

Thy Kingdom Come!

**Draft Statutes of the Regnum Christi Federation**

December 7, 2018

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## **Glossary**

### **Apostolic activity**

It is used as a generic category which includes apostolic works, programs and events, as defined in number 39.

### **Ordinary and extraordinary administration**

Acts of ordinary administration are those which administrators can validly carry out, according to their assignment, while acts of extraordinary administration required written authorization from the competent authority. The Statutes should indicate which acts exceed the limit and mode of ordinary administration (see CIC 1281).

### **Assignment of mission and appointment**

The “assignment of mission” is the act by which the competent director of a branch assigns a member of their branch to an apostolic mission; it is thus distinguished from “appointment,” which is the act by which the competent authority of the Federation or the branch confers the role.

### **Ecclesiastical goods**

All temporal goods belonging to the universal Church, the Apostolic See or other public juridical persons in the Church are ecclesiastical goods and are governed by canon law, as well as by their own Statutes.

### **Secondary code**

A code of proper law on a lower level to the Statutes.

### **Consult**

When this verb is used referring to a council (or in our case to the General or Territorial Plenary Council meetings) it is equivalent to “asking for their opinion.”

### **Proper law**

The set of norms contained in the Statutes and secondary codes of an institution. Proper law is distinguished from “universal law” or “common law,” which is found in the codes valid for the whole Church, especially in the Code of Canon Law.

### **The Regnum Christi spiritual family and apostolic body**

This term includes the whole spiritual, charismatic and apostolic reality that we call the Regnum Christi Movement and that is broader than the juridical reality included in the canonical figure of the Federation. The spiritual family comprises all branches, members and other works, institutions, sections, initiatives, etc. and their respective charismatic patrimony.

The term “Movement” is not used in the Statutes, since the CIVCSVA is not competent to approve an ecclesial movement.

### **Regnum Christi Federation**

The canonical reality that the Holy See will establish if it accepts our proposal. It is defined or described by these Statutes.

### **Associated lay faithful / Lay Members of Regnum Christi**

The physical persons associated individually to the Federation. They can be lay faithful or diocesan priests, deacons or seminarians.

### **Members of the federated branches**

They are the physical persons who form part of the clerical religious institute of the Legionaries of Christ, the Society of Apostolic Life Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi and the Society of Apostolic Life Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi.

Note: To avoid confusion or misunderstanding, the terms “member of the federation” or “federated member” are not used, to avoid misinterpreting it as a triple membership (e.g., member of an institute, member of the federation and, more widely, member of Regnum Christi). Strictly speaking, the components of the Federation are the three federated branches.

### **Common mission**

It is the mission shared by the various vocations that make up Regnum Christi and described in number 8 of this draft text. It is the mission of Regnum Christi as an apostolic body. The Statutes distinguish between “mission” and “apostolic activity.” Apostolic activity is always oriented to the fulfillment of the mission and can be the apostolic activity of individuals, branches or the federation.

### **General or territorial moderators of the branches**

The general or territorial directors of the branches.

(Note: in English “directors” is used as a translation for both “directores” and “responsables”).

### **Secondary legislation**

A generic term to refer to the future secondary codes.

### **Charismatic patrimony**

Institutional characteristics (nature, purpose, spirit, character and healthy traditions) generated by a charism. It can be described as the whole of spiritual goods and apostolic

principles that make the Regnum Christi spiritual family what it is. It is mentioned as the spiritual foundation of the Federation in chapter 3 of these Statutes.

### **Patrimony (material)**

The whole of movable and immovable goods, rights and assets and liabilities of the juridical person, considered as a single unit.

### **Stable patrimony**

“The Code of Canon Law does not expressly define it; it presupposes the notion of a classical concept, elaborated by canonist doctrine as the goods which are ‘legitimately designated’ (CIC 1291) to the juridical person as a permanent portion—whether instrumental or profitable goods—to facilitate the attainment of institutional purposes and guarantee economic self-sufficiency.

“In general, stable patrimony is considered to be: the goods that form part of the founding portion of the entity; the goods that have come to the entity itself, if established by the donor; and the goods that administration assigns to the entity. In order for an asset to become part of the stable patrimony of the juridical person, it requires ‘legitimate designation’ (CIC 1291).”<sup>1</sup>

### **Branches of the Federation**

The Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ, the Society of Apostolic Life of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi and the Society of Apostolic Life of the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi.

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<sup>1</sup> CIVCSVA, Circular letter *Guidelines for the Management of Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life*, August 2, 2014.

## **Preamble**

1. Regnum Christi was born as an ecclesial movement of apostolate that seeks to make present the Kingdom of Christ through the sanctification of its members and through a personal and communal apostolic action so that Jesus Christ may reign in the hearts of all people and of society.

2. The first groups of lay people in Regnum Christi began in 1968, through the invitation, formation and direction of the Legionaries of Christ, along with the generosity and apostolic dynamism of the laity themselves. These men and women share one charism, one spirit and one mission, lived out in their state of life. Aware of their baptismal vocation to holiness and apostolate, they feel called to be apostles and to form apostles and Christian leaders at the service of Jesus Christ, the Church and society. This evangelizing zeal is expressed in the works of apostolate and service for the good of all people.

3. Springing from this same dynamism, new forms of consecration arose in the heart of Regnum Christi where lay men and women offered their lives to God to follow Christ freely and totally by embracing the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience through sacred bonds. These groups have been growing in institutional maturity and evangelizing scope, contributing significantly in building Regnum Christi.

4. Today this spiritual family consists of single and married lay men and women, consecrated lay men and women, diocesan seminarians, deacons, priests, and religious priests in the Legionaries of Christ, each living according to his or her vocation, as members of one body (see 1 Cor 12:12-29), collaborating in a common mission.

5. For decades, the Regnum Christi government was united and identified within the Legionaries of Christ as established in the Statutes of Regnum Christi that the Holy See approved in 2004. In 2012, the Pontifical Delegate, Cardinal Velasio De Paolis, granted autonomy of government and internal life to the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi and the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi. In 2013, it approved the statutes of both associations of the faithful, pending their full canonical recognition and the legal definition of their membership in Regnum Christi. On November 25, 2018, Solemnity of Christ the King, both associations were established as societies of apostolic life of pontifical right.

6. From 2014 to 2018, a process of discernment and study was carried out by the lay members of Regnum Christi, closely accompanied by a pontifical assistant, Jesuit Father Gianfranco Ghirlanda. They sought to find a canonical structure that expressed the spiritual unity and the apostolic collaboration of all, promote the identity and legitimate autonomy of each branch, and allow the lay faithful of Regnum Christi to belong to the same apostolic body in a canonically recognized way. To achieve these goals the religious congregation of the

Legionaries of Christ, the society of apostolic life of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, and the society of apostolic life of the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi united in the Regnum Christi Federation. Lay faithful, who share the same spirit and mission, can associate individually. The nature, composition, purposes and activity of the Federation are governed by these Statutes.

7. The new canonical configuration of Regnum Christi, through the Federation, is a fruit of the path to renewal and ecclesial maturity that all are now on. Regnum Christi thanks God and the Church for this step forward that allows us to better express the communion and co-responsibility of all and impels them in the mission of making the Kingdom of Christ present in the world.

## First part. Identity, members and activities of the Regnum Christi Federation

### Chapter 1. Nature, composition and purposes

#### *Nature and institutional composition*

1. § 1. The Regnum Christi Federation is formed by the religious Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ, the Society of Apostolic Life of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, and the Society of Apostolic Life of the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi.

§ 2. The institutions that are federated retain their identity, goals and legitimate autonomy, in accordance with canon law, and are governed by their respective constitutions. They acquire the rights and duties established in these Statutes. They are called the branches of the Federation.

§ 3. The Regnum Christi Federation is a public juridical person.

#### *The associated faithful*

2. Other Catholics may associate individually to the Federation. They are admitted by the section directors, as defined in the *Rule of Life of the Lay Faithful Associated with Regnum Christi*, approved by the General Convention of the Federation. They are:

1.º lay faithful who do not assume the evangelical counsels through a sacred bond, and who personally embrace a vocation to live fully their baptismal commitments amid temporal realities according to the spirit and mission which animate this Federation;

2.º diocesan priests, deacons and seminarians.

#### *Regnum Christi*

3. The Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ, the Society of Apostolic Life of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, and the Society of Apostolic Life of the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi, their members and the other faithful individually associated to the Federation, belong to “Regnum Christi,” a spiritual family and apostolic body.



### *Purposes of the Federation*

4. The Federation has the following specific purposes:

- 1.° to provide a canonical structure that expresses the unity of all the components of the spiritual family, and respects the identity of each one;
- 2.° to safeguard, deepen and promote the common charismatic patrimony;
- 3.° to promote the development of the common mission, at the service of the Church and society;
- 4.° to promote collaboration in the apostolic activity of the branches, and direct the apostolic activity that belongs to the Federation;
- 5.° To promote communion and preserve unity among the branches and the associated faithful of the Federation;
- 6.° to regulate and direct the participation of the associated faithful and ensure their formation;
- 7.° to promote the vocational development and growth of all the federated branches and of the associated faithful;
- 8.° to help the branches in a subsidiary manner and to foster solidarity between localities, sections and works, according to circumstances and needs.

### *Contribution of each branch and of the associated faithful*

5. For the good of all, and for their enrichment:

§ 1. The members of the society of apostolic life called the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi bring the gift of their lay consecration, lived in their total and exclusive self-giving to the love of Christ that comes from their feminine identity. They are signs of the Kingdom amidst temporal realities; promoting and safeguarding communion; going out to meet people in the concrete realities of their life and undertaking the actions that most contribute towards the establishment of Christ's Kingdom.

§ 2. The members of the society of apostolic life called the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi bring the gift of their lay secular consecration through the prophetic testimony of being in the world without being of the world; evangelizing temporal realities; and giving their availability, charity, professional abilities and joy in the service of Regnum Christi, the Church

and all people. They also promote fraternal communion and prayer among all. They live the mystery of Christ consecrated to the Father and close to his brothers and sisters, as just another member of his People. They proclaim the Kingdom with the offering of their life, their words, and their work.

§ 3. The Legionaries of Christ bring the testimony of their self-giving to Jesus Christ and their complete availability for the fulfillment of the common mission through their religious consecration. By their condition as priests, they make present Christ the Priest and Good Shepherd through preaching, administering the sacraments and spiritual guidance. In communion with all, they collaborate in the integral formation, direction and apostolic projection of the associated faithful, promoting the fullness of their baptismal vocation and Christian leadership; and they establish institutions and initiate action that can most contribute, in depth and in growth, to the building of the Kingdom of Christ in society.

§ 4. The associated faithful bring their secular nature and their apostolic action. The laypeople extend Christ's presence in the world and seek to transform temporal realities, especially family life, professional life and society.

## **Chapter 2. Foundations of the Regnum Christi Federation**

### **Article 1. Spiritual foundations**

#### *Spiritual foundation*

6. We recognize it as God's plan that the Legionaries of Christ, the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi and the associated faithful live in a profound communion and that we be testimonies of the love of Jesus Christ by the union and charity among us. The branches and the associated faithful share a common spirituality and mission, which each lives according to their specific identity and vocation, as expressed in their proper law. The formulation of this spiritual foundation, as presented in these Statutes, must inspire and guide the governing bodies of the Federation at its various levels and in the different circumstances of time and place.

#### *Ultimate purpose*

7. We seek to give glory to God and make the Kingdom of Christ present in the hearts of all people and in society, by our own sanctification in the state and condition of life to which God has called us, and through personal and communal apostolic action.

#### *Our mission*

8. To fulfill our mission, we seek to make present the mystery of Christ who goes out to people and reveals the love of his heart to them, gathers and forms them as apostles, Christian leaders, sends them out and accompanies them as they collaborate in the evangelization of people and of society.

#### *Apostolic fruitfulness*

9. With the awareness that the Kingdom of Christ is a gift we receive and cannot build by our own efforts, we seek to always remain in communion with Christ and with his Church, like a branch in the vine (see John 15:5). As followers and collaborators of Christ the Apostle, we know that prayer, participation in the cross, generous love in the service of others, trust in the action of his grace, and the witness of an authentically Christian life must precede and accompany all of our apostolic action.

#### *A way of self-giving*

10. The personal experience of Christ's love produces an interior urgency in our hearts that impels us to give of ourselves passionately in order to make his Kingdom present: "caritas Christi urget nos" (2 Cor 5:14). This passion results in a way of living that is characterized by:

1.° accepting spiritual combat as part of following Christ; that struggle marked by perseverance and trust in the Lord in the face of the reality of evil and of sin in one's own life and in society, moved to the extreme by the force of love;

2.° undertaking those actions that make the Kingdom present in greater depth and extension, with a magnanimous, enthusiastic, and creative heart;

3.° going out to meet the most pressing needs of the world and the Church;

4.° facing challenges with strength and courage in our personal lives and in the apostolate;

5.° making the most of the opportunities that arise in life to proclaim the love of Christ with Christian audacity;

6.° fulfilling the responsibilities we have taken on and striving to give the best of ourselves both in our formation and in our work.

### *Our Apostolic Activity*

11. Seeking to respond effectively to the principle necessities of evangelization wherever we find ourselves and without excluding any type of apostolic activity, we undertake initiatives and establish apostolic works oriented especially to proclaiming the faith and spreading Catholic doctrine; the Christian formation and education of children, adolescents and youth; the promotion of marriage and the family; the vocation ministry; the evangelization of professional and cultural environments and communication; the promotion of social justice and the practice of the works of mercy.

### *Christ-centeredness*

12. Our spirituality is centered above all on Jesus Christ and born from the experience of his love. We seek to respond to our Friend and Lord with a personal, real, passionate and faithful love. Through the action of the Holy Spirit, we are sons in the Son (see Galatians 4: 4-7) and Christ becomes our center, criteria and model of life. We learn to encounter him in the Gospel, the Eucharist, the cross and our neighbor.

### *Spirituality of the Kingdom*

13. We are inspired and directed by the ideal of bearing witness to, proclaiming, and expanding the Kingdom of Christ. Our motto “Christ our King, thy Kingdom come!” expresses this longing. Therefore, we:

1.º seek to clothe ourselves with Christ in our hearts and in our works, so that he may reign in our lives through a progressive configuration with him;

2.º allow ourselves to be permeated by Christ’s love for humanity, seeking that he may reign in the hearts of all people and society.

### *The Loves that Motivate Us*

14. Christ, in revealing the love that burns in his Heart, invites us to love him and that which he loves: the Father who sent him to redeem us; the Blessed Virgin Mary, his mother and ours; the Church—his Mystical Body—and the Pope; all people, his brothers and sisters, for whom he gave his life; and the Regnum Christi spiritual family as a way to make his Kingdom present in our hearts and in society.

### *Love for Mary*

15. The Blessed Virgin Mary was given to us as our mother at the foot of the cross, through the beloved disciple. For this reason, we love her with a detailed filial love, entrust ourselves to her care, and seek to imitate her in her virtues. She, the Queen of Apostles, forms our hearts as apostles of the Kingdom and intercedes for the fruits of our apostolate.

### *Love for the Church*

16. We love the Church, the seed and beginning of the Kingdom on earth. We know we are a living part of her and collaborate in her evangelizing mission. We adhere to the Pope and the other bishops with love and obedience, know and spread their teachings, support their initiatives and support the local Church.

### *Love for All People*

17. We make our own the feelings of Christ who “loved his own in the world and loved them to the end” (John 13:1), and thus we:

- 1.° recognize the dignity and sacred value of each person;
- 2.° seek to go out to meet their material and spiritual needs;
- 3.° seek to collaborate with Christ so that our brothers and sisters may know him, find fullness of life in him, and reach eternal salvation.

### *Love for Regnum Christi*

18. We love the Regnum Christi spiritual family as a divine gift through which we meet Christ, grow in friendship and intimacy with him, and are his apostles in communion with others.

### *The Holy Spirit*

19. The Holy Spirit, consoler and gentle guest of the soul, is the guide and architect of our transformation into Christ, and of our apostolic fruitfulness. Therefore, through listening and spiritual discernment, we cultivate an intimate relationship with him, and seek to be docile to his inspirations in order to walk with *parrhesia* on the path of God's will.

### *Contemplative and evangelizing*

20. We are contemplative and evangelizing:

1.° Contemplative, because we discover Christ's presence and love in our own hearts, in our neighbor and in the world. We seek to be men and women of the interior life, lovers of prayer, and we recognize the primacy of the action of God in our own sanctification and in the apostolate;

2.° Evangelizing, because, impelled by the desire of Christ to enkindle the fire of the Father's love in all hearts, we live as missionary disciples who seek to proclaim the Kingdom and bring the light of the Gospel to the whole world.

### *Time and sense of eternity*

21. Communion with God in time is a foretaste of eternity and makes the Kingdom of heaven present in the here and now. We are conscious of the brevity of our lives and treat our time as a gift we have received which enables us to adhere lovingly to the Father's plan of salvation, and thus fulfill our vocation.

### *Liturgical and Eucharistic Life*

22. We seek to make our whole lives, including the apostolate, a continual liturgy to the glory of God. In this way we are integrated into the life of the risen Christ, which is continuous praise and offering to the Father. This liturgical life has its center in the Eucharist and its fruit is communion with God and our brothers and sisters.

### *Charity, the queen of all virtues*

23. § 1. Embracing Christ's new commandment to "love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34), we consider charity as the queen of all virtues and the seal of authenticity for any Christian life.

§ 2. Charity entails universal and delicate self-giving to one's neighbor; creative and selfless service; treating people with kindness and simplicity; being merciful with people's weaknesses; speaking well of others; forgiveness and reconciliation.

### *Theological virtues*

24. We build our interior lives and apostolic lives on the theological virtues, living with luminous and active faith; firm and joyful hope; and universal and generous charity.

### *Humility and sincerity*

25. § 1. We seek to imitate the humility of Christ, who lived constantly aware of having received everything from the Father's hands. We live our condition as creatures, and as children in need of mercy and grace, with simplicity and a constant and unshakable confidence in his love.

§ 2. We cultivate sincerity in our relationships with God and with our brothers and sisters. We strive for ever-increasing coherence between our faith and our works. We are faithful to our word and act according to a conscience formed in the principles of right reason and the Gospel.

### *Human and social virtues*

26. We greatly value the human and social virtues since Christ, in his incarnation, bestowed dignity on all that is human as "the new man" (Col. 3:10). We therefore exercise the virtue of prudence; are responsible in our obligations; and educate our intelligence, will and affectivity.

## **Article 2. Communion**

### *Fundamentals of communion*

27. Gathered by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit in one large and unique family, and united in a common vocation to Regnum Christi, we foster esprit de corps and the union of hearts, ideals, purposes and efforts. We promote communion and collaboration among all, aware that communion is missionary and that the mission is for communion.

### *Co-responsibility and complementarity*

28. § 1. We recognize the dignity proper to each person as well as their co-responsibility in safeguarding the charismatic patrimony.

§ 2. There is a relationship of complementarity among the various vocations and their particular ways of living the common spirit and mission. Each one contributes to the body what is particular to its own state and condition of life, and values and promotes the specific contributions of the others.

### *Cultivating communion*

29. § 1. Promoting authentic communion requires all of us to cultivate:

- 1.° persevering prayer, united to that of Christ praying to the Father that “they may all be one” (John 17:21);
- 2.° listening and valuing dialogue as a path desired by God for our mission and the mission of the Church, according to the relational nature of humanity;
- 3.° mature fraternal relationships that recognize the presence of God in the other, make the joys and sufferings of others our own, appreciate others’ personal gifts, and carry one another’s burdens with love (see Col. 3:13) while rejecting rivalry, mistrust and envy;
- 4.° appreciation for authority as a service to the community and the development of the mission; respect for it and collaboration with those who exercise it;
- 5.° internationality as a sign of the universality of the Kingdom and a force for evangelization in a globalized world.



§ 2. Encounters among members of different vocations are a way of fostering communion at the local, territorial and general levels. These occasions can be of a spiritual nature, or for the purpose of formation and apostolate.

### *Appropriate formation*

30. § 1. To share a spirit and a mission, everyone's formation must take into account their characteristic features and requirements. This formation must help us discover the full meaning of our lives in Christ, be configured to him, and fulfill our mission. Formation should be integral and embrace all the dimensions of the person.

§ 2. Each federated branch is responsible for the formation of its members and must take into account the contents expressed in the proper law of the Federation.

§ 3. The authorities of the Federation are responsible for defining and guiding the formation of the associated faithful.

§ 4. The Federation also fosters instances of formation for all members.

## **Chapter 3. The apostolic activity of the Regnum Christi Federation**

### **Article 1. Principles of apostolic action**

#### *Introduction to the principles of apostolic action*

31. The members of the federated branches and the associated faithful are moved by the desire to make Christ's Kingdom present among us so as to renew society. They are aware that God counts on people's free collaboration to carry out his plan of salvation, in the light of numbers 8 to 10 of these Statutes. Therefore, they adopt certain principles that guide their choice of apostolic activities and the way they carry them out.

#### *Leadership*

32. In their mission to form apostles, members of the federated branches and the associated faithful:

- 1.° develop their own leadership, understood as the capacity to inspire, guide and form others, and the service of doing this, following Christ's example;
- 2.° seek to help others develop that same capacity in their apostolic activity;
- 3.° seek to evangelize people who bear particular responsibility in different social environments, in accordance with their possibilities;
- 4.° bear witness to the truth and new life of the Gospel in the exercise of their social duties and authority, serving the common good with Christian charity.

#### *Person to person*

33. Christ not only preached to the crowds, but also reached out to meet each person where they were at. The members of the branches and the associated faithful therefore give priority to activities and ways of carrying them out that favor personal contact.

#### *Accompaniment and spiritual direction*

34. §1. Accompaniment is required to form convinced apostles who aspire to the fullness of life in Christ. Accompaniment is understood as close, constant and generous personal attention. It seeks to help the other be open to the action of grace and give their own human

collaboration, so they can respond to the questions and challenges they encounter on their path of human and spiritual growth.

§2. Spiritual direction is a specific form of accompaniment and an important means of growth in the spiritual life.

### *Formation of formators*

35. The Federation promotes the formation of formators because of the awareness that people who are well prepared to form, guide and inspire others are essential for deep, lasting and dynamic apostolic action.

### *Scope of the apostolate*

36. In choosing apostolic initiatives, the Federation as a whole, the members of the branches and the associated faithful seek to undertake those that convey Christ's message with the greatest possible scope and depth.

### *Adaptation to times and places*

37. The members of the branches and the associated faithful, attentive to the needs of the Church and the world and with sincere respect for local cultures, seek to adapt their apostolic activity to the circumstances of time and place, in each case opting for the most suitable methods and forms for evangelization.

### *Organized and effective apostolate*

38. Inspired by Christ's charity, the members of the branches and the associated faithful carry out their apostolate in an organized and effective way. To do so:

- 1.° they always keep their mission and goals in mind for any activity they undertake;
- 2.° they work in an orderly way;
- 3.° they work as a team, seeking to give their best at the service of the mission, and to make the most of the synergy that comes from the complementarity of personalities, views and experiences. They apply the methodological principle "do, help others do and let others do."

## **Article 2. Guidelines and norms for apostolic activity**

### *Types of apostolic activity*

39. § 1. Apostolic activity, which includes apostolic works, programs and events, can be carried out on the institutional level, or on the personal level—individually or as a group—in accord with one's state in life.

§ 2. Institutional apostolic activity may be of a branch, of various branches together, or of the Federation.

§ 3. To be considered an institutional apostolic activity in the name of the Federation, it must have the express authorization of the competent general, territorial or local authority, as applicable. If necessary, that same authority approves the respective Statutes or Regulations.

### *Opening or closing of an apostolic activity*

40. §1. The general, territorial or local authority of the Federation, as applicable, can authorize the opening or closing of apostolic activities of the Federation.

§ 2. Before a branch opens a new apostolic activity of its own, it should consult the corresponding authority of the Federation.

§ 3. Before a branch closes or alienates an apostolic activity of its own, it must consult the Federation and the other branches in case they wish to assume it.

### *Apostolic works*

41. § 1. An apostolic work is an institution which, according to its specific purposes, is dedicated to evangelization according to the common mission, and has statutes approved by the competent authority.

§ 2. Both the works directed by the branches as well as the works under the authority of the Federation participate in the common mission.

### *Direction of works*

42. § 1. In the government, direction and management of a work, the competent authorities should seek the good of the common mission; the specific purpose of the work; clarity and simplicity in the lines of authority; its stability; collaboration between apostolic works, sections and programs; due follow-up and accompaniment; the creation of synergies;

sustainability and eventual contribution to the economic sustenance of the branches and the Federation.

§ 2. The governance of a work of apostolate also implies establishing their structure and procedures of direction and management.

### *Works, branches and Federation*

43. § 1. The statutes of a work of apostolate must determine whether it falls under the responsibility of a branch, several branches together, or the Federation.

§ 2. When appropriate, the works may be managed under joint ownership and direction structures agreed upon by the general or territorial directors of the branches and the works themselves, without depending on the governing bodies of the Federation.

§ 3. The Federation should support and accompany the life and mission of all apostolic works, taking into account what is established in number 4 of these Statutes. When it seems opportune or necessary, the Federation can assume a subsidiary role in order to help a particular work or assume the responsibility of directing it.

### *Collaboration in works*

44. The members of the branches and the associated faithful can assume responsibilities and collaborate in the apostolic works regardless of who governs them, in order to foster unity and promote the complementarity of vocations. In the case of branch members, they should proceed as determined by the competent directors, whether local, territorial or general, including, where appropriate, agreements in economic compensation or salaries, observing civil legislation.

### *Apostolic programs*

45. Apostolic programs are institutional initiatives of evangelization that ordinarily depend on the sections of the associated laypeople and are part of their life.

### *ECYD*

46. § 1. The Federation, in its work for the evangelization and formation of youth, directs an organization called ECYD (Encounters, Convictions, Your Decisions), in which adolescents live the charism according to their age.

§ 2. ECYD is governed by its own statutes.

§ 3. Taking into account the importance that ECYD has, the branches and associated faithful promote its growth and strengthening.

### *Vocational promotion and ministry*

47. § 1. The Regnum Christi spiritual family should be fertile ground for people to find the fullness of their vocation. Therefore, all members of the branches and the associated faithful seek to collaborate in creating an environment that fosters the understanding of life as a vocation and enables vocational discovery and acceptance. They must know, value and foster all the Christian vocations.

§ 2. The promotion of new vocations to the priesthood and to consecration by assuming the evangelical counsels is a necessity and priority in the life of the Church. Therefore, the members of the branches and the associated faithful foster these vocations through their prayer, witness of personal accompaniment and apostolic activity.

§ 3. Regarding vocational promotion in the Federation:

1.º The promotion of a branch's specific vocation, and accompaniment in discernment of it, are the responsibility of the branch.

2.º Those responsible for the vocational promotion of each branch work in communion with the local Church and local bodies of the Federation.

3.º All members seek to support the vocational promotion of the branches, as much as they are able.

### *Networks*

48. § 1. In order to imbue diverse social and cultural environments with the Christian spirit, and to promote specific initiatives for them, members of the branches and the associated faithful may establish national or international networks of people who share the same profession or field of interest, or join other existing ones.

§ 2. A network is a group of people or institutions with common interests who unite to support each other in the planning and implementation of evangelization projects in an area of society.

### *Outside of ideologies and politics*

49. As an ecclesial reality, the Federation remains outside any political, national or international party or group, and does not endorse any ideological or political system.

### *Meetings of directors*

50. § 1. In order for the Federation to be able to more easily fulfill its purposes as established in number 4 of these statutes, all branch authorities at the general, territorial or local level, should have ordinary meetings for coordination and joint programming and, as necessary, for planning regarding the availability and distribution of available material resources according to the principle of solidarity.

§ 2. At these meetings the directors, by mutual agreement, may invite other members or experts, as suitable in each case.

### *Appointments*

51 § 1. The appointments for positions in the Federation correspond to the competent authority of the same. In order for a member of a branch to be appointed, it is necessary for the competent branch authority to previously assign the person to that mission.

§ 2. For simplification of processes, the authorities of the Federation can delegate to the government of a branch, in a specific way, and for a specific time, the power to make appointments on behalf of the Federation. This delegation does not convert the corresponding apostolic activity into an apostolic activity of the branch.

## **Second part. Organization, authority and administration of the Regnum Christi Federation**

### **Chapter 4. General criteria**

#### **Article 1. Structure and geographical definitions**

##### *Structure in general*

52. § 1. The Regnum Christi Federation as an international ecclesial reality is structured on three levels: general, territorial and local.

§ 2. After proper consultation, the General Directive College establishes the division of the Federation into territories according to its degree of expansion and development. A territory may include several countries, one country or part of a country.

##### *The locality*

53. § 1. The locality is a community of apostles and an operative unit of the Federation at the service of evangelization. It covers a geographical area established by the Territorial Directive College.

§ 2. It promotes communion, coordinates resources and efforts, and fosters the common mission.

§ 3. The communities of the branches, the sections, the apostolic works, and the apostolic programs all participate in the life and mission of the locality.

§ 4. The parishes entrusted to the Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ, respecting their proper nature, also interact with the locality.

#### **Article 2. Authority in the Federation**

##### *General criteria*

54. § 1. In the Federation, authority may be collegial or personal, as specified in these Statutes.

§ 2. The General and Territorial Conventions and the General and Territorial Directive Colleges are collegial. The local apostolic committee may also be collegial, as established in number 108 § 2.



§ 3. The General or Territorial Directive College is assisted by the General or Territorial Plenary Council, which assists it in the exercise of authority, offering their consent or opinion, as determined by proper law.

§ 4. The local director or the director of an apostolic work has personal authority in their area of competence.

55. § 1. The director is assisted by a council which helps them in the exercise of their personal authority. The council offers their consent or opinion when the director asks for it, according to what is determined in proper law.

§ 2. The director does not vote together with the council, except in those cases in which it acts as a college.

§ 3. Secondary regulations must establish the criteria required for the validity of council votes.

§ 4. Although directors do not have the obligation to follow the opinion of their council, even when it is unanimous, they must not ignore this opinion without a reason that, in their judgment, is more powerful and which they have pondered carefully before God.

§ 5. Council members are obliged to sincerely express their opinion. In serious matters they must carefully respect confidentiality. The director can impose this obligation.

§ 6. The criteria in the preceding paragraphs apply to the Plenary Council when it acts as the council of the Directive College, as established in number 54 § 3.

### *Values in the service of authority*

56. § 1. The direction of institutions and persons, as well as collaboration with those who direct them, is an expression of love of neighbor, and an exercise of responsibility. In the exercise of authority, may everyone be enlightened by the mystery of Christ the King, especially in his attitude of service and dedication to others.

§ 2. The search for the common good of the Federation requires constant and conscious listening, dialogue and fraternal spirit among the various bodies, as well as respect for their respective areas of competence.

§ 3. To favor the complementarity of the diverse vocations, the composition of the governing bodies of the Federation should be governed by the principles of representation and proportionality.

### *Participation of the associated lay faithful*

57. § 1. The associated lay faithful participate in the governing bodies on the general and territorial levels of the Federation by consultative vote, in accordance with the proper law of the Federation.

§ 2. The responsible authority in the Federation must consult the associated lay faithful in a timely way, according to secondary norms, before amending or proposing norms for these Statutes that refer to how the charism is lived, or to their participation in the governing bodies of the Federation.

§ 3. In the approval or modification of their Rule of Life and other secondary codes that refer to it, they participate by deliberative vote, together with the members of the federated branches.

§ 4. Decisions that concern only the branches and the relationships between them will be made between the representatives of the branches.

### *Prior consultation*

58. Appropriate consultation should precede the appointments of Federation authorities, in accordance with secondary regulation.

### *Delegation of faculties*

59. § 1. Federation authorities may delegate faculties to their collaborators for a specified length of time or *ad casum* to help in their governance.

§ 2. The Directive College may delegate a faculty, decision or particular task to one of its members.

§ 3. Any delegation must be done in writing and communicated in a timely manner.

§ 4. The directive colleges cannot delegate faculties that are linked to the consent of the Plenary Councils, nor may the director delegate what is linked to the corresponding local council.

### *Relation with branch authorities*

60. The directive colleges of the Federation, and the general or territorial plenary councils, do not replace the general or territorial councils of the federated branches in their canonical functions and competences.

### *Agreements in writing*

61. Agreements between the Federation and the branches, or between the branches, must be made in writing, in which the duration, conditions and corresponding procedures are established.

### *Meetings that are not in-person*

62. Exceptionally, directive college and plenary council meetings can be held remotely with the help of communication technologies, without the presence of the participants in the same place being necessary.

## **Chapter 5. General authorities of the Federation**

### **Article 1. The General Convention**

#### *Authority over the Federation*

63. The General Convention has authority over the Federation, while respecting the legitimate autonomy of the branches and their authorities as established in their own proper law. It should be a sign and incarnation of unity in charity.

#### *Frequency and purpose*

64. § 1. Every six years, the Federation must have a General Convention, according to the modalities established in the respective regulations.

§ 2. The Ordinary General Convention is responsible for overseeing the purposes, progress and future development of the Federation.

#### *Extraordinary General Convention*

65. The General Directive College, having heard the opinion of the General Plenary Council and consulted the Territorial Directive Colleges, may convoke an Extraordinary General Convention in order to deal with matters that are urgent that are particularly important or serious for the Federation.

#### *Powers and tasks*

66. It is the responsibility of the Ordinary General Convention to:

1° examine the situation of the world and of the Church and how the federation can better serve their needs, in creative fidelity to its spirit and mission; analyze the situation of the federation and the most important issues that have been proposed by the Territorial Conventions, and by the supreme governing bodies of the branches;

2° take the most appropriate measures to promote the development and appropriate renewal of the Federation, propel the fulfillment of the mission, confront challenges and address the most important difficulties;

3° define the priorities for the following six years;

4° make any necessary amendments to the statutes, which must be ratified by the supreme governing bodies of the branches and submitted to the Holy See for approval;

5° modify or approve the secondary codes of proper law, and issue guidelines;

6° if applicable, make recommendations to any of the branches with a view to safeguarding the common charismatic patrimony;

7° allocate the goods, if any, which form part of the stable patrimony of the Federation.

### *Participants*

67. § 1. The following are convened to the General Convention *ex officio*:

1° the general directors of the branches;

2° the vicar general and one other general councilor of each of the branches, chosen by the respective councilors;

3° the general administrator of the Federation;

4° the general secretary of the Federation;

5° the territorial directors of the branches;

§ 2. The number of delegates of each branch who are elected must be greater than those who participate *ex officio*, in accordance with the formula, proportion between branches and mode of election established in the procedural regulations of the General Convention. The procedural regulations must be approved by the preceding General Convention.

§ 3. The general councilors of the branches who do not participate *ex officio* and have not been elected as delegates participate in the General Convention without voice and without vote.

§ 4. The associated lay faithful who attend the General Plenary Council are delegates for the General Convention. Moreover, to ensure adequate representation, the procedural regulations of the General Convention shall determine the number of seats for delegates of the associated lay faithful who participate by election.

### *Announcement*

68. The General Directive College announces the start date of the celebration of the Ordinary General Convention to the members of the federated branches and the associated lay faithful a year before it begins, and announces an Extraordinary General Convention with sufficient time in advance.

### *Prior Territorial Conventions*

69 § 1. Before the celebration of an Ordinary General Convention, a Territorial Convention is to be held in each territory as determined by the proper law of the Federation. Its function is to help analyze the progress of the Federation in the territory; as well as identify, think through, and prepare the proposals the territory has for the General Convention.

§ 2. Each member of a federated branch and each of the associated lay faithful may freely send their desires and suggestions to the Territorial Convention.

### *Convocation*

70. § 1. The General Directive College officially convenes an Ordinary General Convention three months in advance by sending the list of participants and designating the exact starting date and the place where it will be held.

§ 2. The General Directive College can move up or push back the beginning of the convention by three months, for just cause, and with the consent of the General Plenary Council.

### *Validity of the assembly*

71. The General Convention and Territorial Conventions are considered validly assembled if at least two thirds of the delegates from the branches are present on the premises on the day they begin.

### *Atmosphere of the convention*

72. All issues analyzed and discussed in the General Convention are to be resolved in an atmosphere of prayer, discernment and respectful dialogue.

### *Voting*

73. General Convention resolutions are approved by an absolute majority vote. However, any amendments to the Statutes that the General Convention wishes to present for the ratification

of the supreme governing bodies of the branches and the approval of the Holy See must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote from the participants with the right to vote.

### *Decrees and communiqués*

74. § 1. The General Directive College promulgates the General Convention's resolutions by means of the General Convention's decrees.

§ 2. Decrees can only be modified or abrogated by successive General Conventions.

§ 3. All other provisions and exhortations that the General Convention considers appropriate to be made known to all members of the branches and associated lay faithful are to be published in communiqués of the Convention.

## **Article 2. The General Directive College**

### *Composition*

75. § 1. The Federation is directed by a college composed of the general directors of the branches.

§ 2. When members of the Directive College are legitimately impeded, they are replaced by their respective vicar, who has the corresponding right to vote.

§ 3. The Directive College is assisted by two of the associated lay faithful who are appointed as determined by their Rule of Life. They have a consultative vote in meetings.

76. For the legitimate constitution of the Directive College the participation of three members is necessary, since two members do not form a college. Ordinarily decisions should not be taken without having listened to the opinion of the associated lay faithful in attendance.

### *Functions and priorities*

77. § 1. The General Directive College is responsible for ensuring that the Federation fulfills its purposes, as established in number 4 of these Statutes.

§ 2. Its principal functions of government are: coordinated planning, approval of budgets, evaluation, assignments and attending to the affairs most proper and important to the Federation, in accordance with proper law.

§ 3. The General Directive College has to ensure the good functioning of the ordinary direction of the Federations through the opportune assignment and delegation of responsibilities among constituents of the college, work teams, territorial instances and the branches.

78. In fulfilling their functions, the General Directive College should:

1° implement the directives and guidelines issued by the General Convention;

2° ensure that everyone, especially the Territorial Directive Colleges, carry out their responsibilities in accordance with proper law;

3° further the consolidation, projection and development of apostolic activity;

4° foster international initiatives of formation for the members, especially formators, and to promote the pastoral work for vocations;

5° supervise the administration of the Federation, and promote a healthy economy based on solidarity;

6° promote appropriate institutional communication.

### *Efforts for unanimity*

79. § 1. Being a collegiate body, the Directive College should seek to proceed by unanimous consensus in the acts that correspond to it in terms of proper law.

§ 2. If agreement cannot be reached in the Directive College, it should turn to the Plenary Council to listen to its opinion and so seek a solution that obtains the unanimous consensus of the College..

§ 3. The directors who constitute the Directive College must responsibly avoid allowing the lack of agreement to paralyze or hinder the progress and development of the Federation. If there is an occasion when no unanimity has been reached even after turning to the Plenary Council, the president can determine how to proceed while awaiting consensus.

### **Article 3. The president of the General Directive College and other positions**

80. The General Directive College has a president who is the general director of the Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ.

### *Responsibilities*



81. The president of the General Directive College is responsible for:

1° convening, establishing the agenda and presiding over the meetings of the General Directive College and ensure it functions collegially;

2° representing the Federation in the ecclesiastical sphere;

3° representing the General Directive College before the Federation;

4° presiding over the General Convention and the General Plenary Council.

### *Vice-president*

82. § 1. By agreement among its constituents, one of the remaining constituents of the General Directive College is appointed as vice-president.

§ 2. When the president is impeded, or the office is vacant, the vice-president of the General Directive College assumes all the obligations and rights of the office of the president of the General Directive College.

### *The general administrator*

83. § 1. The general administrator of the Federation is appointed by the General Directive College for a three-year term. When this term is over, they can be re-appointed to this position for up to three consecutive terms.

§ 2. They must be a person who is competent in Administration; prudent; humble; patient; helpful; possessing good interpersonal skills; and experienced in business management.

§ 3. The general administrator must be a member of one of the branches who is at least thirty-five years old and must have made their perpetual profession or final vows at least five years prior.

§ 4. The general administrator must reside in Rome.

84. The general administrator ordinarily participates in the general Plenary Councils, and may be called to General Directive College meetings when they deal with administrative matters.

83. § 1. The general administrator is responsible for the ordinary administration of the goods of the Federation under the authority of the General Directive College, and in accordance with universal, proper and civil law.

§ 2. Besides abiding by canon 1284 of the Code of Canon Law, the general administrator should in particular:

1° assist the General Directive College in the increase and distribution of available goods in accordance with the established purposes;

2° ensure that the goods of the Federation are not damaged or diminished;

3° assist the administrators, particularly the territorial administrators, and supervise their work;

4° organize the documentation relating to the administration of the Federation and ensure it is kept up to date;

5° carry out or oversee audits;

6° keep the General Directive College regularly informed on the state of the administration, above all with a financial report on at least an annual basis.

### *The general secretary*

86. § 1. The general secretary is appointed by the General Directive College for a three-year term. They can be re-appointed to this position for up to three consecutive terms.

§ 2. They must be competent in their duties, discreet, attentive, patient and helpful. They must have good interpersonal skills and be good at organization and teamwork and experienced in management.

§ 3. The general secretary must be a member of one of the branches or one of the lay faithful associated with the Federation, who is at least thirty years old. If they are a member of one of the branches, they must have made their perpetual profession or final vows at least five years prior. If they are one of the associated lay faithful, they must have been associated with the Federation at least five years prior.

§ 4. The general secretary must reside in Rome.

87. § 1. The general secretary is responsible for helping the General Directive College manage the affairs of government entrusted to them, preparing and publishing communications from the Directive College, and keeping the archives of the Federation up to date.

§ 2. The general secretary ordinarily serves as secretary of the General Directive College and Plenary Council meetings.

#### **Article 4. The General Plenary Council and work teams**

##### *Composition*

88. § 1. The group of general councilors of the federated branches is called the General Plenary Council of the Federation.

§ 2. In the Plenary Council, six members of the associated lay faithful participate with a consultative vote, namely, those who attend the meetings of the General Directive College and four others, appointed as determined by the corresponding regulations.

##### *General Committee for Economic Affairs*

89. The General Committee for Economic Affairs is made up of five members of the General Plenary Council, named by the General Directive College, with the consent of the General Plenary Council itself.

##### *Functions and priorities*

90. § 1. The general Plenary Council is a body that assists the General Directive College. Its collaboration expresses the spirit of communion that characterizes the Federation.

§ 2. It offers its consent or opinion whenever the General Directive College requests it, in accordance with proper law, and so assists it in the exercise of authority.

§ 3. Its collaboration is necessary and particularly important when it offers its opinion on documents intended for the entire Federation, guidelines for evangelization and plans for the fulfillment of the common mission.

##### *Work teams*

91. The General Directive College should set up specialized and stable work teams to assist in the fulfillment of their functions and support the common mission, as determined. The teams are structured according to what is established in secondary regulations.



## Chapter 6. Territorial authorities of the Federation

### Article 1. The Territorial Directive College

#### *Composition*

92. § 1. In each territory, the Federation is directed by a directive college, composed of the territorial directors of the branches;

§ 2. When constituents of the college are legitimately impeded, their respective vicar takes their place, with the corresponding right to vote.

§ 3. The college is assisted by two of the associated lay faithful appointed in accordance with their Rule of Life. They have a consultative vote in meetings.

§ 4. If the geographical definitions of the territories of the branches do not coincide, the General Directive College must determine the composition of the Territorial Directive College.

§ 4. If one of the three branches does not participate significantly in the activity of the Federation in a territory, the General Directive College must determine how to proceed, in accordance with a proposal agreed upon between the territorial directors present, to constitute the Territorial Directive College, in accordance with secondary codes.

§ 5. When one of the members of the Territorial Directive College is legitimately impeded, they are replaced by their vicar.

93. The participation of three members is necessary for the legitimate constitution of the directive college to be valid, since two members do not form a college. Ordinarily decisions should not be taken without having listened to the opinion of the associated lay faithful who help the directive college.

#### *Functions and priorities*

94. § 1. The Territorial Directive College is responsible for doing everything possible to ensure that the Federation fulfills its purposes in the territory, as established in number 4 of these Statutes.

§ 2. Its principal functions of government are: coordinated planning, approval of budgets, evaluation, assignments and attending to the affairs most proper and important to the Federation, in accordance with proper law.

§ 3. The Territorial Directive College has to ensure the good functioning of the ordinary direction of the Federation in the territory through the opportune assignment and delegation of responsibilities among the constituents of the directive college, work teams, local instances and the branches.

95. Besides supporting and applying in their territory the priorities established by the General Directive College, the Territorial Directive College should:

1° further the consolidation, projection and development of apostolic activity;

2° foster international initiatives of formation for the members, especially formators, and to promote the pastoral work for vocations;

3° guarantee the supervision and careful accompaniment of the local directors, section director and directors of the works of apostolate of the Federation, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity;

4° be present, individually or as a whole, in the localities to further the common mission;

5° read and discern the signs of the times, and know and constantly analyze the ecclesial, cultural and social context of the territory;

6° realistically assess the resources available to give continuity to apostolic activities and to project new ones;

7° watch over the relation of the Federation with the works of the branches, for the good of the common mission;

8° foster communion with the local Church and attend to relations with the Church hierarchy;

9° supervise the administration of the goods of the Federation and promote a healthy economy based on solidarity;

10° promote appropriate institutional communication.

### *Efforts for unanimity*

96. § 1. Being a collegiate body, the Directive College should seek to proceed by unanimous consensus in the acts that correspond to it in terms of proper law.

§ 2. If agreement cannot be reached in the Directive College, it should turn to the Territorial Plenary Council or to the General Directive College to listen to its opinion and so seek a solution that obtains the unanimous consensus of the College.

§ 3. The directors who constitute the Directive College must responsibly avoid allowing the lack of agreement to paralyze or hinder the progress and development of the Federation. If there is an occasion when no unanimity has been reached even after what has been established in the preceding paragraph, submit the matter to the General Directive College.

## **Article 2. The president of the Territorial Directive College and other positions**

### *Designation*

97. The Territorial Directive College has a president who is the territorial director of the Congregation of the Legionaries of Christ. Upon proposal from the Territorial Directive College, the General Directive College can name as president another constituent of the Territorial Directive College.

### *Responsibilities*

98. The president of the Territorial Directive College is responsible for:

1° convening, proposing the agenda for and presiding over the meetings of the Territorial Directive College and assuring it functions collegially;

2° representing the Federation in the ecclesiastical sphere in the territory.

3° representing the Territorial Directive College before the Federation;

4° presiding over the Territorial Convention and the Territorial Plenary Council.

### *Vice-president*

99. § 1. By agreement among its constituents, one of the remaining constituents of the Territorial Directive College is designated vice-president, with prior approval of the General Directive College.

§ 2. When the territorial president is impeded, or the office is vacant, the vice-president of the Territorial Directive College assumes all the obligations and rights of the office of territorial president.

### *The territorial administrator*

100. § 1. The territorial administrator of the Federation is appointed by the Territorial Directive College for a three-year term. When this term is over, they can be re-appointed to this position for up to three consecutive terms.

§ 2. They must be a person who is competent in Administration; prudent; humble; patient; helpful; possessing good interpersonal skills; and experienced in business management.

§ 3. The territorial administrator must be a member of one of the branches who is at least thirty-five years old, and has made their perpetual profession or final vows at least five years prior.

101. The territorial administrator is responsible for the ordinary administration of the goods of the entrusted to their care, under the authority of the Territorial Directive College, and in accordance with proper and civil law.

102. Besides abiding by canon 1284 of the Code of Canon Law, the territorial administrator should:

1° assist the directors and their administrators in the efficient management of goods;

2° carry out or oversee audits;

3° keep the Territorial Directive College informed on the state of the administration through regular financial and budget reports.

### *The territorial administrator*

103. § 1. The territorial secretary is appointed by the Territorial Directive College for a three-year term. They can be re-appointed to this position for up to three consecutive terms.

§ 2. The territorial secretary must be competent in their functions, discreet, attentive, patient, helpful, and have good interpersonal skills. They must have the capacity for organization and teamwork and be experienced in management.

§ 3. The territorial secretary must be a member of one of the branches or one of the faithful associated to the Federation, who is at least thirty years old. If they are a member of one of the branches, they must have made their perpetual profession or final vows at least five years prior.



If they are one of the associated lay faithful, they must have been associated to the Federation at least five years prior.

§ 4. The territorial secretary is responsible for helping the Territorial Directive College in managing the affairs of government entrusted to them, keeping an up-to-date database of the associated lay faithful, preparing and publishing communications from the government, and keeping the territory's archives up to date.

§ 5. The territorial secretary ordinarily acts as secretary for the Territorial Directive College and Plenary Council meetings.

### **Article 3. The territorial Plenary Council and work teams**

#### *Composition*

104. § 1. The group of territorial councilors of the federated branches is called the Territorial Plenary Council of the Federation.

§ 2. In the Plenary Council, an adequate number of the associated lay faithful participate with a consultative vote, two of them being those who assist the Territorial Directive College and the others being appointed as determined in the corresponding regulations.

§ 3. If the geographical definitions of the territories of the branches and of the Federation do not coincide or if one of the three branches does not participate significantly in the activity of the Federation in a territory, the General Directive College must determine how to proceed, in accordance with a proposal from the Territorial Directive College to determine the composition of the Territorial Plenary Council.

#### *Territorial Committee for Economic Affairs*

105. The General Committee for Economic Affairs is made up of three or five members of the Territorial Plenary Council, named by the General Directive College, with a proposal from the Territorial Directive College.

#### *Functions and priorities*

106. § 1. The Territorial Plenary Council is a body that assists the Directive College. Their collaboration expresses the spirit of communion that characterizes the Federation.

§ 2. It assists in the exercise of the authority of the Directive College by offering its consent or opinion, when requested by the former, in accordance with proper law.

§ 3. Its collaboration is particularly necessary and important when it offers its opinion on guidelines for evangelization and plans for the fulfillment of the common mission in the territory.

### *Work teams*

107. The Territorial Directive College should set up specialized work teams to assist in the fulfillment of their functions and support the common mission, as determined. The teams are structured in accordance with what is established in secondary norms.

## **Chapter 7. Local authorities of the Federation**

### *Direction of the locality*

108. § 1. The locality of the Federation is headed by a director, assisted by a council that gives consent or opinion, as determined by proper law. It also collaborates in the elaboration and implementation of the apostolic strategies in the locality.

§ 2. The Territorial Directive College may determine that a locality should be directed by a college with the faculties proper to a local director and council.

### *Appointment*

109. § 1. The Territorial Directive College names the local director for a three-year term with the possibility of renewal. In exceptional cases the appointment can be made for a period of one or two years.

§ 2. The Territorial Directive College approves the composition of the council, with a proposal of the local director, in accordance with secondary norms. The composition of the council has to take into account the needs and characteristics of the locality, striving to make sure that the various apostolic entities and branches present in the locality are represented.

§ 3. The local director and the constituents of the council must be members of one of the branches or associated lay faithful. If they are associated lay faithful, they ordinarily must have at least three years of association with the Federation.

### *Qualities and characteristics*

110. § 1. The local director and constituents of the council, in addition to knowing the evangelizing mission of the spiritual family of Regnum Christi, must be committed to it. They must be able to foster communion, collaboration and dialogue; encourage apostolic zeal and personal initiative; and project the common mission. They must have sufficient knowledge of the locality.

§ 2. Local directors may hold another position in the locality simultaneously, if this commitment does not impede them from responsibly carrying out their mission as local directors.

### *Faculties and functions*

111. The local director, assisted by the council:

1° directs the activity of the Federation in the locality;

2° accompanies the life and mission of the sections, with the faculties specified in secondary norms;

3° involves the directors of sections, works of apostolate and apostolic programs in taking decisions and carrying out the strategy of the locality;

4° The local director has no authority over the works of apostolate of the branches: however, he seeks to create synergies with their directors and teams.

### *Sections*

112. § 1. The associated lay faithful of the Federation are grouped by sections.

§ 2. Each section has a director, who can be a member of any branch or one of the associated lay faithful, with the suitable qualities, appointed by the Territorial Directive College.

§ 3. At the local level, the sections are supervised and coordinated by the local director.

## **Chapter 8. Administration, economy and co-responsibility regarding material goods**

### *General criteria*

113. Branches, works and the associated lay faithful contribute, to the extent of their possibilities, in order for the Federation to have the material goods and economic means necessary to fulfill its purposes. With this aim, the Federation should try to create and promote works that generate revenue.

### *Solidarity fund*

114. § 1. In a spirit of solidarity, once the branches have responsibly covered their material needs, they should seek to contribute annually to a Federation solidarity fund, as determined by the competent bodies.

§ 2. For its part, the Federation can intervene in accordance with the principle of solidarity to help branches and apostolic activities, administering the solidarity fund.

### *Capacity in matters of material goods*

115. The Federation and the legitimately established territories, as public juridical persons, enjoy the right to acquire, possess, administer and alienate temporal goods in accordance with universal and proper law. All such goods are ecclesiastical goods.

### *Immovable assets*

116. If one of the branches or works of apostolate places an immovable asset at the disposal of the Federation, the owner must establish a contract or comparable document, civilly valid if applicable, in which the conditions are stipulated, whether free of charge or remunerated, of the use and usufruct of said goods by the Federation or of any of its activities.

### *Autonomy of the branches and the Federation*

117. Under proper law, the Federation and each branch are autonomous in their administration, although they may benefit from centralized services if they wish.

### *Support of the consecrated members*

118. § 1. Economic support and coverage of all material needs of the members of the branches is the responsibility of the branch to which they belong, in terms of the corresponding proper law.

§ 2. The Federation, or the branches among themselves, can establish agreements of financial compensation to a branch for collaboration offered by the members of the federated branches, respecting civil law.

### *Stable patrimony*

119. The stable patrimony of the Federation includes all movable and immovable goods, and all financial and economic goods intended through legitimate designation, in accordance with proper law, to ensure its economic security, according to its needs.

### *Purpose of material goods*

120. The principal purposes for which the material goods possessed by or assigned to the Federation should be used are:

1° the fulfillment of its purposes;

2° subsidiary assistance offered to branches, works or apostolic activities, in case of necessity and according to possibilities;

3° to support the needs of the Church and charitable works for those most in need.

### *Some administration criteria*

121. § 1. All those who administer goods must observe the norms of universal law, as well as the directives of proper and civil law.

§ 2. They must regularly report on their administration to the corresponding authority and help them prepare the respective reports for the appropriate authorities of the Federation, the civil and ecclesiastical authorities, benefactors and others who should be informed.

### *Responsible administration*

122. The responsible use of goods and the spirit of poverty require a secure and efficient administration carried out in a spirit of service.

### *Criteria of subordination*

123. The ownership and administration of the goods of the Federation in the territories are intended for the overall good of the Federation. Therefore, in case of need, the General Directive College, with the consent of the General Committee for Economic Affairs and having listened to the opinion of the relevant authorities, can make use of these goods to finance needs and projects of the Federation, always respecting the donor's intentions.

### *Alienation of goods*

124. § 1. In making acts of alienation of the stable patrimony of the Federation whose value exceeds the sum determined by secondary regulations:

1° concerning the goods of the territory or the locality, the competent authority is the Territorial Directive College, with the consent of the Territorial Committee for Economic Affairs, if it remains within the limits marked out in secondary norms. If it exceeds this amount, it is the competency of the General Directive College, with the consent of the General Committee for Economic Affairs, with proposal of the Territorial Directive College, having listened to the opinion of the Territorial Committee for Economic Affairs.

2° concerning the goods of the Federation that do not belong to a territory, the competent authority is the General Directive College, with the consent of the General Committee for Economic Affairs.

§ 2. In the case of a transaction that exceeds the amount defined by the Holy See for each region or involves goods donated to the Federation through a vow or goods which are especially valuable due to their artistic or historical value, the authorization of the Holy See is also required.

### *Extraordinary administration*

125. § 1. It pertains to the General Directive College, with the consent of the general Plenary Council, to determine the acts of extraordinary administration at the general, territorial and local level in accordance with canon 1281 of the Code of Canon Law.

§ 2. In accordance with secondary regulations, the following are competent to authorize acts of extraordinary administration:

1° concerning the goods of the Federation, the General Directive College, with the consent of the general Plenary Council;

2° concerning the goods of the territory, if it is an operation that remains within the limit set out in secondary norms, the Territorial Directive College, with the consent of the Territorial Committee for Economic Affairs;

2° concerning the goods of the territory, if it is an operation that exceeds the limit set out in secondary norms, the General Directive College, with the consent of the General Committee for Economic Affairs, with proposal of the Territorial Directive College, having listened to the opinion of the Territorial Committee for Economic Affairs.

### *Budgets*

126. Administration must always follow a budget approved by the competent authority, in accordance with proper law.

### *Sustainability*

127. § 1. When establishing territories, localities or apostolic works, or undertaking apostolic activities, the Federation must consider and guarantee their financing and sustainability.

§ 2. The territories of the Federation must contribute toward financing the costs of the general directorate, in accordance with secondary regulations.

§ 3. The localities and apostolic works must contribute toward the financing of territorial expenses of the Federation, in accordance with secondary regulations.

§ 4. The sections and apostolic works must, ordinarily, be self-sustaining and contribute to financing the expenses of the locality, in accordance with secondary regulations.

### *Donations with obligations*

128. Without written authorization of the Territorial or General Directive College, no one is permitted to accept donations in the name of the Federation that involve obligations or burdens, unless they are of small importance or short duration.



## **Chapter 9. The obligation of proper law**

### *Who it obliges*

129. § 1. The Statutes and secondary codes, properly promulgated, comprise the proper law of the Federation, which the branches and associated lay faithful, in the parts concerning them, must observe.

§ 2. The associated lay faithful must also observe their Regulations, approved by the General Convention.

### *Other criteria*

130. § 1. Federation authorities must foster the knowledge and observance of these Statutes and secondary codes through their testimony of life and their governance.

§ 2. In particular cases and for just cause, the General or Territorial Directive College can dispense from the observance of a norm in proper law.

§ 3. The General Directive College, with the consent of the General Plenary Council, can approve territorial regulations that contain exceptions to proper law in organizational matters.

## **Chapter 10. Expansion, changes and dissolution of the Federation**

### *Expansion of the Federation*

131. § 1. The incorporation of a new branch that is an expression of the charism of the Regnum Christi spiritual family into the Federation requires the approval of the General Convention and of the supreme bodies of the federated branches.

§ 2. If necessary, the incorporation of a new branch is subject to the approval of the relevant changes of these Statutes by the Holy See.

### *Separation*

132. § 1. The supreme body of one of the branches may, after hearing the opinion of the other branches, petition the Holy See to be separated from the Federation.

§ 2. In this case, the Federation or the remaining branches have no rights over the material goods of the branch that separates, nor does the branch have rights over the goods of the Federation.

### *Extinction of a branch*

133. In case of extinction of a branch, its goods are destined to what is established in their proper law, or, if it were the case, the will expressed by its authorities before its extinction.

### *Expulsion of a branch*

134. The General Convention may, for very serious and with two-thirds majority vote of the participants of the other branches, petition the Holy See for the separation of a branch from the Federation, with the prior consent of the supreme governing bodies of said branches.

### *Dissolution*

135. § 1. The dissolution of the Federation must be approved by the Holy See (see CIC 582), at the request of the General Convention of the Federation and the supreme governing bodies of the branches.

§ 2. The distribution of the material goods of the Federation, if any, is undertaken according to an agreement established among the branches.

## **Chapter 11. Conflict resolution**

### *Mechanism for conflict resolution*

136. In the case of conflict in interpreting the proper law of the Federation or between the branches:

1° In a conflict on the local level, one of the parties may go to the Territorial Directive College to request mediation or arbitration. In this case, all parties in the conflict must collaborate with the Directive College to seek to resolve the conflict;

2° If the local dispute is not resolved according to the preceding paragraph, or there are territorial bodies involved, one of the parties, or the governing body which had been appealed to, may present the case to the General Directive College. Once all possibilities for appeal within the Federation have been exhausted, the parties in conflict may have recourse to the Holy See if the case so requires;

3° If the conflict originates at the general level and the case so requires, one of the parties may present the case directly to the Holy See.