



Romanian Conference: „Christian values in Romanian politics” *About the vision and the practical steps in creating the „Initiative for Christian Values in Politics”*

In the surroundings of Codlea, at the center of the Foundation East Europe, took place the National Conference of the „Initiative for Christian Values in Politics” (in Romanian abbreviated as IVCP). A group existing of members of the Romanian Senate, Chamber of Deputies, European Parliament, representatives of different church denominations like the Romanian Orthodox, Greek and Roman Catholic, Messianic, Reformed, Baptist and Pentecostal churches and the representatives of the civil society came together to discuss about the basics of Christian values in the Romanian politics which forms the basis of the „Initiative for Christian Values in Politics”. The meeting was concluded with a first meeting where concept statutes, a first executive board also the legal steps to form the new federation were discussed.



Classical concert by Romanian professors from the Music Faculty Transylvania Brasov

The conference was opened by an attractive musical program where Romanian musical professors played beautiful masterpieces varying from the Mattheus Passion from Johannes Bastian Bach, Vivaldi and Mozart, to Frank Sinatra’s New York, New York. The musical intermezzos were followed by speeches. Leo van Doesburg, representative South East Europe of the ECPM explained about the need for developing Christian-democratic values in Europe. „The fact that in the concept of the European Constitution not was mentioned about the Christian heritage of Europe was not to be blamed to Europe, but to us. It is time that we as Christian should think more clearly about how we could be salt and light also on the political field. The ECPM (although a young organization) is growing quickly and tries to motivate politicians and political parties to implement Christian-social values in the society based on the Holy Scriptures.” After this he explained about

the history of the „Initiative for Christian Values in Politics”, that after the „Initiative of Rasnov” continued and deepened in Moeciu towards important steps to be made in Codlea to implement the vision of „*developing a framework within which the Christians can grow spiritually, personally and professionally, where they can be encouraged and supported to become involved at each level in the political and administrative field.*” During the opening MP Petru Andea (also president of the Romanian Ecumenical Prayer Group and Vice president of the Parliamentary Commission of “Education, Science and Sport”) explained about the importance of this Initiative for the Romanian Deputies and Senators, specifically and especially for the Romanian Ecumenical Prayer group that is made of more than 50 members of the Romanian Chambers of Parliament.

After this Vlad Popa, Romanian Member of the European Parliament expressed as well the importance of the development of Christian values in the European Parliament and he hoped that also the European People’s Party where he is part of can play a more significant role in this ambitious undertake. Professor Boari mentioned that “*it is time for new politics that offers a new perspective. The fundamental teaching of our Saviour could be an answer to this*”. Also **Dario Gonzalez** explained about the importance of the conference from his experience in South America. After the short speech given by the mayor of Codlea Alexandru Popa, our host and chairman of the event, Marius Moldoveanu, from the foundation East Europe and independent candidate as counselor closed the first evening and we were invited for the dinner.



Dario Gonzalez
President of Mentor Association



Leo van Doesburg and Vasile Boari

During the second day, Professor Vasile Boari challenged the participants in a debate about the question of why did God put the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the paradise and what was God’s Plan for mankind. After this he discussed about the basics of the Christian vision on the society and in politics based on Romans 12 and 13 with the key verses from Rom 12:17-21. After this **Dario Gonzalez** gave a deep analysis about the development from the modern to a post-modern society and how we as Christians should find and define our role in the societal developments. He finished his lecture with eight practical points how the IVCP could develop.

In the second half of the day, Professor Boari guided a basic debate about the principles and values the Initiative should pursue. All the principles should be grown from the basic Biblical value: "Love". Practical discussions led by the Members of Parliament, Viorel Duca, Valentin Bosneac and Petru Andea gave insight about the challenges they have in putting these values into practice. The second day was finished with a practical discussion about what activities should the Initiative develop. The evening was concluded by a dinner and a beautiful concert of German musicians.



The last day was focused on practical discussions; an ecumenical prayer meeting took place and a message for the participants was given by senator Viorel Duca. During the meeting was agreed to also establish the "Initiative for Christian Values in Politics (IVCP) also legally by creating a federation. In this way, the IVCP will represent the organizations based on the clear principles as written in "the initiative of Rasnov." A draft statute was presented with targets and objectives and an interdenominational executive board was proposed. Also the draft website and house style of the IVCP was presented. The next meeting was already planned in the Romanian

Parliament on 8 April where the first General Meeting of the IVCP will take place and the representatives of the organizations will be invited to join the official foundation of the federation that will be officially established.

New steps are made. Let's pray that this will be the beginning of "new politics with perspective, based on the foundation of the teaching of Jesus"

MESSAGE FROM CODLEA

In the days of 28th - 30th of March, took place in Codlea - Braşov the works of the National Conference of "Initiative for Christian Values in Politics" (I.V.C.P.). Reuniting more associations and foundations, among which the Ecumenical Prayer Group in the Romanian Parliament, the "Filocalia" Orthodox Center Bucharest, "Foundation East Europe - Codlea" and others. The National Conference established as mission to bring to their senses the public opinion and the political forces in Romanian, with the declared purpose of promoting the Christian message into the political arena.

The "Initiative for Christian Values in Politics" does not propose to constitute its own parties or political representation structures, but to join the efforts of those religious cults and segments of the civil society who wish to make heard the voice of the Gospels, thus the voice of God in the political environment, in "Caesar's kingdom".

Accepting the thesis according to which politics is part of God's Plan regarding the mankind, the "Initiative for Christian Values in Politics", according to generic Christian vision stating that "economic order is inseparable from the moral order" and "man is older than the state", wishes to select, to promote and to sustain within the political environment, ideas and persons defined by Christian values such as: faith, hope, righteousness.



The "Initiative for Christian Values in Politics" strongly sustains that the Christian values are fundamental values of the Romanian people and of Europe and that their appliance in the conflict dominated political present times can lead to obtaining the ethical balance that is no necessary to us nowadays.