânia Zagury**, MA in Education and writer, excellence in Education in Brazil can only be reached by prioritizing not only the student, but also offering teachers relevant subsidies. This perception is based on the educator's experience of more than four decades as a

*2 Professor Claudia Costin refers to a study published by researcher **Marcelo Néri**, from the Getúlio Vargas Foundation (FGV). In his study, Néri also affirms that if an individual has completed his/her college graduation, the impact on this person's income is of 47%.

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Alexandre Herculano

From left to right, the couple **Lucimara Augusta** and **Paiva Netto** together with the UN representative, Mr. **Andrei Abramov**, next to **Raquel Bertolin**, from the LGW.

teacher and on a three and a half-year study that she conducted involving all of Brazil's regions with *"the premise of listening only to classroom teachers"*.

In this work, Tânia verified the numerous difficulties educators face in the daily practice of teaching, which range from a precarious condition of the school infrastructure up to violence and the effects of a highly consumer-oriented society. According to the researcher, low salaries and poor formation on the part of teachers end up reinforcing this state of affairs.

The Project Coordinator for the NGO Viva Rio, **Francisco Potiguara**, commented on the activities developed by the organization in low income communities. In an interview to GOOD WILL magazine, he highlighted the importance of this meeting and the need for the government and civil society alike to deepen their communication in favor of Education. *"The solutions are close at hand. Education contributes effectively to reduce poverty, violence and to build a world of Peace. Congratulations to the LGW because with meetings like this we exchange ideas and we allow the building of a forum capable of showing the best paths to solve very serious problems of Brazilian and world education"*, he declared.

The Vice President of the Brazilian Institute of Magistrates, the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Dr. **Cármine Antonio Savino Filho**, and the Director of the Navy Historical Heritage and Documentation, Admiral **Armando de Senna Bittencourt**, also brought important contributions to the Forum.

Friendly meeting: friendship and education

Before the first official event, on March 28, Mr. Andrei Abramov, United Nations representative at the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum, met once again with radio broadcaster and journalist Paiva Netto, the President of the Legion of Good Will, at the LGW's office in the capital of Rio de Janeiro.

More than expressing mutual respect and admiration, both friends took the opportunity to talk about the situation of children and young people of low income in Brazil and abroad. They also discussed solutions for the problems that concern the areas of education and social assistance. During the meeting, Mr. Abramov mentioned many talents of the president of the LGW, highlighting that the work of Paiva Netto is inspiring to people of Good Will.

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Forum discusses public policies

Brasília/DF

In Brazil's federal capital, the World Parliament of Ecumenical Fraternity, the LGW´s ParlaMundi, received on March 30, 2011, hundreds of students, authorities and representatives of non-governmental organizations for the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum. In the center of discussion in Brasília, the topic addressed was "Brazil's Challenges — Innovations in educational public policies".

Four representatives of the governmental sphere present at the event greeted the initiative: Senator **Marisa Serrano**, Vice President of the Senate's Education, Culture and Sports Commission and President of the Temporary Commission to Monitor the Goals of the Millennium; Federal Congresswoman for the State of Goiás **Flávia Morais**, Head of the Labor, Administration and Public Service Commission; Professor **Maria do Pilar Lacerda Almeida e Silva**, Secretary for Basic Education of the Ministry of Education (MEC), who represented the Minister of Education, **Fernando Haddad**; and **Maria Teresa Amaral Fontes**, Program Analyst at the Social Police Division of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), representing **Jorge Chediek**, UN Resident Coordinator and the UNDP Resident Representative in Brazil, at the event.

In Brasília/DF, the Chief of the NGO Branch of the UN/DESA, Mr. Andrei Abramov, spoke about the role of civil society organizations: *"Your work shows that the poor can make out of what they have inside of them and not what they were given at birth. (...) I would like to pay special tribute to the Legion of Good Will, a Brazilian non-governmental Organization in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, which has long advocated for the importance of public Education in promoting justice and equality."*

Brain and Heart

Suelí Periotto, LGW's educator and Supervisor of the Pedagogy of Affection (for children up to the age of 10) and of the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy (for children beginning at the age of 11), shared with the public her experience in applying this new

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Lucian Fagundes

BRASÍLIA/DF

From left to right on the event's roundtable: Professor Dr. **Neide Noffs**; **Andrei Abramov**, United Nations Representative; educator **Suelí Periotto**; teacher **Maria Luiza Martins Aléssio**, from the Secretariat of Elementary Education of the Ministry of Education; and Professor Dr. **Edson Kondo**, Doctor's degree in Public Policy from Harvard University (USA).

educational proposal, created by educator Paiva Netto, responsible for the significant results achieved by the LGW's network of schools and for its socio-educational programs in Brazil and abroad.

In her talk, the educator spoke about the differential of the Organization's proposal which, she affirms, is *"about betting on solidary knowledge. Our school's motto is 'Here one studies—Brain and Heart are formed'. We feel that one of the supporting legs is rational thinking, and the other is the concept of Ecumenical Spirituality, of values. One completes the other; you cannot leave out intellectuality, lacking a pedagogic background. You cannot deprive students of exercising all that they carry within them. You want the student to handle tasks with his intellect, benefitting society as well as him/herself. (...) When we speak of spirituality, it is important to explain that we are not speaking of religion but of religiousness, which is something inherent in every Human Being"*.

When professing the need to have *"a view beyond the intellect"*, the leader of the LGW set the guidelines for this pedagogy's own methodology: the MAPREI — Learning Method through Rational-Emotional-Intuitive Research. In it, *"the student is actually the protagonist"*, Suelí Periotto explains.

"Just to have an idea, the methodology has six steps and, up to the fourth, the student is prioritized. Only after that stage, the educator brings in the material proposed for that subject. Students feel involved in the learning process and not only as a mere receiver", the educator highlights. With this method, she points out that *"the teacher is a facilitator, a mediator of knowledge; he/she knows how to let others have their turn. (...) That boy who is before his educator and is only four years old, or that 16-year-old adolescent, what do they have to add? A great deal! Because we are bringing new knowledge to their lives, so we must meet them halfway in the very context they live in"*.

This differential, combined with encouragement towards reading, sports

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Photos: Lucian Fagundes

Federal Congresswoman **Flávia Morais** praised the Organization's efforts in conducting the event: *"The LGW represents Brazil in the United Nations. It also takes Ecumenical Spirituality to schools of basic education. (...) It is extremely important that we evidence God's presence so that children may have proper guidelines, support and many times be capable of separating their problems from learning"*.

In the federal capital, the Legionnaire of Good Will **Alziro Paolotti de Paiva**, representing the president of the LGW, welcomed the participants of the forum.

Lúcia Camini, Education Coordinator of the Secretariat of Human Rights, represented Minister **Maria do Rosário Nunes**, Head of the Secretariat of Human Rights of the President's Office.

The Secretary of Basic Education of the Brazilian Ministry of Education (MEC), **Maria do Pilar**, represented the Minister of Education, **Fernando Haddad**, at the LGW's forum.

and an excellent education, leads the schools of the Legion of Good Will to achieve significant results in all age groups, especially when it comes to students continuing with their education, the zero school dropout rates, not to mention an environment free of violence and drugs.

Completing the team of panelists, Professor **Maria Luiza Martins Aléssio**, Director of Institutional Strengthening and Educational Management of the Secretariat for Basic Education of the Ministry of Education (MEC), spoke about the Education Development Plan (PDE, in Portuguese). In an interview to GOOD WILL magazine, she commented on the Forum itself: *"Moments like these are inspiring and point the correct path towards integration; they go hand-in-hand with MEC's own policy, with its Education Development Plan, which has as a supporting pillar social mobilization, articulating all sectors of society in promoting complete Education. We do not simply seek technical quality, but human, citizen and social quality"*.

The dynamic roundtable also counted on the presence of Professor **Edson Kenji Kondo**, Doctor's degree in Public Policies from Harvard University (USA) and Director of Business Administration of the Universidade Católica de Brasília (UCB). The academician developed the theme "A new Education for a sustainable economy". In his talk, he associated aspects of this proposal with the concept of citizenship and the theme of major current subjects, demonstrating, for instance, how the environment has been degraded throughout time, notably in the last four decades, due to the relentless race for economic growth. *"And we are feeling this at every moment, with major forest fires, floods and extreme climate phenomena"*, he stated.

According to Professor Edson Kondo, sustainability will progressively demand more quality than quantity. *"Saving the planet and us, Humanity, requires us to revolutionize Education"*, he said. That

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Lucian Fagundes

In Brasília, the public filled the LGW's ParlaMundi premises.

is why he recommends: it is necessary to discover other talents, *"to stimulate diversity, disseminate information to the utmost and to afford a greater degree of protagonism for students, [since] all of them have talents and we cannot afford to waste all this potential; we should facilitate creative solutions and those that are self-organized; and we must also let go from the temptation to control processes"*. Therefore, in the professor's point of view, education must be more in tune with the student's needs, an aspect which is present in the Pedagogy of Affection and in the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy, as he pointed out: ***"That's a point made by the LGW. (...) I was impressed with the effectiveness of educator Paiva Netto's pedagogy"***.

The talk given by Professor **Neide Noffs**, Director of the Faculty of Education of the Pontifícia Universidade Católica de São Paulo (PUC-SP), focused on the challenge of continuous formation of teachers, highlighting strategies that can enable them to act in a scenario of an ever-changing reality. After her presentation, Neide concluded that: *"The LGW has been engaged in great efforts for many years to articulate [socio-educational actions with] civil society, the governmental sphere, the academia and other segments. The LGW has been doing this with competence, safety and consideration; it interferes not only in our country but in the world as well, offering these references in Education"*.

José Gonçalo

"Education is value and also knowledge, and the LGW has done this for the country and the world."

Marisa Serrano
Senator

After the Multi-stakeholder Panel, the public was invited to visit the 5th Innovation Fair in support to the Annual Ministerial Review of the UN/ECOSOC.

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International paths of Education

Buenos Aires/Argentina

The challenges of Ibero-American countries to seek each day for more quality in Education and to ensure equal opportunities were the predominant themes in the Argentinian stage of the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum. The meeting was held in Brazil's Embassy in the capital city of Buenos Aires, on March 31, 2011.

Mercedes Miguel

The event was opened by the Chief of the Department of Social Affairs and Human Rights of the Embassy of Brazil, **Thiago Melamed de Menezes**, and by the LGW's representative in Argentina, **Erival Teixeira**. Other authorities also welcomed the public, such as **Ana María Ravaglia**, Vice Minister of Education for the Government of the city of Buenos Aires, and **Darío Pulfer**, Director of the Regional Office of the Organization of Ibero-American States for Buenos Aires.

All the authorities shared a common concern that highlighted the need to create meeting and reflection venues in which Education can take center stage, a protagonist role, capable of effectively evaluating contexts and goals on the short and long terms.

After the opening ceremony, four workshops were carried out and the following themes were discussed: "The challenges of education given the new technologies and the information society and the challenges of communication", "Educating for Social Citizenship", "On the path to building new educational spaces" and "Roundtable for education-related social organizations".

The Director-General of Educational Planning of the Government of the city of Buenos Aires, **Mercedes Miguel**, who was part of the team of panelists, introduced the local program of digital education innovation. On that occasion, she also gave her impressions on the meeting: *"I'm happy and grateful that the LGW organized this Forum, with panelists of high quality, where everyone learns"*.

Photos: Aline Portel

Suelí Periotto, Supervisor of the Pedagogy of Affection and of the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy, shared with the Argentinian audience experiences of this innovative educational proposal.

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Photos: Aline Portel

BUENOS AIRES

Ana Cerutti, education specialist for children up to 3 years of age, for the government of Uruguay, witnessed in the educational process the value of expressions and emotions, as well as family participation. *"It was really interesting when the subject of Spirituality came up, about making room for emotions. In my opinion, the event seemed very interesting due to the diversity of the talks, the choice of themes and the introduction of new technologies"*, the educator commented.

Ana Cerutti

Lilia Goday

For the Director-General of the Permanent Forum for Education, Science and Culture for Peace (FOPAZ), **Lilia Goday**, it is necessary to emphasize human values, *"to work for the Culture of Peace to become part of education for the development of the capacities and personalities of individuals, taking into consideration human rights, especially economic, social and cultural rights, as well as tolerance and dialog"*.

Valorizing also other aspects of teaching, **Sergio Rial**, Coordinator of the National Program for Solidary Education of Argentina's Ministry of Education, commented: *"There's a circle of virtues in solidary education; it generates factors that facilitate teaching because children begin to have a different type of empathy towards knowledge"*.

Divulgation

Sergio Rial

- **Roundtable:** "The challenges of education given the new technologies and the information society and the challenges of communication", chaired by **Carolina Di Palma** (first from the left), responsible for the Convergence Project of the *Paka Paka* Channel; in the sequence, speakers **Vera Rexach**, teacher and specialist in ICT at the OEI; **Mercedes Miguel**, Director-General of Educational Planning of the Government of the city of Buenos Aires, and **Carlos Caballero**, Education Coordinator of the LGW of Argentina.

Divulgation

Ester Lafont, President of the Civil Association Proyectarg, also present at the event, highlighted: *"I loved the Forum because it focused on several subjects, with different talks and something in common: everyone concerned with improving Education"*.

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The Challenges of MERCOSUR

Montevideo/Uruguay

In the capital of Uruguay, the LGW proposed practices capable of joining the second Millennium Development Goal with the first (eradicating poverty) and the third (gender equality), incorporating, yet, an ethnical-cultural dimension to it. With this, it is possible to reduce the social inequalities, breaking the vicious circle that reproduces poverty, beginning in the school environment.

How to ensure that, through education, the vulnerable segments of the population can effectively integrate into the economy which is more and more competitive due to globalization? This question guided the debates in Uruguay around the theme "Education as a tool for social inclusion", on April 1, 2011. The country was chosen to deepen this discussion also due to the fact that

From the left, **Andrei Abramov**, United Nations Representative; **Jorge Campanella**, Director of the Department of Childhood, Adolescence and Family of the Ministry of Social Development of Uruguay; **Luis Garibaldi**, National Director of Education, of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Uruguay; and **Edson Teixeira**, LGW's International Representative.

Photos: Archive BV

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the capital city, Montevideo, is the seat of the Executive Secretariat and the Parliament of MERCOSUR*[3].

The meeting's opening was under the responsibility of **Luis Garibaldi**, the National Director of Education for the Ministry of Education and Culture of Uruguay. In the sequence, **Jorge Campanella**, Director of the Department of Childhood, Adolescence and Family of the Ministry of Social Development of Uruguay, which carries out the Infamilia Program; **Edson Teixeira**, the LGW's International Representative; and Mr. **Andrei Abramov**, Chief of the NGO Branch of UN/DESA, gave a speech in turn.

Photos: Archive BV

Laura Bianchi

In this phase of the Forum, the following themes were addressed: "The Ceibal Plan, digital inclusion and new resources to access the society of knowledge", by educator **Laura Bianchi**, representing the Ceibal Center of Support towards Education for Children and Adolescents; and "Greater opportunities for early childhood in Uruguay", with the participation of educator **Andrea Tejera**, Director of the Childhood and Family Care Centers (CAIF Plan). The meeting also counted on a talk about "An alternative for school insertion", presented by **Julia Cerredelo**, inspector of the Central Board of Directors (CODICEN) of the National Public Education Administration (ANEP), and by educator **Yanella Posente**, of the Infamilia program.

Andrea Tejera

Julia Cerredelo

Yanella Posente

Porto/Portugal

Nely Oliveira

The city of Porto, in Portugal, was chosen to host one of the stages of the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum. On November 19 and 20, 2010, the meeting discussed themes centered on the importance of combining values of Ecumenical Spirituality with educational fundaments in the search for the total development of students and the promotion of the Culture of Peace. In the photo, the LGW's representative at the UN, **Danilo Parmegiani**, presents the work developed by the Organization in the United Nations to congress participants and explains how this contributes towards global public policies.

*[3] **MERCOSUR** — Established in 1991, the international organization formed by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay has the purpose of adopting regional integration policies. Venezuela is currently under a process of becoming a full member. Currently, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru are associate members.

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How to improve education in the country

Asuncion/Paraguay

Teacher **Marcelo Rafael** (at the microphone), Educational Assistant of the LGW's Educational Institute in São Paulo, talked about "The Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy".

Photos: Archive BV

Hosted in the United Nations Auditorium in Paraguay's capital city, on March 14, 2011, the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum analyzed the progress and the good practices regarding Education in that country.

Among the participants of the meeting were representatives of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), of the United Nations Information Center in Asuncion (CINU), of the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI), of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Paraguay, of the Calle Escuela Foundation, of the Paraguay Educa Association, and of the Valores para Vivir Association.

Luis Scasso

In the opening of the forum, educator **María do Carmen Giménez**, speaking on behalf of Paraguay's Minister of Education, **Luis Alberto Riart**, welcomed the public to the event. The program included two panels of debates on topics such as "Education of indigenous people", presented by **Ana Ramos**, UNICEF's Specialist on indigenous people's themes and those regarding afro-descendants; "Education Targets for 2021", presented by **Luis Scasso**, Director

Carolina Scholz

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Photos: Archive BV

The program also included the topic "Education Targets 2021", presented by **Luis Scasso**, Director of the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (OEI). The event took place at the United Nations Information Center in Asuncion (CINU).

of OEI in Paraguay; and "Forming leaders for positive changes", given by **Carolina Scholz**, Coordinator of the University Social Responsibility Committee of the University of the Southern Cone of the Americas. A highlight also goes to the talk "Schools Associated to UNESCO: a reality in Paraguay", developed by educator **Silvana Zepilli**.

Alda Carreira

Authorities and personalities present at the event did not spare comments on the relevance of this meeting. **Alda Carreira**, Director of the UNESCO Associated Schools Program, in Paraguay, affirmed that: *"To bring together institutions to express their contribution towards the Millennium Goals is very important. Sometimes, each one of us works on a specific theme and we fail to see the global context. This event enabled us all to have a better perspective on the Millennium Goals".*

The good practices gathered at the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum — 5th Innovation Fair in support to the Annual Ministerial Review of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and in the questionnaire made available at the website www.redesociedadesolidaria.org.br served as the basis for a report forwarded by the LGW to ECOSOC (read it on page 22), contributing to this Council's most important annual meeting, in which the LGW has general consultative status since 1999: the High-Level Segment, to be held between July 4-7 in Geneva, Switzerland.

In turn, Luis Scasso, Director of OEI, gave his congratulations: *"I thank the LGW for inviting us to such a valuable meeting where we can be informed of the actions that are being conducted so that together we can fulfill the Millennium Goals, which in this case addresses Education".*

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Education and inclusion in Andean countries

La Paz/Bolivia

Educators and other professionals associated with the area of education were present at the auditorium of the Nuestra Señora de La Paz University, in the capital city of Bolivia, to participate in the 8th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum, on March 11, 2011.

The meeting's opening counted on the special participation of Brazil's Ambassadress, **Rosalee Biato**, aside from **Victor Pinaya**, in charge of the High School Multicultural Curriculum of the Ministry of Education of Bolivia. The representative of the Bolivian government also brought to the debate the principles established by the Avelino Siñani-Elizardo Pérez Law of Education (in effect since 12/21/2010). In honoring two pioneering masters of education for indigenous people, the new legislation intends to put an end to discrimination and exclusion within classrooms, ensuring that everyone receives Education in favor of cultural and linguistic diversity.

Victor Pinaya

The Forum also counted on the participation of **Rosario Chuquimia**, from the Center of Information and Development of Women, with a talk on "The educational curriculum for non-sexist education". The debate continued with a talk by Mr. **Frank Vásquez**, Academic Director of the Internacional

Rosario Chuquimia

Photos: Leilla Tonin

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Photos: Leila Tonin

From left to right, **Suelí Periotto**, Supervisor of the LGW's Pedagogy; the master of ceremonies **Elizabeth Mac Lean**; Ambassadress **Rosalee Biato**, representing Brazil's Embassy in La Paz; **Roseli Garcia**, Communication Advisor for the LGW of Bolivia; **Rosana Siqueira**, from the Brazil-Bolivia Cultural Center; **Moisés Franchi**, Representative of the LGW of Bolivia; and **Edson Teixeira**, LGW's International Representative.

del Sur School, who addressed the subject of "Current foundations of Inclusive Education for the new millennium". Also from the Internacional del Sur School came the contribution from panelists **Beimar Iño** and **Alember Sardan**, who explained the "Functions that schools must fulfill with regard to special education".

Alember Sardan

The speech by **Ana Maria Irusta Vasquez**, Academic Director of the Escuela Superior de Formación de Maestros "Simón Bolívar", reserved an analysis of the "New focus on Bolivian Education". The first stage of the event closed with the talk on "Community Education", presented by Mr. **Gonzalo Cordova**, responsible for the Sariri Community.

Following the talks, the participants of the meeting formed three workgroups to prepare proposals based on the several themes addressed on that day.

Gonzalo Cordova

Ana Maria Vasquez

Solidary Society Network

Seeks to integrate, under a single flag of Solidarity, the work of organizations from several social sectors, in order to contribute towards meeting the MDGs. To this end, it promotes meetings and motivates joint actions in favor of common causes. Participating in the Network are: associations, foundations, cooperatives, class entities, of technical support and international cooperation, religious movements, federal, state and municipal governments, private companies, and universities.

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Social inclusion for quality education

"A view beyond the intellect", as the leader of the LGW prescribes.

João Periotto

Suelí Periotto*[1], Supervisor of the Good Will Pedagogy (Pedagogy of Affection and Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy), Principal of the LGW's Educational Institute.

The Legion of Good Will has always been concerned with promoting an Education that is capable of ***supplying Brain and Heart***, as the creator of the LGW's pedagogical proposal, educator Paiva Netto, defines. With the Pedagogy of Affection (for children up to the age of 10) and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy (from the age of 11 and up), he shows us that the possibilities for students to develop themselves also appear ***from the inside out***. In other words, each person has an inner potential besides cultural background, which upgrades his/her skills and abilities.

In the LGW's pedagogy, the educator's mediatory activity when interacting with the students is a fundamental factor for *both of them* to learn and widen their intellect; as co-authors, they share knowledge among each other, acting in a very distinct manner within an integrated process.

In this educational practice, Paiva Netto points the way to Ecumenical Spirituality, which takes on a role to shed more light on cultural, social and intellectual aspects of knowledge. To ensure the ***solidary knowledge***—the combination of the cognitive potential and ethical, ecumenical and spiritual values—the LGW's pedagogy sees the individual in its entirety, as a **biopsychosocial Spirit-Being** (Learn more on pages 48 and 49).

*[1] Suelí Periotto is an educator with postgraduate degree studies in School Management and Human Sciences Methodology, and is currently working on her Master's degree in Education at PUC-SP. She is also a conference speaker and the host of the *Educação em Debate* program [Education on Focus] of the Super Good Will Radio Network (follow this program at www.boavontade.com).

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Partial view of the Jesus Super Day Care Center; next to it is the José de Paiva Netto Educational Institute. These two buildings form the LGW's Educational Complex, located in the capital city of São Paulo, which provides high quality care for 1,200 students from nursery to high school. On the Jesus Super Day Care Center's façade is the following quote from the late founder of the Organization, Alziro Zarur (1914-1979): *"The children are children of all the mothers, and the mothers are mothers of all the children"*.

André Fernandes

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WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL SPIRIT-BEING?

In the LGW's educational units, students are considered as a biopsychosocial Spirit-Being, since they already carry within them a background that will contribute to the learning process.

"Spirit"

The Good Will Pedagogy values what is found within, the subjective aspects that carry a record of previous experiences; after all, the student is not a *tabula rasa* *[2]. It also stimulates one's feelings and reinforces values such as Ecumenical Solidarity, Friendship and Companionship, employed in an empathic manner.

"Psycho"

Emotional issues are observed by the multidisciplinary team of the LGW's units, especially by psychologists. When necessary, the student is supported in the aspects concerning fragility derived from disaggregating situations, common among social vulnerability environments in which many families are subject to. Learning difficulties and behavior disorders that require professional help from a psychologist, such as cases concerning aggressiveness and social isolation and apathy, are carefully observed.

Its own methodology

Considering the Being in his essence, the Legion of Good Will developed its own methodology for its educational proposal known as the Learning Method through Rational-Emotional-Intuitive Research (MAPREI), with main focus on **research** and **intuition**. The method has six stages in which the pupil is the protagonist in the educational scenario, and the educator is the fundamental element in the process of building knowledge. At the same time, this method motivates the pupil to continue his/her studies until he/she enters academic life. The student has a voice; he/she is a researcher that employs intuition and can express his/her ideas orally or in writing without fear or shyness, behaviors generally associated with low self-esteem.

The LGW's method invests in quality education to promote social inclusion, since it offers the means for the student to better prepare him/herself for the

*[2] ***Tabula rasa*** — In empiricism (a school of philosophical thought that believes that the only source of knowledge is based on experience absorbed from the external world), the Latin expression *tabula rasa* is a state that characterizes an empty mind, prior to any knowledge obtained through the senses.

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"Social"

The LGW emphasizes the combined work of the school and family. The organized participation of parents in the school life of their children is fundamental. When the school knows the social and economic reality of the family it becomes possible to contribute towards the strengthening of the affective ties. The family needs consideration, encouragement and guidance in order to overcome difficulties and identify and strengthen its skills. Through the practice of values enlightened by Ecumenical Spirituality, the Culture of Peace is promoted in the schools of the LGW, where, in fact, the **school dropout rate is zero**.

"Bio" (biological)

Encompasses medical, dental and nutritional care. Physical health is thought of in a preventive manner, including taking information and guidance to the families through talks, pamphlets as well as health programs that can benefit them. The well-being of the body is an essential condition for an adequate educational process.

job market. Based on figures that show the significant growth in the number of university graduates, one can have the impression that higher education represents perhaps the only passport into full social inclusion. Indeed, the university degree does mean new and promising paths in a professional career; however, some issues do come up. Does higher education in itself ensure social inclusion? Do the contents acquired throughout higher education determine good professional performance? Does an individual with a diploma, and this alone, become capable of expressing and applying the knowledge gained?

In order to better evaluate these pertinent questions, let us ponder on the following words offered by the leader of the LGW in his book *É urgente reeducar!*[*3] [It is urgent to re-educate!]:

"(...) ***An effective preparation:*** *The Spirit has a predominant place in our everyday actions. However, in the*

[*3] ***It is urgent to re-educate!*** — A best-seller by writer Paiva Netto that has already sold more than 230,000 copies. Soon, the book will also be available in e-book format.

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School Picture

> "When correctly applied, Education sets free. And with Ecumenical Spirituality, it sublimes."
>
> **Paiva Netto**

preparation of youths and adults alike, for their subsistence in this material world of technologies never seen before—and, paradoxically, at the present time, so unstable for those who work hard for their own future—, we must take into the highest account that students must be qualified with efficiency for the strict demands of the competitive job market. Moreover: prepare them in a manner that they do not follow a path in which professions for which they prepared themselves for no longer exist at the moment they get their diploma. Therefore, it is essential that they receive an effective education in order to be bold and enterprising, so that they can overcome the supervenient facts that, at any time, challenge society and frighten crowds. (...) For argumentative purposes, bold plans will be of no avail if there is no one who has been properly prepared to develop them".

The Legion of Good Will's teachers are concerned with the challenging realities of the 21st century and therefore work on cognitive aspects combined with Ecumenical Spirituality. In this manner, a pedagogical content of excellence is established, which is primordial for the most recent professions, preparing students for the ever-growing challenges. Aware of the ethical, ecumenical and spiritual values that are part of the conceptual foundations of the pedagogy they apply in the classroom, the educators strengthen students' skills and abilities. Thus, it fills us with joy to see the work of such dedicated professionals who regard themselves as co-authors of the building of a Solidary, Altruistic and Ecumenical Society, which is one of the Legion of Good Will's reasons for being. This millennium is certainly grateful for it.

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Overcoming life's challenges

People assisted by the LGW become protagonists of their own lives

Vivian R. Ferreira

Even if in the last decade Latin America has reported more positive indicators in the area of Education, there is still an urgent need to employ quality in education and expand it. Problems range from insufficient classroom hours and outdated technological equipment up to high levels of school dropout rates and distortions between age and grade/ academic year.

These issues cause problems in the educational system, making it flawed, not inclusive, as it deprives children from poor families from receiving quality education. With this in mind, from the 1980s onwards, the Legion of Good Will began to create important spaces for teaching and promoting citizenship by means of schools and community centers for social assistance built not only throughout Brazil but also abroad. In over three decades, the LGW expanded its socio-educational work by establishing its autonomous bases in Paraguay (1984), in Argentina and Uruguay (1985), in the United States and Bolivia (1986) and in Portugal (1989).

In the following lines, we present some stories of people who used to say they felt hopeless but, thanks to the Organization's solidary actions, they overcame their challenges and managed to build a better future. We will also show how the Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy, successfully applied for decades by the Organization, have positively influenced educators and parents.

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ARGENTINA

Solidarity
that overcomes obstacles

In the classroom for children up to the age of 4, in the Legion of Good Will's school in Buenos Aires, little **Álvaro Huallpa Castro** was the most excited to learn. It was during a literacy class that the GOOD WILL magazine's reporting team witnessed surprised: the little boy was writing his own name for the very first time.

Álvaro arrived at the LGW in 2007 with 2 years of age. Soon enough, his behavior, different from the other children, drew the attention of the Organization's professionals. *"He didn't have any language development, he didn't know how to relate to or play with other children, he was very shy, he could not understand the questions and frequently showed fear"*, told us educator **Alejandro Puchetta**.

His parents, **Nicolás** and **Celia**, were informed by the LGW's educational psychologists of their child's difficulties in learning and establishing a relationship with other children. With his family's involvement, the Organization provided a treatment that brought together a psychologist, a speech therapist plus hospital medical assistance. *"We began working on his relationship with other*

Álvaro and his mother Célia. Thanks to the involvement of the family and the support of the LGW, the boy overcame his language and relationship difficulties.

Photos: Personal Archive

peers, such as looking people in the eye (since he usually looked away from everyone), up to the language development", explained the educator.

With therapy, Álvaro made progress. He began to communicate, and his school performance improved quickly thanks to the involvement and dedication of everyone—parents, educators, doctors and the boy himself, who celebrated intensely with his classmates the first word he ever wrote.

In 2009, Álvaro ended his school term at the LGW's Preschool. Despite his progress, the Huallpa family encountered difficulties to enroll him in a public school due to his case of attention deficit and language disorder. The LGW then intervened on behalf of his parents and the boy was accepted in a state school. Today, at the age of 7, he is in the 1st grade of primary education and is still monitored by the LGW's professionals, who are in direct contact with the principal of his new learning facility.

For his parents, who could not afford to pay for a full-time education and quality medical treatment, the LGW brought back hope for a better future. *"He is our pride and joy and brings us even closer together, especially now that we are overcoming his problem"*, his mother said.

> The LGW's Pedagogy forms a complete Human Being. Thus, many children and young people have the opportunity to learn, which was previously denied.

Photos: Archive BV

When it was founded in 1985, the LGW of Argentina concentrated its actions in a refectory that offered support and food to families of the Warnes Shelter. In 1990, the Jesus Preschool was inaugurated (today installed in an area covering 1,530 m^2), where full education and food aid are provided free of charge.

In the same place, programs such as *Children: The Future in the Present!* and *Basic cooking and quality of life* have been conducted since 2001. Another important action is the *Toys Round*, developed at the Pedro de Elizalde Children's Hospital. In 2007, the *Itinerant School* program was created offering recreational activities to children living on the streets. For further information visit: www.lbv.org.ar.

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BOLIVIA

A better future is possible

As soon as she landed in Bolivia, two decades ago, Brazilian **Elizabeth Veríssimo Mac Lean** came into contact with a poorer reality than the one she was more familiar with and decided to help the families in that country that became her new home. She took her small children with her, along with some memories and a great will to make a difference. *"Let the truth be said, I do a great deal over here"*, she proudly says.

Just as Elizabeth, the LGW was born in Brazil and expanded its Solidarity activities to other countries. *"The presence of this Organization in Brazil has always been very strong, I remember well. (...) It carries out a very important work, that's why I joined it"*, she says.

In Bolivia, where more than half of the population lives in poverty condition (according to a study made in 2006 by the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture — OEI), the volunteer got to know many stories of overcoming life's challenges. One of them was from former student **Luis Aguilar**, who entered the LGW of La Paz at the age of 2. His story was very similar to the lives of many Bolivian children, whose families face great difficulties. In Luis' case, his mother was unemployed and had no one to leave her child with, and his father made clay bricks. With insufficient income, the family found in the Organization the necessary support to seek a better life.

Photos: Personal Archive

The Bolivian young boy, Luis Aguilar, at the time when he was assisted by the LGW (on the right). In the other picture, with members of the group Jach'a Mallku, he is the second from the left.

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"Our condition wasn't good; we had little financial resources. That's what I recall. But while I was at the LGW, I never felt the lack of anything. It was very important in my life: my first steps, my studies and the responsibility. I learned values", told us the former student.

Today, at the age of 25, Luis works as a musician, and has studied at Bolivia's National Music Conservatory. He plays *quena* (an Andean flute) in the traditional folklore group Jach'a Mallku, with which he has performed in Canada, in the USA, all over Latin America, in Spain and Italy. He is very grateful for the opportunity he received: *"I was given a good education. When I left the LGW, I went straight into first grade, I didn't even need to go to preschool. I didn't have any problems, because I was prepared, I already knew a lot of things"*.

Aguilar's classmate and former student of the LGW, **Fidelia Rojas Salazar**, also 25, has tender memories of her childhood at the Organization: *"I studied a great deal over here. I spoke my first words; I learned how to rely on myself and forge ahead. I am very grateful for all the support received when we most needed it"*. Three of her brothers were also assisted by the LGW, enabling their mother to find a job and improve the family's income.

Fidelia Rojas

She also recalls the values and valuable lessons she learned at the Jesus Preschool. *"It is important to cherish one's career, to have courage and much responsibility"*, concluded Fidelia, now a nursing assistant.

Photos: Leila Tonin

In La Paz, the LGW of Bolivia maintained from 1986 to 1993 a day care center for children who were socially vulnerable. In 1994, its work expanded and the Jesus Kindergarten School was inaugurated, and now it cares for more than 90 children between the ages of 2 and 5. Thanks to the support of the Bolivian people, the Technical Training Center and the Adult Literacy Center were created. In these programs, the parents of the children assisted by the LGW who never had the opportunity to attend school now learn to read and write. Techniques and other tools are offered in order to prepare them for the job market. In this country, nearly a million people (10% of the population, according to data from the Census 2001) do not have access to education. For further information visit: www.lbv.org.bo.

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BRAZIL

Forming men of goodwill

"The LGW opened its doors for me when I most needed (...). It was always present."

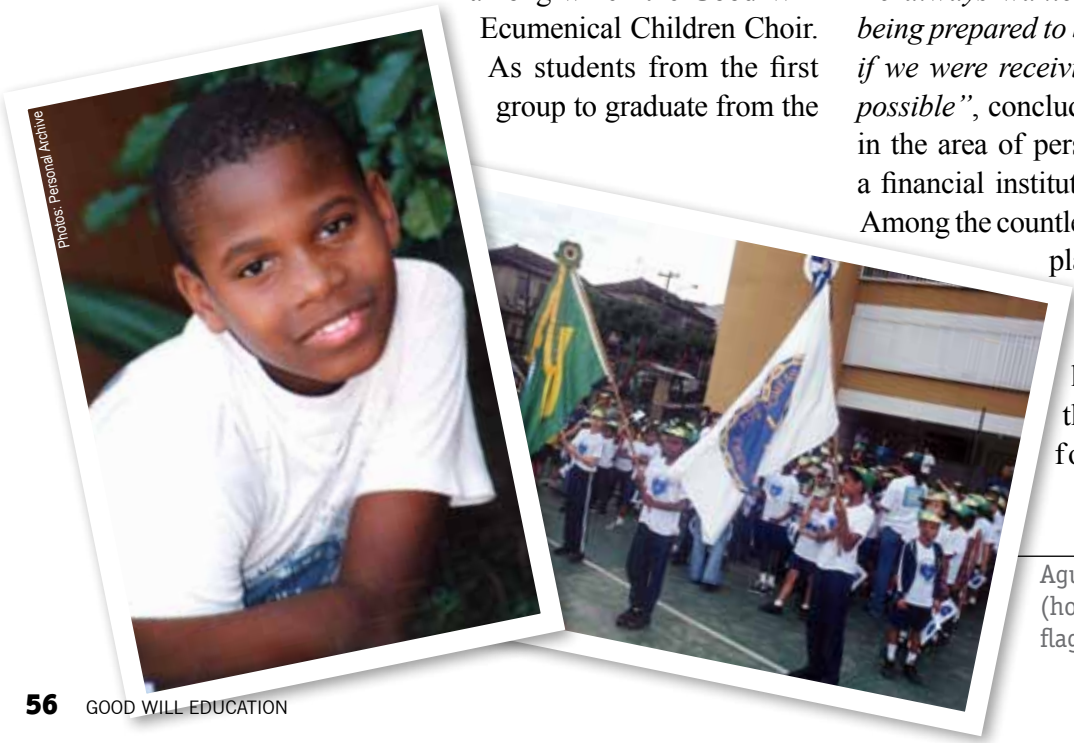
Eliana Lannes de Oliveira

Mother of four former students of the LGW's school in Rio de Janeiro/RJ.

Every time housewife **Eliana Lannes de Oliveira** speaks of the Legion of Good Will, she always has fond memories and feels grateful. And it was with emotion that she and her children **Igor Lannes Gregório**, **Beatriz Lannes Santos** and twins **Áliton Lannes de Oliveira** and **Aguilar Alves Celestino Jr.** received the team of GOOD WILL magazine.

Her two eldest children, Áliton and Aguilar, 21, have good memories of those days in which they participated in several activities carried out in the LGW's Educational Center in Rio de Janeiro/RJ, among which the Good Will Ecumenical Children Choir. As students from the first group to graduate from the Organization's primary school, they had the opportunity to sing during a visit of the LGW's leader. *"We sang the song* Amigos para sempre [Friends Forever] *to Brother Paiva; it was a day I shall never forget. He was touched by our performance, so were we, because he saw that we were being well cared for and were happy there"*, recalls Aguilar, who is currently a soldier in the Brazilian Air Force.

The care evidenced by the LGW's president stayed in the hearts of those boys and remains in the memories of these full-grown men. *"He's our second father, always concerned with our future. He always wanted to know if we were being prepared to be men of goodwill and if we were receiving the best education possible"*, concluded Áliton, who works in the area of personnel management in a financial institution in Rio de Janeiro. Among the countless soccer matches they played in the educational unit's multi-sports court and the pleasant learning period, one thing remained certain for the twins: the



Photos: Personal Archive

Aguilar (L) and Áliton (holding the Brazilian flag).

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Aguilar, currently a soldier in the Brazilian Air Force.

excellence in education. *"The LGW's school taught us to discern right from wrong, to respect our teachers and classmates, the importance of union and to thank God for everything. We had well qualified teachers who taught us with determination"*, Aguilar recalls.

Mrs. Eliana had enrolled the twins in the LGW's school soon after its inauguration in 1996. According to her, it was not easy to obtain vacancy in this school due to its infrastructure, its organization and the opportunity it offered to parents to leave their children there full time. *"I am very happy to have been part of the Educational Center's 15-year history"*, she affirmed.

The housewife was also touched when speaking of the difficult moments she went through and how her family managed to overcome them. *"I needed the school very badly, because at that time my mother had fallen ill and I had to take care of her. There was a period in which I was unemployed. I had to struggle, but since my kids were at the Organization the whole day, I could be sure they would return home clean and well fed... I didn't have to worry about dental care because they offered that at the school. Even if they had tummy aches or anything else, the school's doctor would care for them, and their teachers would always let me know everything that was being done. It was a big relief."*

In time, Igor and Beatriz were also enrolled at the LGW's school. By then, Mrs. Eliana was well aware of what that environment meant to her family: *"It was a second home for my children. All of the employees treat children with tenderness and make us all feel secure"*.

Photos: Lucian Fagundes

FAMILY PORTRAIT — From the left: Igor, Aguilar, Áliton, their mother Eliana, and Beatriz. All of them found in the LGW the necessary support to achieve full citizenship.

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THE UNITED STATES

An atmosphere of Peace and citizenship

The LGW's pedagogical proposal (read more on page 46) is also gaining a good reputation in North American schools as teachers start applying it more and more in the classroom.

Among the educators who apply it, the work of a young kindergarten teacher, **Mariana Malaman** from New Jersey, stands out. Holding a copy of *É urgente reeducar!* [It is urgent to re-educate!] in her hand she quotes the author of the book, journalist and writer Paiva Netto, to explain the progress she has made with her pupils using this teaching proposal: *"The affection that inspires our pedagogical proposal, taken in its highest sense, is, besides a lofty feeling of the Soul, a* ***political strategy****, equally understood in its most elevated nature, in consonance with Social Justice, as a* ***survival strategy*** *for individuals, people, and nations".*

Based on the educational model proposed by Paiva Netto, in which *"Brain and Heart"*, intellect and feelings, work together to form the complete Being, the Ecumenical Citizen, Ms. Malaman develops activities that stimulate children to think about the consequences of their actions and to have more empathy with their peers. *"I work with 4 and 5 year olds and I already see behavior problems and various forms of bullying. So, I decided to use some of the techniques of the Pedagogy of Affection to research and come up with a behavior system where my young students could reflect more on their actions."* She also adds: *"To help students control the triggers of bad behavior, we must allow them to reflect upon it instead of having them wait for a teacher's judgment. And they all frequently ask me: 'Teacher, did I behave today?'. This shows that children in this age group are already well aware of good and bad behaviors".*

As Mariana points out, the Pedagogy of Affection works with ethical values as seen through the lens of Ecumenical Spirituality, stimulating Solidarity, and the results go beyond the school gates. **Susana Marques**, mother of 5-year-old

Five-year-old Evan during an activity of the Pedagogy of Affection, which is being successfully applied in North American schools.

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Evan, said that she is not only satisfied with this educational proposal but also defends its application throughout the whole teaching system. ***"I feel that the Pedagogy of Affection is different and a great way for them to reflect and evaluate their day-to-day behavior. I have noticed a significant difference in Evan's behavior"***, she emphasized.

Among education professionals who have been using the LGW's teaching method there is a consensus on the idea that educating with Ecumenical Spirituality is fundamental, because right from an early stage the concern has been almost exclusively with the cognitive domain. *"During parent-teacher conferences, I often hear questions such as 'will my child learn how to read before the age of 5?' or 'what can I do now so that later on my child can go to a prestigious university?'. Children should not be pressured and they deserve to have a carefree childhood where they are able to explore the world around them and being around people and environments that will teach them how to become good citizens in society. After that, children will eventually learn how to solve math problems, complex equations"*, Mariana Malaman said.

In the teacher's opinion, by adding the Ecumenical Spirituality differential to Education, *"the child develops self-esteem, knows she/he is extraordinary, creative, compassionate, and also has a sense of morality"*. As a result, adds Mariana, *"the child knows how to respect their parents, teachers, and peers as well as understands the diversity around her/him, and she/he is able to accept differences and feels compassion towards the feelings of others"*.

Photos: Archive BV

The Legion of Good Will (LGW)—settled in the USA since 1986—is active not only in New York State through its Representative Office to the United Nations, but also in New Jersey State through its Community Center located in Newark. In this center, it holds programs in the social, educational and health areas, which contribute towards developing and improving the quality of life of thousands of low-income families and people.

Brazilian **Luise Keepler**, a volunteer at the LGW's Community Center, says she is moved every time she remembers all the effort and dedication of the Organization in its solidary actions. *"For a long time I've been witness to this struggle, this battle. And I'm a witness to this blessing. (...) It's an immense joy for me to be here today; I want to continue in this marvelous charity work for others."* Further information at www.legionofgoodwill.org.

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PARAGUAY

Assistance at the right time

In their 15-year marriage, Paraguayan couple **Nancy Martinez** and **Rafael Zubasqui** had to face many financial ordeals, especially after the birth of their first son, **Elias Javier**, today 8 years old. Due to that difficult situation, the family moved in with Rafael's mother, and Nancy had to leave her job to take care of their son.

The difficulties seemed endless, but her situation changed. *"One day, a neighbor spoke of an organization to which she contributed and said it could be the answer to my problems"*, tells Nancy. So, she trusted her son to the care of the LGW; he was 2 years old then. *"This changed my life completely. I got myself a job and soon we were able to move to our own home. Not to mention the quality of the school itself where my son learned the importance of prayer and to share"*, the mother proudly said.

Elias concluded preschool, but continues attending the Organization. He is currently cared for by the program *Education, Sport and Life!*, where he has plastic arts and soccer classes.

The youngest daughter, **Ruth Camila**, 5 years old, was also cared for at the LGW. According to her mother, the girl feels at home in that environment. *"The*

Photos: Allison Bello

The couple Nancy Martinez and Rafael Zubasqui with their children Elias Javier, 8, and Ruth Camila, 5. Highlighted on the left, the youngest child in a classroom of the José de Paiva Netto Kindergarten and Preschool in Asuncion, Paraguay.

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LGW is like a home where there is Love and tenderness, where our children are taught and educated to become citizens of goodwill."

Ruth's father shares this same satisfaction: *"It is a real joy that in Paraguay exists such an organization that not only educates children but also helps and is concerned with the entire family. I am very, very grateful. May Jesus always be with those who take part in this great Organization."*

Photos: Archive BV

Allison Bello

Before getting to know the LGW, the family of **Benita Ramírez** was cramped in a small room and not all of her children—**Andrea Sánchez**, 14; **Víctor Manuel**, 11; **Lucas Manuel**, 9; and **Matias Ezequiel**, 5—could attend school. Thanks to the Organization, Benita's three youngest children were enrolled at the LGW, and thus, she could get herself a job as a domestic servant helping out her husband, who was employed in a laboratory, improve the family income. With this support, they were able to purchase a plot of land and build their own five room home with a courtyard. *"What happened to our lives was a blessing. I thank all of you for the support we received so that our family could move ahead. We would never have reached this far by ourselves"*, Benita stated.

After Brazil, Paraguay was the first country to benefit from the LGW's activities in 1984. Aside from its capital city, Asuncion, actions aimed at education and poverty reduction are also promoted in Paraguarí and Alto Paraná, specifically in Quiindy and Ciudad del Este.

It is worth highlighting the José de Paiva Netto Kindergarten and Preschool (with full-time education for children between the ages of 2 and 6), the program *LGW — Children: The Future in the Present!* as well as the actions focused on preparing young people for the job market, on providing care for the elderly and promoting their socialization. For further information visit: www.lbv.org.py.

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PORTUGAL

Voluntary work
and Ecumenical Citizenship

The Legion of Good Will of Portugal has been working for 22 years promoting Solidarity through socio-educational activities and human and spiritual support for others. The work of the Organization in Portugal reaches teaching institutions, supports similar entities and extends to symposiums, cultural exhibitions, health promotion events etc.

All these initiatives have helped consolidate the concept of Ecumenical Citizenship, because with the support from the LGW's team of professionals and volunteers, those people who are helped feel encouraged to change their lives starting from positive attitudes founded on the full practice of spiritual, human and social solidarity.

Every month more than 400 volunteers work in the LGW's socio-educational programs, helping in areas like oral health, through the *Happy Smile* program; or collecting food via the *One Step Forward* program; organizing donations received at the Organization's own facilities through the FTAs (Free Time Activities); or making friendly visits as requested by families.

In the LGW's task of monitoring those who are being helped, which includes motivational activities as well as programs and campaigns for the valorization of Life, many stories of personal triumph and love towards our fellow beings come to light. These stories appear both among those who benefit from the solidary actions as well as among the LGW's own voluntary workers, since attitudes and good practices have also changed the lives of those who help the Organization. Such is the case of

Photos: Archive BV

The retiree Rosa Orquídea Ferreira says that her voluntary activities in the LGW enrich her life: *"Since I joined I've never once wanted to leave"*.

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the retiree **Rosa Orquídea Ferreira**, a volunteer for the past 18 years in the city of Porto. *"My experience here is great. It has taught me how to share, how to be humble, to love others and essentially to practice the New Commandment of Jesus, which is 'Love one another as I have loved you'."*

The more these human stories become known, the more the happiness of the LGW's team increases, as well as the certainty that its work has made a difference. *"I learned about the LGW at a very complicated time in my life. I came with a friend and since I joined I've never once wanted to leave!"* According to voluntary worker Rosa, the people closest to her have noticed changes in the way she acts. *"They noticed a lot of difference... I started being a more understanding person, easier to get along with; now I can overcome my problems with a lot more faith and perseverance."*

The LGW of Portugal today has almost 3,000 people registered in its volunteer center. Every year, more people join willing to change lives for the better. These people are welcomed into the volunteer training activity in Porto, where they receive information about the Organization's socio-educational programs, its objectives, mission and vision.

> "My experience here is great. It has taught me how to share, how to be humble, to love others."
>
> **Rosa Orquídea Ferreira**
> LGW volunteer in Portugal

Photos: Archive BV

The Legion of Good Will of Portugal started its work in Porto in 1989. Thanks to the help of the Portuguese people, the LGW's work has expanded and, as a result, more and more people are benefiting from its solidary actions. In addition to Porto—where it started working out of a bigger building in 2010, promoting the expansion of services offered locally—, the LGW is active in Lisbon, Coimbra and Braga, and also has campaigns that extend nationally. The highlights are the *Happy Smile, One Step Forward, Good Will Seed* and *Sport is Life* programs. Further information at www.lbv.pt.

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URUGUAY

The LGW's model school

To provide quality education for children, adolescents, young people and adults is one of the Legion of Good Will's missions, which meets the second of the eight Millennium Development Goals, established by the UN: Achieve Universal Primary Education.

With this goal in mind, the LGW's Educational Institute of Montevideo, Uruguay's capital city, became the reason of much joy for many people assisted, who live in disadvantaged communities.

With its wide, well-lit and well ventilated rooms, the LGW's model school cares for children in an environment that is ideal for the full development of the students, since physical, motor, social and spiritual aspects are worked on. With this, the family's actions are also strengthened, which is part of the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy (see page 46).

Everything in the environment was thought out according to regional peculiarities, stemming from the demands of those assisted and from the experience of Uruguayan professionals. On the building's second floor, for instance, a large area was assembled for recreational and sports activities as well as to also hold seminars and events with the purpose of forming and training young people and adults. On the ground floor, a space was created especially for the elderly. Still on this floor, there are a large cafeteria, a toy

Archive BV

Bettina Lopez

Daniela González in one of the cultural presentations of the LGW's Educational Institute in Montevideo, Uruguay. On the right, Daniela in a recent visit to the Institute next to students of the Organization.

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library, a covered sports court, as well as medical and dental facilities.

Former student of the Institute, **Daniela García González**, will be 17 in July. In referring to her former school, she smiles and her voice brightens. *"I had great teachers who are there to this day. I've learned lots of things. When I left, I missed it all a lot. Today I feel ready to continue my studies and I am aware that I owe a great part of this to the Legion of Good Will, thanks to the support and confidence they always offered me"*, said the young girl, who got a scholarship and now studies Graphic Design.

Daniela's mother, **Sandra González**, affirms: *"I brought up my three daughters alone, and to do that I had to work all day. I needed a place that could care for my daughter who was three years old at the time, since her sisters were already in school. Thank God I found the LGW's Jesus Kindergarten School. My entire life would not be enough to thank for all this Solidarity, the good principles, and the actions to help families so that our children can grow up with values, respecting others and themselves as well. (...) My daughter always remembers the LGW with fond memories"*.

> "Thank God I found the LGW's Jesus Kindergarten School. My entire life would not be enough to thank for all this Solidarity."
>
> **Sandra González**
> Mother of a former student of the LGW's school

Photos: Archive BV

The LGW of Uruguay, which has been in Montevideo for 25 years, maintains one of the Organization's model schools, inaugurated in 2007, where the Jesus Kindergarten School is also located. There, 1,500 people are cared for. Among the activities and programs that are developed, the *LGW — Children: The Future in the Present!* and a doctor's office, operating in partnership with the country's Ministry of Health, deserve to be highlighted. For further information visit: www.lbv.org.uy.

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Education for a

Reproduction: Cida Linares

"Dear Mr. José de Paiva Netto, I entrust you with my prayers for all people. May God's blessings be with all of you of the Legion of Good Will, and may many get to know the Love of Jesus through the World Parliament of Ecumenical Fraternity, of the LGW, and keep alive the Good News of His Love in the world, loving one another as He has loved us. May God bless you."

Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997)

Nobel Peace Prize (1979). Extract from a letter forwarded to the LGW in 1994, on the occasion of the inauguration of the World Parliament of Ecumenical Fraternity.

"I feel very happy and honored with this homage given by the ParlaMundi of the Legion of Good Will."

Nelson Mandela

Nobel Peace Prize in 1993, considered one of the greatest personalities of the 20th century, was awarded in the *Hors Concours* category with the Commendation of the Order of Merit of Ecumenical Fraternity in 1997.

Reproduction/AE

Archive BV

"Thank you for the kind invitation regarding the inauguration of this monument for Peace, the Temple of Good Will. I appreciated very much your gift. My sincere compliments. I wish the LGW much success at this time. (...)"

Jimmy Carter

Close to the inauguration of the Temple of Good Will, the former President of the United States and Nobel Peace Prize in 2002 expressed, by letter, his admiration for the memorable date.

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new world

Lucian Fagundes

Desmond Tutu, before boarding to Brazil, as registered by the newspaper *Correio Braziliense* of the Federal District, on May 1987, stated to a diplomat of the Brazilian Ministry of Foreign Affairs: “Arriving at your country, I would like to meet with my Brothers in Faith and I want to see again two great friends: Dom Hélder Câmara and the President of the Legion of Good Will, José de Paiva Netto”. In the same year, talking to representatives of the LGW, he affirmed: “I wish to praise the worldwide president of the Legion of Good Will for his article ‘Apartheid there and Apartheids here’ [published on March 30, 1986 in the newspaper *Folha de S.Paulo*], where he attempts to make peoples aware of the fact that there are different forms of racism going on in many parts of the world, even in Brazil. (...) I would like to convey him my thanks for his work. May God bless him and the dear legionnaires of Good Will. You have become, in the course of your beneficial activity, esteemed workers of God. (...)”. In 2006, year that the LGW’s president celebrated his Golden Jubilee of work in the Organization, the Anglican Archbishop stated: “In these 50 years, God has used Paiva Netto powerfully. May He bless and give him strength so he may continue his divine work in the world, for the Love of God’s Children”.

Desmond Tutu
Anglican Archbishop and Nobel Peace Prize in 1984

In addition to the words of seven Nobel Peace Prize winners that you, our readers, will find in these pages, there is also the opinion of teachers, personalities, actors, sportspeople, and religious leaders on the work developed by the Legion of Good Will and its president in the educational area. They serve as encouragement to all those who believe in the power of Goodwill as an element for transformation and the basis for the sustainable development of the planet.

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Gilberto Bertolin

"The LGW's project is truly unique, concrete and creative, gathering all those who want Peace, tranquility for religions and for ethnic groups. By means of this project, the Legion of Good Will receives outcast boys and gives them a shelter, affection, Education. In short, it is an extraordinary program that should inspire governments and organizations from other countries of the world to do the same. The culture of Peace, of tolerance, of living together with other ethnic groups is what leads to a true and lasting peace and to social progress. (...) I am touched by this chance to visit the LGW. I am deeply dazzled by this opportunity to see so many expressions of art, of spiritual value, an appeal for Peace, for concord among peoples, among nations. I believe it would be useful and good if countries at war would come here [Temple of Good Will] and meditate to realize the complete uselessness of their conflicts. There is so much human and spiritual beauty being destroyed in the world. And the Temple of the Legion of Good Will is really unique. I think that the most important aspect of the Organization in this project, in this architecture, is the spirit of ethnic, cultural, religious brotherhood, where there are no social or economic differences. Everything is represented here; from all over, people can maintain a dialog. It is really very, very interesting."

Dr. José Ramos-Horta

East Timor President, Nobel Peace Prize (1996), when visiting the Legion of Good Will in Brazil, in 1997.

J. A. Parmegiani

"It is marvelous to talk about the Temple of Good Will and the World Parliament of Ecumenical Fraternity of the LGW. They represent something I have always believed in, which is that all persons and all religions have the same potential to help Humanity. All of them bear in themselves the message of compassion, Love and spiritual forgiving. What the Legion of Good Will does is marvelous. I entirely support this work and hope that my Spirit and Soul may always be with you."

Dalai-Lama Tenzin Gyatso

Religious Tibetan leader and Nobel Peace Prize in 1989. He received the Commendation of the Order of Merit of Ecumenical Fraternity of the LGW's ParlaMundi, in 1999, in the *Hors Concours* category.

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"The affection, love and dedication of the LGW with these children make us believe that Brazil and the world can be much better; that it is possible to end misery, illiteracy and absolute poverty. I will also spread the word about the work that is done by our friends at the LGW. (...) I don't know whether it is Legionnaire, or militant... All I know is that this Work impresses any Human Being. (...) I leave here astonished with the work carried out by all of you. I leave the LGW with the certainty that the word Solidarity can still be one of the keywords for us to recover our Brazil and turn it into a just and fraternal country in which people live with much more Love. (...) The Legion of Good Will is an example of life".

Divulgation/ABr

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva

Former President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, when visiting the LGW's school in the capital city of São Paulo, on September 14, 1995.

Archive BV

"I acknowledged, perhaps after many years donating to help the LGW, what was done with the money I gave and I felt a great happiness. The valorization of children worked on from within their own families. For those who have the opportunity, I say: 'come and see, value and learn a little about Education, for this is well conducted work that is worth getting to know'."

Edgar Lagus

Vice Director of the Commission on Human Rights of B'nai B'rith (The Sons of the Covenant, in Hebrew) of Brazil, during a visit on May 18, 2011, to the LGW's Educational Institute in São Paulo/SP

Daniel Trevisan

"Meetings such as this one bring benefits towards that which the LGW desires for Justice, Peace and Respect. So we contribute to this end and, if it is God's wish, it will build a society that is much more intellectual, many times more pacific and cultured through dialog."

Sheik Jihad Hammadeh

Vice President of the World Assembly of Muslim Youth, after participating in the Spirit and Science World Forum, of the LGW, in 2004.

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"The problems societies around the world face today are almost the same. If the leaders of these countries could come here to the LGW, and see what it accomplishes, they would change the reality of the world. When I went to the Temple of Good Will, in Brasília, I felt a powerful spirituality. At the LGW I see that put into practice, as something tangible for these children and, maybe, even more stronger because of the fruit it bears."

John Amos

North American actor, in December 1999.

"We are really very impressed with what the Legion of Good Will is doing for all these children. Brazil needs this work that the Legion of Good Will is developing. (...) Children are happy here and they are in need of such happiness and love. The LGW helps children to become great people in this world."

Liao Qiping

Former General Consul of China in São Paulo, during his visit to the LGW, in September 1996.

Marina Figueiredo

Personal archive

"This alternative of the LGW is important, with its entire educational proposal aimed at those in need, especially towards early childhood education in the community. (...) The LGW's concern involves quality, something extraordinarily well thought of. (...) All the didactics of early childhood education can only be creative if it also involves recreational activities. Children at the Legion of Good Will express themselves, they speak, think and also play. **The LGW offers quality assistance to poor people. It does not offer poor assistance to poor people.** Today, the Legion of Good Will is a national heritage, it has a long history." [Emphasis in bold by the editors.]

Pedro Demo

Sociologist, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at the University of Brasília (UnB), and former President of the World Organization for Preschool Education, when visiting the LGW in 1996.

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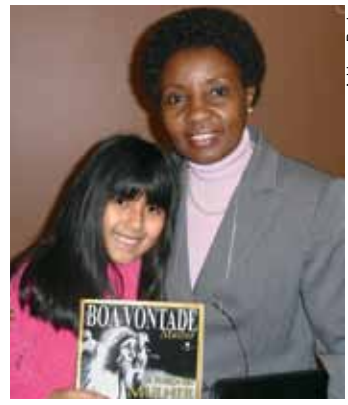
"Love and comprehension are very important to make it possible for the children to live happier and for them to concentrate on things that truly represent an advance for them. Once a child receives love, it is being encouraged, learns to love and, in this way, creates conditions for an atmosphere of Peace for all. The civil society organizations are fundamental partners to achieve gender equality. For this, I congratulate the LGW for acting directly in defense of Women."



Adriana Rocha

Asha-Rose Migiro

Deputy Secretary-General of the UN (in the photo with **Amanda Vieira**, a Little Soldier of God, as the children are called in the Legion of Good Will), on the occasion of the 51st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in 2007.

Leila Marco

"José de Paiva Netto, I'm aware of your fight, because I have also been in it for many years, fighting for the well-being of the children of our country and against juvenile delinquency, since the movie *Os Trombadinhas* [1979]. I know this is a very big fight. May God give you health! May all the people from the Legion of Good Will be able to, through this effort, achieve spiritual benefits and provide a viable future for the children assisted by the LGW's schools throughout Brazil."

Pelé

Athlete of the 20th Century and winner of the Commendation of the Order of Merit of Ecumenical Fraternity of the LGW's ParlaMundi, in 1996, in the *Sports* category.

"In the field of Education, the LGW's effort is remarkable. (...) Paiva Netto is bringing a new methodology that requires specialized teachers who are not available yet and, therefore, must be prepared within an original and revolutionary systematic approach in a pedagogical point of view."

Vivian R. Ferreira

Arnaldo Niskier

Immortal member of the Brazilian Academy of Letters and President of the School-Company Integration Center of Rio de Janeiro (CIEE-RJ), when learning about the LGW's pedagogical proposal in 1995.

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Lelia Marco

"First of all, I really liked seeing the architecture of the Temple of the LGW. I admired it a lot and I am naturally tuned to its ecumenical intention in favor of Peace, in favor of human unity. These are values that I also share. (...)Your philosophy is to promote understanding among all, therefore, without dogmas, which is very appealing to me. How does Paiva Netto carry out so many important works? (...) The Legion of People of Good Will is one of the most important non-governmental organizations with a seat at the United Nations. (...) In a world as uncertain as the one which we live in today, with so many difficulties, with so much poverty, (...) what is lacking is exactly that People of Good Will work together for Peace, for Fraternity, for Solidarity among people – recalling above all that there are the rich and there are the poor, and it is necessary to defend the poor."

Dr. Mário Soares

Former President and Former Prime Minister of Portugal, and winner of the Commendation of the Order of Merit of Ecumenical Fraternity of the LGW's ParlaMundi in 1996, in the *Hors Concours* category.

Daniel Trevisan

"Dear Mr. Paiva Netto, I would like to congratulate you and the Legion of Good Will. (...) I remain particularly impressed by your deep commitment to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and the efforts developed by yourself and your team under your able supervision to engage in the education sector in concrete initiatives with other actors of civil society including the private sector. I am very much delighted that, through the events you organized and the efforts of your organization, I saw the strengthening of a coherent framework and a platform for continuous development, capacity-building and networking on education issues particularly in the sector of children affected by poverty and hunger. I do appreciate the necessity to have organizations like your work in closer relationship with the United Nations. (...)"

Michele Billant-Fedoroff

Former Deputy Chief of the NGO Section/United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, in a written message to the leader of the LGW on March 27, 2007.

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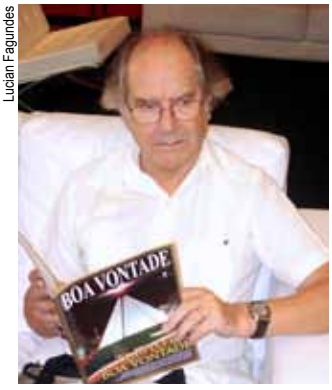
"I think the Legion of Good Will has really contributed to the strengthening of this community. I've learned that the educational system that is being employed here is not just about learning math and Portuguese; it is also about citizenship. It is not only the children that are benefited from this education system that you have, but also their parents and families".

Vivian R. Ferreira

Joop Theunissen

On official mission for the UN in Rio de Janeiro/RJ to attend the 6th Solidary Society Network Multi-stakeholder Forum – 3rd Innovation Fair of the LGW on March 2009.



Lucian Fagundes

"To be here in the Temple of Good Will is very moving and also important, since you carry out a work in favor of all the peoples. And I believe that everything is directed to educating young people and preparing them for life. All this with a very important thing: Spirituality. (...) I would also like to greet Paiva Netto for his 50 years of strength and struggles for the Good of Humanity, for the good of the peoples. A fraternal solidary hug of congratulations and may he continue on his path building Hope and Solidarity among people."

Adolfo Pérez Esquivel

Argentinian writer and Nobel Peace Prize (1980), during an interview given in February 2006.

Divulgação

"It is nice to see the philosophy of the Legion of Good Will, which from the very beginning works with children to develop a Culture of Peace. This kind of Education is going to help create a more positive world for the future. There are so many terrible things that are going on in the world... That's why it is wonderful to see that there's a place like this in Rio de Janeiro, among four *favelas* that can give hope to a community to be able to help these children and their descendants and the people that they touch become more acquainted with a more positive world. The LGW really develops the Millennium Development Goals established by the UN, and there are two underprintings. One is Human Rights, which I think you are really endorsing by the practice of what you do here, and the other is Peace because you can't have development unless you have a Peaceful environment. And I think all non-governmental organizations that do this kind of work with the basis on Spirituality, ought to be applauded."

Leslie Wright

Representative of the Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund at the United Nations during her visit to the LGW's Educational Center in Rio de Janeiro, in March 2004.

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Eduarda Pereira

In the center, Anna Mwasha, from Tanzania, with Rosana Bertolin and Maria Albuquerque, from the LGW.

"The LGW is doing a wonderful job, particularly in making sure that children are getting quality Education with values. Different values which develop their brains and hearts. In the future, these children will make the difference in society and change it completely, making Peace dominate everywhere. I was very much touched. In the more developed countries, much is said about improving the quality of Education, but I understand that the Legion of Good Will fights mainly to mold the children's character with values like Love and making them calm and aware. An Education founded on these values can completely change a society, make people live in Peace, and, in this way, improve the whole world. (...) I would like the LGW to visit us so that we can introduce this line of education for the children of Tanzania. (...) **This logo** [LGW's logo, in the shape of a blue heart] **means a lot, it means Love; it's a global symbol. And if someone has Love, we know that Peace will be there, that development will be there; it is for these small things that you will be able to spiritually—and even academically—share with others. So, with the few resources that a person may have, if Love is there, it is possible to share and bring development to many**."

Anna Mwasha

Director of the Poverty Eradication Division of the Ministry of Planning, Economy and Empowerment of the United Republic of Tanzania, during an interview given in July 2007.

"I really praise and thank the LGW on behalf of Humanity, because this assistance for the weak, for the poorest people, is a noble task, for an uneducated man is not a man. This is the most important work that the LGW accomplishes, and I emphatically congratulate it."

Vivian R. Ferreira

Roman Dobrzyński

Journalist and Polish moviemaker. He was the Vice President of the Universal Esperanto Association from 1989 to 1992. Interview given during his visit to the LGW's Educational Institute in December 2006.

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