

New development of ORDO SOCIALIS

Laeis becomes General Secretary of the Association for the Promotion of Christian Social Teaching

The "Accademic Association for the Promotion of Christian Social Teaching e.V." (ORDO SOCIALIS), founded in 1985 as followup of an international congress in Rome about the responsibility of church and economy for the future world, has newly set its goals and rejuvenated its actives.

by Dr. Clara E. Laeis

Dr. Johannes Stemmler has given up his position as General Secretary by the end of the year 2006. We take the opportunity to thank him for his 20 years of tireless work for ORDO SOCIALIS!

From April 13th 2007, Dr. Clara E. Laeis (small picture), is in charge of administration of ORDO SOCIALIS as General Secretary.

The association, which was founded during BKU-chairmanship of Cornelius Fetsch, is a "daughter" of the BKU (German Association of Catholic Entrepreneurs). The realization of the aim, to develop and make internationally available the ideas, principles and also documents of the Christian Social Teaching, has reached a new phase with the digitalization of some of our publications. Now one can download the writings in different languages from the website free of charge, which Clara E. Laeis has newly designed.

One can also call this phase the "globalization phase". There will be a book published about economy, ethic and politics within the globalization - written by Prof. Dr. Alfred



Meeting in Cologne: The new General Secretary of ORDO SOCIALIS, Clara E. Lais (middle) presenting the new website of the organisation to chairmen and members: Dr. Johannes Stemmler (from left to right), Dr. Erwin Müller, Helmut Linnenbrink, Ernst Mammertz, Josef Thesing and Cornelius G. Fetsch.

Foto: Peter Unterberg

Schüller and Prof. Dr. Nothel-Wildfeuer - possibly within next year.

The present board of the association consists of Cornelius G. Fetsch, Dr. Erwin Müller, Dr. h.c. Thesing and (coopted) Dr. Johannes Stemmler.

A change of the rules makes it possible now to enlist ordinary members and to levy member fees. The first new member after the change became the former chairman of the diocesan group of Munich, Helmut Linnenbrink. Peter Unterberg has been coopted as representative of the BKU-management.

There are various possibilities to support the work of ORDO SOCIALIS:

- Through the personal membership for a membership fee of at least 50,- Euro per year;

- Through the winning of friends and acquaintances for a membership;
- Through the support of specific projects;
- Who is in contact to Christian teachers (academic institutions) or professors in other countries, who might be interested in a translation of ORDO SOCIALIS-publications in their own language, should contact ORDO SOCIALIS. Even better would be a hint to possible sponsors.

At the moment the association discusses a similar project with the Pax-Bank in Cologne. They find out about the realization of an entire support-package, based on existing contacts of the Pax-Bank to Brazil (Father Eckart Höfling, OFM). It might cover the following steps:

- Presentation of the project to spread Christian Social Teaching via ORDO SOCIALIS locally;
- Finding a translator of the Brazilian Portuguese;
- Taking on the translation-fees;
- Acquiring printing- and selling possibilities within the country;
- Sponsoring the printing costs;

Perhaps this example inspires to make available own resources for a goal, which should be near the heart of every member of the BKU and engaged Christian: "With the publicizing of these writings we can contribute to a development of both: social peace and economic strength in other countries", as board member Dr. Thesing summarizes.