

**Members of the Association
CRESCENDO Worldwide Network**
“For a human and Christian Aging”
January 2020

International Ascent Life (VMI)

International Association of Charities (AIC)

International Catholic Committee of Nurses and
Medical-Social Assistants (CICIAMS)

International Federation of Catholic Medical
Associations (FIAMC)

International Movement of the Apostolate of
Independent Social Networks (MIAMSI)

International Religious Congregation of the Little
Sisters of the Poor

*“According to God’s design, each human being is a growing
life from the first sparkle of his existence until his last
breath.”*

John Paul II, Apostolic Exhortation Christifideles laici, n° 48

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HISTORICAL

The Association Crescendo Worldwide Network for Christian and Human Aging” was founded in Paris on July 9 2001. Crescendo arose from the inspiration of the Little Sisters of the Poor and the working group “Third Age” of the Conference of International Catholic Organizations (COIC) **in order to do together what cannot be done alone.**

The name **Crescendo** expresses the image of a life in perpetual growth and development and claims to be the reflection of its mission.

CRESCENDO: WHAT IS IT?

Crescendo is a coalition of organizations and international Catholic congregations of various disciplines, active in the area of elderly persons, each one maintaining its complete autonomy and its own charism.

Crescendo’s main concern is to favor a humanist approach by improving the image of the development of the aging person, the respect of her dignity and spiritual richness.

Through its action, **Crescendo** facilitates exchanges by **offering a platform between various partners concerned with aging**: UN programs and specialized agencies, intergovernmental and nongovernmental organizations professionals, experts, networks of elderly persons and the political world.

VISION

Crescendo promotes and defends the sacred dignity of the person in all stages of his existence, without reducing it to a criterion of profitability or economical usefulness or utility;

Crescendo recognizes the growing importance of affective and spiritual values throughout life, particularly the Christian values of the family and inter-generational solidarity.

MISSION

Crescendo works through, for, and with elderly persons in the emergence of a more human society for all ages;

Crescendo displays a positive image of aging, inspired by the biblical vision of the person;

Crescendo arouses the participation of elderly persons in civil and religious society life. These persons have an essential mission to play in front of society;

Crescendo acts, through his associations members at the international, national, and local level.

GOALS

Crescendo works as a network;

Crescendo collaborates with partners working for ecumenical, humanitarian, and for human rights organizations;

Crescendo promotes a human and Christian aging;

Crescendo exchanges, informs, and forms.

CRESCENDO Activities

2002: Madrid: UN World Assembly on Aging.

Participation in the NGO Forum: conferences and stand. Official message for the document adopted by the UN, stressing the urgency of promoting a more human vision of aging, integrating ethical and spiritual values.

2003: First issue of the quarterly electronic bulletin (French, English, Spanish, Italian)

2004: Parliamentary Assembly, Council of Europe 1st statement by Catholic INGOs members of Crescendo on the report of the *Social Affairs Commission* favorable to euthanasia. The report was postponed.

2005: Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe 2nd statement by Catholic INGOs : the Report is rejected **Bossey-Geneva; International Seminar “For a fully human and Christian aging”** organized in collaboration with the CIC of Geneva.

2006: Vth World Meeting of Families (WMF) in Valencia (Spain): Organization of a congress of the elderly persons integrated in the WMF and intervention during the theological-pastoral congress.

2007: Invitation in Rome to the 1^o Forum of the INGO of catholic inspiration.

2008: Rome : Invitation to the **Pontifical Plenary Assembly for the Family**. Speech of the President.

2009: VIth WMF (Mexico) : Speech

2010: Invitation to the 2nd Forum of the INGO of catholic inspiration, in Rome;

2011: Rome : Visit to the **Pontifical Council for Health**. Participation in the **Forum’s Group of Family Work**. **Strasbourg : invitation to the seminar of Catholic INGO**

2012: VIth WMF :Speech at the **theological-pastoral Congress (Milan)**

2013 Launch of Crescendo’s new Web site.

2014 Geneva : Social Forum of the Human Rights Council (1 to 3 April) Crescendo participated in the organization of the meeting. Theme : Rights of the elderly and best practices. **Paris : 15 May** : CCIC Conference : “Familie, Patrimoine mondial de l’Humanité ?

2015 Rome : Pontifical Council for the Family (PCF) : Invitation to the International Congress of Movements, groups and associations concerned with family and life issues.

VIIIth World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia : (22 to 27 September) Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor represented Crescendo

2017 : Rome : Invitation to the 3rd Forum INGO of Catholic inspiration

2018 : Participation in the World Meeting of Families in Dublin

Since 2010 : Regular participation to the sessions of the Human Rights Council, the Social Forum, Ceremonies of 1st October (International Day of the Elderly)