

# Oral Statement from Fraternite Notre Dame

## 2016 ECOSOC High-Level Segment

### United Nations Headquarters, New York City, NY, July 18th – 22nd, 2016

Fraternite Notre Dame, founded by His Excellency Bishop Jean Marie Roger Kozik, is a Catholic Organization at the service of the world's most destitute, and this year it feels particularly sensitised to the topic chosen by the 2016 ECOSOC High-Level Segment.

Fraternite Notre Dame strives to improve the life conditions of people that are excluded or cast out. By this, we mean:

- The sick;
- Those with a physical or mental disability;
- The elderly, the isolated and those who depend on others;
- The poor who have no food, are homeless or unemployed;
- Orphans;
- Prisoners, and
- The Christian martyrs.

Fraternite Notre Dame's Founder takes to heart that his Organization, because of its religious vocation, comes to the help of the suffering members of society.

The duty of society is to help its weakest members. The duty of those who are both healthy and wealthy is to help society's suffering members, that is, the sick and the poor.

Fraternite Notre Dame has realized humanitarian works for all these persons in difficulty, by creating soup kitchens for the poor, welcoming the elderly and supporting the sick located in its vicinity, while also opening dispensaries, and centers to aid orphans.

In order to tackle exclusion, it is required to educate the youth, teaching them how to lend a hand to others. Our current world is heading to its own ruin, because of selfishness, violence and the decadence of its morality. Fraternite Notre Dame has founded some schools that admit children in need.

A compulsory sectarian secularism is the greatest violence exerted against the human conscience, and it has led to the greatest dechristianization of the youth.

One has removed Christianity from the youth, and that is why they no longer have any life ideals, and many of them leave to join extremist groups.

Education is meant to teach love and charity, instead of hatred; friendly collaboration, instead of jealousy; fraternity and working together, instead of the pride of a particular race, cast of social status.

Today's Christian martyrs do not only suffer in their bodies: but they are also dishonored in their very human dignity, they are denied the halo of martyrdom, and to the eyes of the world, their souls are not great any longer.

*[ End of Fraternite Notre Dame's Oral Statement ]*

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