

Dear Friends,

Since 1997 the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) has organized the MAGIS program, which is designed for young people from all over the world who participate in World Youth Day. In July 2016 both events will take place in Poland: MAGIS 2016 (15-25 July) and the World Youth Day (26-31 July). We are beginning our preparation for this meeting, and we would like to invite you to collaborate. Through this brochure we want to ask you for assistance with MAGIS 2016 POLAND. Your commitment, proposals, coordination and participation of one of the "Ignatian Experiments" at MAGIS 2016 will be greatly appreciated. These experiments are organized for young people who will come to Poland to participate in the MAGIS program in 2016 and the World Youth Day.

In this document, we present the structure for the promotional material as well as the description and requirements for the Ignatian Experiments. They are a key element of MAGIS 2016. Your involvement is essential for success of the experiments. We are not able to prepare 80 Experiments on our own, which is why we ask for your help. Please carefully consider our proposal and encouragement to organize an Ignatian Experiment during MAGIS 2016!

Marek Firlejczyk, SJ
Coordinator of Ignatian Experiments MAGIS 2016

Ignatian Experiments of MAGIS 2016

The Ignatian Experiments (IE) encompass various activities that will lead to the participant's personal and spiritual development. This stage is intended to give the participant an experience of living in community, of working with others, and of reflecting on these experiences. Therefore, the aim of IE is not to evaluate success or failure, but to help the participants to discover themselves.

The idea of the Ignatian Experiment

Practice and experience leads each participant to daily reflection. Daily reflection centered on various values is important for young people and their relationship with God. By reliving the past day through the practice of the examen of conscience, participants learn a little more about themselves and the world around them. That is how they discover a deeper and fuller meaning of their lives. The Experiment requires the elements of action and cooperation. Young people are put to the test and can risk failure, which leads them to discover something more about their motivations and their relationship with God. At that point, the participant transcend their limits in order to be closer to Christ and to others.

Duration

Ignatian Experiments MAGIS 2016 will be held from 17 to 23 July 2016:

- July 17 - arrival at the place of the experiment
- July 18-22 –Ignatian Experiments
- July 23 - departure for Czestochowa

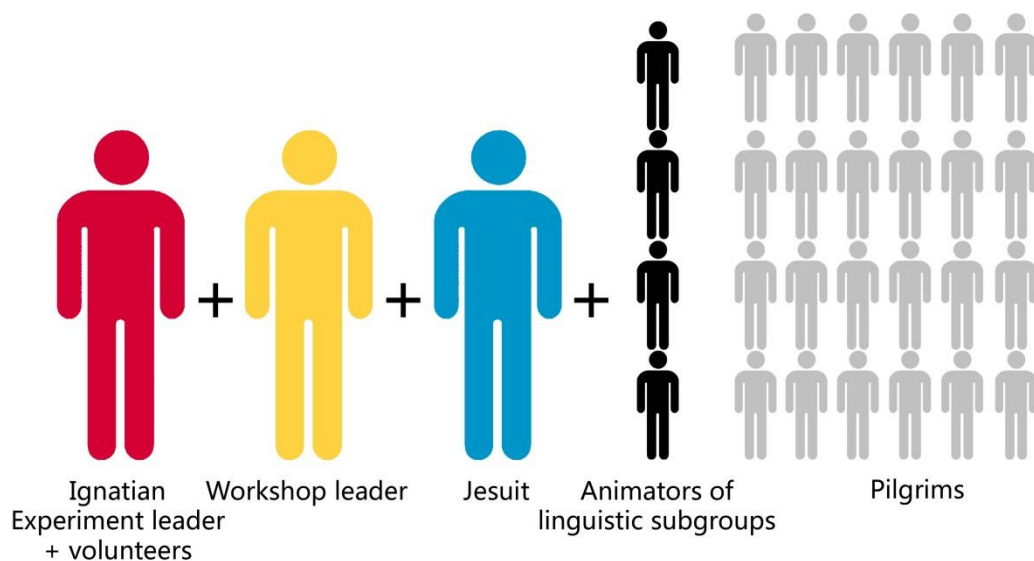
The composition and number of participants

People comprising the Ignatian Experiment:

- 1. Leader of the Experiment** – He proposes the category of the Experiments. He is directly responsible for the group and the day by day running of the experiment. He maintains contact with institutions and individuals. He organizes the logistics (accommodations, meals, and possibly local transportation) of the experiment. When necessary, volunteers help him. He is also responsible for the spiritual component of the experiment. The experiment leader does not have to speak English.
- 2. Volunteers** - support the Leader of the Experiment in practical and logistical issues. They accompany participants, giving them support and instruction. At least one of the volunteers must speak English fluently. Volunteers may be recruited by the leader of the experiment or he can ask the main organizer (Marek Firlejczyk, SJ) to allocate them.
- 3. Workshop Leader** - the person responsible for organizing the action component. **He does not have to be involved in the entire experiment.** The Workshop Leader can also be the leader of the experiment.
- 4. The priest (Jesuit)** - the person responsible for celebrating Mass and other sacramental ministries. He can also be the leader of the experiment or one of the volunteers. He helps the leader of the experiment with the spiritual formation of the participants.
- 5. The participants** - approximately 25 (occasionally more), between 18 to 30 years of age, hailing from three or four different countries. In each language group the animator must speak English fluently, and he is responsible for the participant from his country.

The separation of functions in the course of the Ignatian Experiment is flexible - one person can perform several functions.

Team of the Ignatian Experiment



1. Ignatian character (dimension) of the Experiments at MAGIS 2016

Saint Ignatius, the person

Ignatian experiments are based on the life experience of St. Ignatius of Loyola. By going into different and little-known situations, Ignatius teaches us how to look at God, ourselves, and others in a new way. Ignatius said that you should "find God in all things." In IE, we try to welcome every situation, even if it is painful and difficult to understand. Then we learn to trust that even in the darkness we discover God's presence.

Spirituality

The spirituality of MAGIS is grounded in the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius (1491-1556), the founder of the Jesuits. In the Exercises, the person meets God through personal meditation, reflection and the Eucharist, the human being meets God. At the same time he gets to know himself better. Similarly, in MAGIS, by combining experience and prayer the participants develop a deeper understanding of their reactions to various situations. In this way, the acquired experience helps the participant to meet the new challenges in life. In addition, the participant will deepen their relationship with God. Through prayer and sharing, the Ignatian Experiment teaches the participant how to put the Word of God into action.

2. The international challenge

The objective of the MAGIS 2016 program is to discover how, despite our differences, we can create the Church of Christ. Therefore, the uniqueness of IE forced to cooperation in the international community. The participants' task is to overcome the limitations of language and culture. Leaders of the experiment and workshop leaders should support the participant in order for them to truly engage with this challenge.

3. Experiments MAGIS 2016 Categories

Pilgrimage Experiment

With Christ, participants are experiencing the joys and hardships on the road. During this time, they are only concerned with what is necessary for the duration of the journey. The IE walking pilgrimage should be between 80 and a 110 km (for example: four days hiking and 1 day of rest). Alternative forms of pilgrimage can be a pilgrimage by bicycle, canoe, or sailing boat.

Spiritual Experiment

The main purpose of this IE is the experience of deep prayer. The participants are familiarized with different Christian traditions. Often prayer is also connected with work. The main emphasis of this IE is aimed at spiritual development.

Service-oriented Experiments (social and environmental)

This type of experiment is geared towards helping others. It includes tasks developed in cooperation with government organizations and partners of the Society of Jesus. The second important dimension of service regards the environment. The aim of this experiment is to learn how to take care of Creation. This type of IE helps the participants to contemplate God in nature.

Socio-cultural experiment

This experiment includes time spent with other religious, cultural, and social groups. Its aim is to engage in dialogue with the culture of our country (the traditions of each region) and with different religious communities.

Art experiment

This type of experiment is an opportunity to become involved in different kinds of art: painting, architecture, folk art, writing, iconography, acting, music, singing, and much more. This experiment is designed to stimulate the creativity of the participants.

Of course, the Ignatian experiment may include elements from different categories. Nonetheless, it is important to select one main category.

4. Organization of Experiments MAGIS 2016

The main organizer of Experiments - Marek Firlejczyk, SJ is responsible for the promotion, coordination and realization of the Ignatian Experiments across the country.

Regional Coordinator - the person responsible for developing and coordinating the Ignatian Experiments in the region and assisting Marek Firlejczyk SJ with advice and the implementation of the experiments

The development and realisation of the Ignatian Experiments has been divided into regions:

POLAND:

Białystok - Jolanta Żero-Grochowska (jolazer@gmail.com)
Bydgoszcz - Artur Kołodziejczyk SJ (akolodziejczyk@logonet.com.pl)
Bytom - Marcin Włodarek SJ (wlodarekm@gmail.com)
Czechowice-Dziedzice - Paweł Berwecki SJ (p.berwecki@jezuici.pl)
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Gdańsk - Piotr Kropisz SJ (piotr.kropisz@gmail.com)
Gdynia - Czesław Wasilewski SJ (czewas@gmail.com)
Gliwice - Mirek Bożek SJ (mrslw@poczta.onet.pl)
Jastrzębia Góra - Andrzej Batorski SJ (a.batorski@jezuici.pl)
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Opole - Witold Trawka SJ (witek.trawka@gmail.com)
Piotrków Trybunalski - Bartosz Kornatowski SJ (bkornatowski@gmail.com)
Poznań - Tadeusz Domeracki SJ (tdomerac@jezuici.pl)
Radom - Czesław Sobolewski SJ (czestersi@gmail.com)
Stara Wieś k. Brzozowa - Łukasz Dębiński SJ (lukassi@wp.pl)
Szczecin - Paweł Chodak SJ (p.chodak@jezuici.pl)
Św. Lipka - Elżbieta Parakiewicz (parakiewicz@wp.pl)
Toruń - Rafał Huzarski SJ (huzar01@interia.pl)
Warszawa - Roman Groszewski SJ (rgroszewski@gmail.com)
Kasia Rybczyńska (kasia.rybczynska@gmail.com)
Wrocław - Leszek Wilczak SJ (lwilczak@gmail.com)
Zakopane - Andrzej Gęgotek SJ (manresa@poczta.onet.pl)

SLOVAKIA - Alenka Kuckova (ali.kuc@gmail.com)

CZECH REPUBLIC - Lenka Češková (maddalena.ceskova@gmail.com)

Pavel Bačo (nekkarb@gmail.com)

LITHUANIA - Danas Viluckas (v.danas@gmail.com)

5. The basic elements of the Ignatian Experiment:

While each Ignatian Experiment leader has the freedom to adapt the day schedule according to his own creativity and capability, some aspects must be common to all the Experiments. These are the elements that cannot be overlooked, and that will allow the participant to feel connected to all the other participants of MAGIS 2016.

Language - a common language is not obvious

Remember that the pilgrims come from different countries and they will only understand what we communicate to a certain extent. In addition, they will not use a common language to speak with each other. MAGIS has three official languages: Polish, Spanish and English, but a huge linguistic diversity prevails. During the meetings, the standard language will be English, so you must ensure that at least one volunteer or leader speaks that language. The linguistic aspect is important for motivating the participants. Hence, it is important that the activity does not focus solely on verbal transmission.

Elements of Ignatian Experiment of MAGIS:

We need to ensure that each day the pilgrims have enough time to complete the 5 MAGIS pillars:

1. Personal Prayer
2. Activity/ Action / Apostolic Experience
3. Mass celebration
4. MAGIS Circle (sharing groups)
5. Ignatian examen (personal review of the day)

During the preparation and execution of the Experiments we should keep in mind **5 aspects**:

1. Community experience of the experiment
2. Participation in the life of the local community
3. Apostolic dimension (spiritual/social/cultural/intellectual)
4. Accompanying the participant (help to overcome barriers)
5. Respect for diversity

Summary of the day by the organizers

At the end of each day, it is very important for the Experiment Leader to meet with the volunteers and animators of the linguistic subgroups. Their aim is to summarize the day, to articulate the good things and the difficulties, to hear opinions and to designate the tasks and the missions for the next day. It is an opportunity to summarize how each participant experienced the Ignatian experiment and to refine it from day to day.

Delegate responsibility to participants

It is important to ensure that the individual participants and volunteers take responsibility for the success of the Ignatian Experiment. It is necessary to draw attention to the activity of the participants, to make sure that they are not merely passive, but that they become part of the leadership component. You should invite them to contribute to this experience. Treat them as young adults. It is important to depend on animators from different countries, who will be responsible for each of the language subgroups participating in the program.

Plan enough free time for: rest, integration and personal issues

Planning the Ignatian experiment take into consideration free time for the participants for the purpose of personal hygiene (bathing, doing laundry, etc.), for rest, and for the integration of the entire group.

Simplicity and balance

It is important to strive for a balance between meetings concerning serious content, spiritual components, and time to relax, activities, recreation, being together, and ministry. In general, the Ignatian experiment should be based on austerity and simplicity while always ensuring basic comfort and safety. Participants of MAGIS "are not picky," do not mind sleeping on the floor (in sleeping bags) or other restrictions, if there is such a necessity. It is essential to ensure that neither a lack nor excess of comfort hamper the task at hand. Similarly, you should take care of the food: simple yet healthy meals (balanced diet).

Realistic view of what we expect from the young people

Realistically speaking, the message of the MAGIS 2016 program may reach some participants, but not all of them. Our proposals may discourage them or become a challenge because through this experience, participants are faced with deep and serious questions about their own existence. Please pay close attention to this, and observe that in some instances it might become necessary to develop new topics. This can help the participant to live this experience in a meaningful way. In moments like those, we especially count on the support of the spiritual leader (Jesuit). The leader of the experiment, volunteers and animators of linguistic subgroups should be very attentive to the disposition demonstrated by the participants.

Ignatian Experiment Logistics

MAGIS 2016 provides an opportunity to engage in activity and formation with the participants. We invite you to organize an Ignatian Experiment. The central team is responsible for ensuring that the participants arrive at IE on July 17, 2016 and travel to Czestochowa, July 23, 2016 (including travel expenses). It would be helpful to support the central team by rent the bus to Czestochowa locally. During the Ignatian Experiment, participants remain in the care of the leader of the experiment. He or she is supported by the regional advisers and the Central Team of MAGIS 2016. Therefore, we ask that the Ignatian Experiment coordinators and their volunteers prepare an adequate budget and description of the needs for their particular experiment. Please help us to raise funds for the experiments as much as possible.

Ignatian experiments, and other events of MAGIS 2016

MAGIS 2016 starts with a large gathering of pilgrims from all over the world in Łódź. The location was selected because of the theme of the World Youth Day "Blessed are the Merciful...". The first revelation of holy Sister Faustina took place in Łódź. In Łódź, participants will meet with their friends in the faith in order to strengthen their sense of community. On July 16 the participants will take part in the Eucharist with Father Adolfo Nicolas, Superior General of the Society of Jesus, who will send them to the experiments. On July 17, the pilgrims will depart to different places around the country, as well as to the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Lithuania. On July 22 at the end of the day, the leaders of the experiment should evaluate the Ignatian Experiments with the participants. This way, they will start preparing them for the next stage of MAGIS 2016 (reunion in Czestochowa). To make a smooth transition between these events, leaders and volunteers of IE must not forget about the spiritual dimension of MAGIS. Finally, at least one of the team members of the

experiment (the leader, a volunteer, a Jesuit) must be present in Łódź from the beginning of MAGIS (15th July) and also accompany the group on both trips (from Łódź to place of IE – 17th July, and from IE to Czestochowa – 23th July)

6. How to submit a proposal of an Ignatian Experiment MAGIS 2016

After reviewing all the information, the person or group interested in the organization of an Ignatian Experiment MAGIS 2016 should do the following:

- find necessary information about MAGIS 2016 POLAND, available on the website www.magis2016.org (available beginning March 2015).
- Fill in the online form by 31 April 2015:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1mt7ba6iW25aHt8KJ_WcNfb6ECG7b1jSuiO_W_rz1Mec/viewform

If you have any doubts contact: m.firlejczyk@magis2016.org.

Dates for organization of the Ignatian Experiments:

- April 31, 2015 – deadline for initial declaration about organizing the Ignatian Experiment
- June 31, 2015 – deadline for final confirmation about preparing the IE
- June 1, 2016 - preparation of experiments (in collaboration with national and local coordinator, volunteers) - check the status of work

Please wait for a response to find out whether the proposal was accepted. The MAGIS 2016 team will select proposals and provide the necessary instructions to begin preparations for Ignatian Experiments MAGIS. The process of assigning people to each Experiment will begin in March 2016. Central team MAGIS 2016 reserves the right to modify or cancel the experiment.

Thank you for your support and attention,
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