

International Report of the year 2023



Aid to the
Church in Need

ACN INTERNATIONAL

Aid to the Church in Need
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Dear friends

Our annual report gives us the opportunity not only to thank you, our benefactors, for the kindness and generosity you show to the persecuted and needy Church, but also to give an account in very concrete figures.

On several occasions during the course of a year, we have the privilege of lending our voice to the hundreds of thousands of brothers and sisters in need of support - both spiritual and financial - or who wish to show the effect of the aid already received.

Now, Aid to the Church in Need can, for the year 2023, inform you about the amount of donations we have received, how much of them have gone to projects and how much were the costs of being a bridge of love between the benefactors and the recipients of the aid.

Every year, when we read these figures, we discover a miracle. According to human logic, it is not possible to promise help when funds are not yet available, but since we believe in Divine Providence, we have been doing so successfully since 1947. Therefore, this annual report is first and foremost an opportunity to thank our Lord.



Regina Lynch
Regina Lynch
Executive President



María Inés Espinosa Calle
María Inés Espinosa Calle
Executive Director ACN Global Office



Where does our help reach?

1.744.410 Mass Intentions

We were able to reach 40,767 priests around the world with more than 1.7 million Mass Intentions. This means that one out of every ten priests worldwide received your help and that, on average, every 18 seconds a Holy Mass was celebrated somewhere in the world for the intentions of our benefactors.

930 projects in favor of women religious

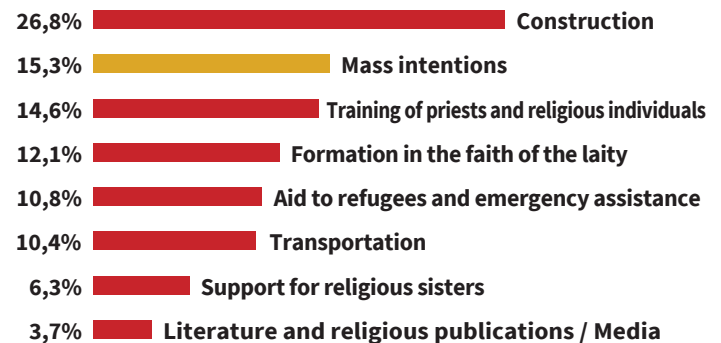
Some 10.000 women religious received support for their livelihoods, and the rest of the aid went to the formation of young vocations, retreats and other needs of convent life. We supported 380 projects in Africa, 285 in Asia, 90 in Europe and 173 in Latin America.

Aid for the formation of 10.991 future priests

One in ten future priests worldwide received training support from Aid to the Church in Need in 2023: most of them in Africa (5.793) - which is where most priestly vocations arise - as well as 2.103 in Latin America, 1.996 in Asia and 1,099 in Europe (among the latter, more than 600 future priests in Ukraine).

327 training projects for catechists and other committed laity committed lay people

We were also able to respond favorably to 130 requests for religious literature and bibles. With your help, we were able to distribute a total of some 700.000 books.



969 construction projects

Nearly one-third of the construction projects we supported were churches and chapels. In addition, we also supported the construction and renovation of convents, seminaries, parsonages and pastoral centers. With 36.2% of total spending on construction projects, Africa ranked first here, but we were also able to finance construction projects in Latin America, Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

1.041 means of transportation

We helped acquire 515 cars, 340 motorcycles, 175 bicycles, six buses and five boats for the ministry. In addition, we made possible the repair of vehicles in 21 cases.

By 2023, we will be able to support 5.573 projects

Among them, 942 requests for Mass intentions for diocesan priests, regular priests and major seminary formators. Many priests have hardly any income of their own and would not be able to carry out their ministry without this support.

We are also increasingly focusing on the need for pastoral care and professional treatment for people who have suffered trauma as a result of war and persecution, and we would like to further increase our assistance in this area.

We would also like to intensify our assistance in the Sahel region, where jihadist terror is spreading and Christians are increasingly becoming victims of violence.

Make your donation or become a benefactor by logging on to www.en.acn-global.org



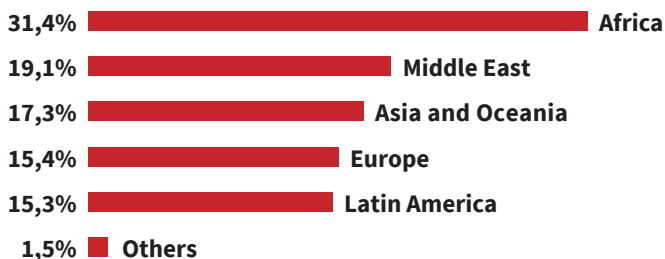
Facts and figures

- Offices in **23** countries
- **359.920** benefactors around the world
- **143.737.504 €** in donations and bequests
- Project partners in **138** countries
- **5.573** projects supported around the world
- **81,3%** of donations used have been used for mission-related expenses

Income from donations and inheritances amounted to EUR 143.7 million in 2023. With these and another 0.8 million euros in reserves from previous years, we financed activities amounting to 144.5 million euros.

Of these funds, 81.3 percent were used for mission-related expenses. Of this amount, 85.9% went to specific projects, enabling us to respond positively to 5,573 of the 7,689 requests we received from around the world. The remaining 14.1% was used for information, proclamation of the faith and defense of persecuted Christians.

Aid by region

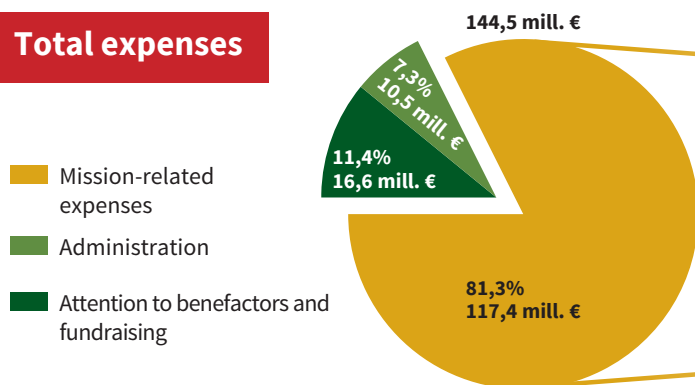


Administrative expenses accounted for 7.3% of total expenses and advertising expenses for 11.4%.

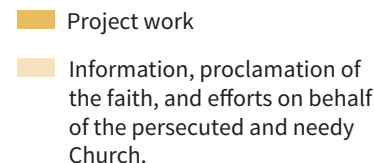
Inheritances again accounted for a significant part of Aid to the Church in Need in 2023 (33.6 million euros). Together with our brothers and sisters in need, we gratefully remember our deceased benefactors.

You can view the detailed activity report at en.acn-global.org
All figures presented are audited by the independent auditing firm PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers).

Total expenses



Breakdown of mission-related expenses



Other activities not financed by donations, such as the sale of religious books and other items, generated income of €4.2 million.



Thank you for your loyalty!

Also in 2023, dear benefactors, you remained faithful to Aid to the Church in Need: you donated 143.7 million euros, with which we were able to help suffering Christians in 138 countries.

The Church in Africa once again received the lion's share of our aid, accounting for nearly one-third of our project funds. Africa is home to almost one in five Catholics, more than one in eight priests, almost one in seven nuns and almost one third of all future priests in the world. Moreover, the spread of Islamist violence is a cause for concern there.

As a country, Ukraine received the most aid (7.5 million euros), as the Church continues to try to heal the wounds of the souls of those affected by the war and to accompany them. Our aid to Europe amounted to 15.4% of project expenditure.

Asia, where Christians often represent a discriminated or persecuted minority, received 17.3%. In Myanmar, Pakistan and Vietnam, for example, we increased our aid.

In the Middle East, 19.1% was invested, focusing our aid on Syria and Lebanon to encourage Christians not to abandon their homeland, while we were able to respond immediately with 390,000 euros to the crisis in the Holy Land.

In Latin America, rural exodus, migration, sects and governments hostile to the Church are major challenges for the Church. The percentage of our aid there was 15.3%.

Our contribution to the formation of priests, religious and lay people accounted for 26.7% of total aid, while Mass intentions for priests and support for religious sisters amounted to 21.6%. Due to the high cost of construction projects, this type of aid also occupied first place in 2023, with slightly more than a quarter of our aid (26.8%). The remaining funds went to pastoral resources (example: vehicles, religious books, radio stations) and emergency aid in crisis situations.

Thousands of priests, religious and lay people have been strengthened in their ministry thanks to your contributions and have assured us that they pray for all benefactors. Thank you very much!