

RESOLUTION OF THE BOKOR COMMUNITIES

on violence and on aiding the needy and refugees in Advent 2016

The base communities of Bokor have long considered their primary mission **to represent non-violence and to help the hungry over the world**. This is why several members of our community were willing to suffer imprisonment for refusing military obligations before 1989, and this is why we still support the needy in the Third World and also in Hungary.

We believe that the constant increase of consumption is an impasse, and “sustainable growth” is a self-contradiction. **Therefore we must pursue consumption decrease and sharing!**

Unfortunately, environmental destruction, reckless management of natural resources, violence, and poverty have reached alarming proportions in our world. The Earth is afflicted by fierce wars while military industry keeps flourishing. Millions of people take the road because of their deteriorating standards of living conditions, hoping to escape starvation and war, while human trafficking, benefiting from the misery of refugees, is more prosperous than ever. Changing the situation determined by these facts seems impossible to average people.

Nevertheless, we believe that the cooperation of benevolent people can work wonders!

The members of Bokor try to focus all their help to where they perceive the greatest need, thus we send our donations via:

- **the Harmadik Világ Alapítvány** (“Third World Foundation”, (www.bokoralap.hu/hva_index.html) to support
 - o a school network initiated by Cedric Prakash SJ in Gujarat, India (based on the principle *giving nets rather than fish*),
 - o and the school built and maintained by our brother Lajos Finta, a Catholic priest in Peru.
- **the Bokor, Hazai Rászoruló Alapítvány** (“Foundation for the Needy at Home”, (www.bokoralap.hu/bhra_index.html) to support
 - o those living in extreme poverty in Hungary,
 - o and refugees suffering from cold and distress in camps, by the intermediation of Menedék (“Shelter” – Association for Migrants, <http://menedek.hu>).

We are aware that our help is merely a drop in the ocean, but by the example of Jesus and his followers we profess that the only way to cease misery on Earth is by **clinging to non-violence under all circumstances and by helping the needy even at the cost of our own impoverishment**.

