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# The CNOS-FAP Federation

From its beginnings the Salesian Congregation has been known and appreciated for its Vocational Training Centres offering underprivileged youth - those who often had to work to help their family or those who could not receive an education - a human development and a quality preparation for the world of work, which allowed them to face their future with confidence and responsibility (Fr. Pascual Chávez Villanueva, Rector Major, 2010).

The CNOS-FAP Federation, National Centre of Salesian Institutions – Vocational Training and Updating (Centro Nazionale Opere Salesiane / Formazione Aggiornamento Professionale), is an Italian association founded on December 9, 1977. It coordinates the Italian Salesians who provide a public service in **vocational guidance**, **vocational education and training**, following the educational methodology of St. John Bosco. It is a non-profit organization.

It includes the Salesian Institutions and the local and regional CNOS-FAP Associations which provide vocational guidance and vocational training initiatives, mainly through Vocational Education and Training Centres. The CNOS-FAP Federation operates in 15 Italian regions with 60 Centres coordinated by the National Office.

## The CNOS-FAP Federation is active

- at international, national, regional and local levels, where training programmes and plans are designed;
- in the ecclesiastical field with a commitment to promote the growth of spirituality and solidarity in the labour market;
- in the Salesian Institutions, in the educational project which is inspired by the teachings of Father John Bosco and his system of prevention which characterises the Salesian Youth Movement.

#### It operates mainly through

- basic, higher and specialised vocational training in the industrial and service sectors;
- continuous training initiatives, in contact with the labour market;

- specific international projects, especially with EU partners;
- distance training programmes responding to the needs of Federation workers and the labour market.

#### It coordinates

- the centres called "CFP" Vocational Education and Training Centres situated throughout the whole Italy;
- vocational guidance services for young people in collaboration with "COSPES" (Educational, Professional and Social Vocational Guidance Centres).

### It offers

- publications for the diffusion of vocational culture, such as the four-monthly magazine "Rassegna CNOS – Problemi, esperienze, prospettive per l'istruzione e la formazione professionale" and "Studi, Progetti, Esperienze per la nuova formazione professionale";
- conferences, studies and researches.

The federation, through multiannual programmes and annual activity plans:

- answers to the training needs of the underprivileged, with particular regard to marginalised youth;
- fosters human being's holistic development, promoting his/her spiritual, educational, cultural, social politic, solidarity and working dimensions, educating him/her at a peaceful civil coexistence at local, national, European and International levels;
- achieves guidance initiatives in educational and social promotion fields, implementing specific activities addressed to beneficiaries at risk of social, professional and cultural exclusion:
- encourages culture and exchange of transnational experiences between young people, aimed at increasing their awareness of European citizenship and their personal development;
- develops specific professional skills of the staff of all the member associations, increasing their educational, pedagogical and technical qualifications;
- provides members of the Federations with legal representative power, within consultative and decision-making bodies responsible at all levels in the fields of vocational training, guidance and updating.

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