



PRESENTATION OF ELECTION METHODS

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On behalf of the commission that revised the Lay Canossian Statute, we would like to the new methods of election/nomination of the International Coordinating Team according to what has been established by the new Statute and relative International Regulations.

The Statute, at points n°16 and 17, foresees what mentioned below:

structure **16.** The organizational structure is oriented to guarantee the realization of the formation processes and the aims of the Association: one's own sanctification, the care of one's own family and the charitable service of one's neighbour.¹

The fundamental principles guiding the functions and relationships within it are co-responsibility, interdependence and complementarity.

Coordinating Team The Association is organized at local, provincial and international levels with their respective Coordinating Teams, constituted by the Coordinator, the Secretary, the Bursar and by the Canossian Sister Animator and the Canossian Father Animator, where the two Religious Institutes exist.

International level On an international level, the members of the Coordinating Team, whose service is of five years, are renewed according to the procedure established by the International Regulations, with the possibility that all the members of the International Coordinating Team or some of them may be nominated for a second five-year term.

On an international level, the Sister Animator and the Father Animator will be nominated by their respective Superior General.

International Convention **18.** The International Convention is held every five years. Those who take part as members by right are:

- o the two Superiors General and the reference General Councillors
- o the International Coordinating Team
- o the Provincial Coordinator

and other members:

- o the Provincial Sister Animator and the Provincial Father Animator
- o a Delegate for each Province, elected or nominated by the Provincial Assembly according to the Provincial Regulations, whose number must not be inferior to the members by right

Headquarters The Headquarters of the Association and the Office of the International Coordinating Team are in Rome, located in the General Curia of the Canossian Daughters of Charity.



INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS n°12 foresees:

12. International Coordinating Team

At international level the members of the Coordinating Team are renewed according to the following procedure:

- three months before the International Convention, every Canossian Province, that is, the Lay Canossian Provincial Coordinating Team in dialogue with the Provincial Superior, must consider whether there is a Lay Canossian capable and available to carry out the responsibility of Coordination at an International level, and send the name to their respective Superiors General and the International Coordinating Team together with a brief curriculum vitae of this Lay Canossian
- during the International Convention these nominations will compose a list of names that will be presented to the Delegates taking part in the Convention who will vote five names from which the Superiors General will nominate the President-Coordinator
- in dialogue with the President-Coordinator, just nominated, and the Superiors General, the nomination of the Secretary and the Bursar will take place
- at International level, the Canossian Sister Animator and the Canossian Father Animator will be nominated by the respective General Superiors.

In the case that there are no candidates, the Delegates who take part in the Convention will indicate five names from which the Superiors General will nominate the President-Coordinator. If no names are suggested the Superiors General will nominate the President- Coordinator.

13. The International Convention

- is celebrated every five years
- is formed by the International Coordinating Team, Provincial Coordinators, Provincial Animators and Delegates for each Province
- votes from the list of names presented a short list of five names from which the International President-Coordinator will be nominated
- evaluates the journey made so far and the objectives fulfilled by the Association
- deepens specific themes suggested by the International Coordinating Team, after consulting the Provincial Coordinating Teams
- plans the future itinerary in continuity with the previous one, trying to respond to the concrete challenges of the religious and social context.

At this point, relative to the election of the International Coordinating Team, has fully engaged the commission to think and think again on how to present a democratic way, and at the same time, faithful to the Canossian vocation for the forming of the International Coordinating team.

It is a mixed institutional formula, made of election and nomination, the criteria that have guided the commission to this solution came from the analysis of the Lay Canossian history and the desire to guarantee the Canossian charism and, as well, from the experience that came from the International Conventions.

Specifically:

- the tradition teaches us that the Tertaries were responsible for the formation, work and way of life, the Mother Superior, of the Institute's house;
- No.303 of the il Code of Canon Law says that the associations of the lay, are integrated in the world through the charism of religious institute "under the high direction of the institution it-self;
- The various coordinating teams born after the International conventions, starting from the one held at Asiago in 1994 and the last one held at Verona in 2006, have never been instituted entirely through election, but through nomination and with mixed formula.