



# COMBONI PRESS NETWORK

The News Service of the Comboni Missionaries

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## GLOBAL NEWS.

### **After the hard-won independence of the Republic of South Sudan, will the West stay engaged?**

On July 9, the Republic of South Sudan (RoSS) was finally able to rejoice as the 54<sup>th</sup> member state of the African Union in spite of lingering violence on its northern border. At the ceremony, President Salva Kiir appealed to the citizens to focus on unity. "You may be a Zande, Kakwa, Lutuko, Nuer, Dinka or Shilluk, but first remember yourself as a South Sudanese," he told thousands that day. July 14 marked yet another milestone when the U.N. General Assembly officially welcomed it as the 193<sup>rd</sup> member of the community of nations. Now it remains to be seen if the West will help the nation get a strong footing which is crucial to the survival of both North and South.

- ✓ What is the reaction of people in the North of Sudan? **Read:** *How the Arab World lost Southern Sudan* at [www.jpic-jp.org/37-en.html](http://www.jpic-jp.org/37-en.html);
- ✓ Regarding the turmoil before the secession, **view** the photo essay at [www.smallarmssurvey.org/about-us/multimedia/photo-essays/photo-essay-south-sudan-overview.html](http://www.smallarmssurvey.org/about-us/multimedia/photo-essays/photo-essay-south-sudan-overview.html). Learn about *The Sudan Human Security Baseline Assessment (HSBA) Project* at [www.smallarmssurveysudan.org](http://www.smallarmssurveysudan.org);
- ✓ **Watch the video, South Sudan Independence: What You Need to Know** at [www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-14054589](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-14054589); also, **find** updated maps of North and South Sudan with reference to water and sanitation, oil, food, education and infant mortality, at [www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-14139656](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-14139656);
- ✓ **Send donations** to support development and mission projects in South Sudan to Fr. Brian Quigley, Comboni Missionaries, 1318 Nagel Road, Cincinnati, OH 45255; [missions@combonimissionaries.org](mailto:missions@combonimissionaries.org). **Specify your gift** for "The Republic of South Sudan." Or see [www.comboni.org](http://www.comboni.org).

**Christians, Jews and Muslims launch campaign to keep poverty assistance programs.** A U.S. interfaith coalition has announced an 18-month faith-based public campaign to urge Congress to exempt, from budget cuts, those programs that assist at-risk families and children in the U.S. and abroad. Religious leaders have sent letters to President Obama stating that "those who are poor, sick, hungry, old, very young, or with disabilities, should not bear the brunt of the budget-cutting burden:" [www.nccendpoverty.org/budget/faithfulbudget.html](http://www.nccendpoverty.org/budget/faithfulbudget.html); **Read about** the U.S. bishops' stand on the budget and their actions at [www.usccb.org/sdwp/globalpoverty/](http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/globalpoverty/); and *Some Kind of Deficit* (America, April 2011), at [www.bc.edu/bc\\_org/rvp/pubaf/10/America\\_Massaro\\_April.pdf](http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/rvp/pubaf/10/America_Massaro_April.pdf).

**Working for the Abolition of Modern Slavery.** The 2011 *Trafficking in Persons Report*, by the U.S. State Department (June 28), shows both hope and sadness: [www.jpic-jp.org/36-en.html](http://www.jpic-jp.org/36-en.html).

## AROUND THE UNITED NATIONS.

- ◆ **U.N. Observance Days for August** are listed at [www.un.org/observances/days.shtml#august](http://www.un.org/observances/days.shtml#august).
- ◆ **Comboni U.N. Involvement this Summer:** (1) The 3rd Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the *U.N. Conference on the Arms Trade Treaty* took place from July 11-15. Access the daily summary of discussions at <http://armstradetreaty.blogspot.com>; (2) On June 30, **Fr. John Converset** attended a *Briefing on Sudan* presented by the Assistant Secretary General for Human Rights/ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights; (3) From June 14-16, **Sr. Ilaria Buonriposi**, along with 40 others, participated in an *international migration law course*, organized by the U.N. Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). **Visit:** [www.unitar.org/ny/international-law-and-policy/migration-and-development-series/IML](http://www.unitar.org/ny/international-law-and-policy/migration-and-development-series/IML).
- ◆ **International Day of the World's Indigenous People on August 9** is just part of the 2005-2015, "Decade for Action and Dignity." **Visit:** [www.un.org/en/development/desa/newsletter/2011/june/feature.shtml#fea3](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/newsletter/2011/june/feature.shtml#fea3).

## TAKE ACTIONS.

- ◆ **Support The Canadian Council for Refugees' Statement** against the *Preventing Human Smugglers from Abusing Canada's Immigration System Act* (Bill C-4) at <http://ccrweb.ca/files/c4petition.doc>. The bill does not sufficiently protect refugees; see <http://ccrweb.ca/en/c4-key-concerns>.
- ◆ **Please fill out** the questionnaire on the *Justice in the World* Synod document to assist the USG-UISG JPIC Commission (Rome) in preparing its Fall seminar. **Get it at** [www.jpic-jp.org/38-en.html](http://www.jpic-jp.org/38-en.html).

## OUR CORE PARTNERS.

- ◆ **AFRICA FAITH & JUSTICE NETWORK (AFJN):** Ntama Bahati offers a new DRC report, *Conflict Minerals: Responsible supply chain and sourcing mechanism a must*, at <http://afjn.org/focus-campaigns/promote-peace-d-r-congo/29-news/977-conflict-minerals-responsible-supply-chain-and-sourcing-mechanism-a-must.html>. To learn more, watch “[Crisis in the Congo. Uncovering the Truth.](#)”
- ◆ **AFRICA EUROPE FAITH & JUSTICE NETWORK (AEFJN):** Locate the national antennae of AEFJN *Country by Country* at [www.aefjn.org/index.php/antennae.html](http://www.aefjn.org/index.php/antennae.html).
- ◆ **VIVAT INTERNATIONAL (V.I.):** V.I. partner organizations helped in the preparation of a study/shadow report for the July session of *The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)*. See <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/index.htm>. A national coalition of NGOs in Zambia also contributed a document from the Zambian religious, entitled *Concerns pertaining to gender violence, child abuse and trafficking of women and children*. Get information from the recent briefing at [pbvmipa@msn.com](mailto:pbvmipa@msn.com).

## RESOURCES.

- ◆ *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2011:* The report, an annual assessment of regional progress, just issued in Geneva on July 7, cites major progress on the eight MDGs, but also the fact that the most vulnerable are still left behind. Read the report at [http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Resources/Static/Products/Progress2011/11-31339%20\(E\)%20MDG%20Report%202011\\_Book%20LR.pdf](http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Resources/Static/Products/Progress2011/11-31339%20(E)%20MDG%20Report%202011_Book%20LR.pdf); also, an article at [www.un.org/millenniumgoals/MDG2011\\_PRa\\_EN.pdf](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/MDG2011_PRa_EN.pdf).
- ◆ *The Nuclear Question: The Church's Teachings and the Current State of Affairs* was presented in the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph on July 1 by Archbishop Francis Chullikatt, head of the Vatican's U.N. Mission. Get the speech at [www.zenit.org/article-33139?l=english](http://www.zenit.org/article-33139?l=english).
- ◆ *Reflections on the Ministry of Justice and Peace and Integrity of Creation*, a newly published 28-page research document by Comboni Missionaries, Fr. Pierli, Br. Parise and Br. Pettersen, fully examines the dimensions of a “JPIC” ministry, within the Comboni Institute and from a global perspective in the context of the social tradition of the Church. It presents the challenges, initiatives and overarching spirituality of the JPIC ministry. Available in English, Italian, Spanish, French. Visit [www.comboni.org//contenuto/view/id/105549](http://www.comboni.org//contenuto/view/id/105549).
- ◆ *Tackling Violence against Women: From Knowledge to Practical Initiatives*, a “working paper” from the *Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development*, discusses the need for specific initiatives to address this problem. Download at [www.genevadeclaration.org/fileadmin/docs/WP-TVAV/GD-WP-Tackling-VAW.pdf](http://www.genevadeclaration.org/fileadmin/docs/WP-TVAV/GD-WP-Tackling-VAW.pdf).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS.

- ◆ **October 5-7, 2011:** Canadian Religious Conference (CRC)'s 2011 JPIC National Bilingual Gathering: *Co-Creating with the Spirit on the Cutting Edge: Actualizing a Transformed Earth Community* will take place in Montreal, with 200 JPIC promoters and collaborators expected. Fr. Jean Paul Pezzi will represent the Combonis' North American Province (NAP). Get the details at (514) 259-0856, ext. 108, or at [www.crc-canada.org](http://www.crc-canada.org).

## JPIC COMBONILINE.

- ◆ **We are grateful** for the outpouring of love and sympathy for our beloved **Comboni Bishop Caesar Mazzolari** who died suddenly on July 16 while celebrating mass in South Sudan. It was a great joy for him to partake in the Independence Day of his adopted country on July 9. A courageous and compassionate leader, he had “a special place in his heart for the people of South Sudan.” The Governor of the Lakes Province in South Sudan declared a three-day mourning period in recognition of his civic contributions that were equally praised by President Kiir.
- ◆ **South Sudan:** [www.combonisouthsudan.org](http://www.combonisouthsudan.org) is a new web site on the activities of the Comboni Missionaries in South Sudan and on the challenges and dreams of this new nation.
- ◆ **Peru-Chile:** On August 9-10, the Comboni Missionaries will hold a two-day workshop on Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation (JPIC) in Chorillos (Lima) Parish.

**Note:** The CPN Newsletter is emailed in four languages, with each language clearly marked for your personal selection. Invite your friends and colleagues to subscribe at [combonipn@combonimissionaries.org](mailto:combonipn@combonimissionaries.org). Interact at our blogsite for *Justice, Peace, Integrity of Creation* at [www.jp-pic-jp.org/en.php](http://www.jp-pic-jp.org/en.php).

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Comboni Press Network (CPN) newsletter provides access to information on global issues from Church and Mission-related sources. Our focus is on Justice and Peace issues, and on how the U.S. policies affect the Third World countries.

Please share your suggestions and ideas with us—we're only an e-mail or fax away!