



Vacancy for the Position of Pax Christi International Secretary General

Qualifications / Profile

Pax Christi International is looking for a creative, well-organized person who communicates well, and who possesses:

- Sound judgment and a capacity to deal effectively with complex interrelated issues across diverse areas
- A strong commitment to peace, justice, reconciliation and the nonviolent direction of the work of Pax Christi, based on Christian values and spirituality, with commitment to interfaith cooperation
- Public speaking and media experience, excellent knowledge of English, and preferably a basic knowledge of Spanish
- Experience developing key strategies and policies and implementing a vision across a large and disparate member organizations, preferably in a peace or development organization in multi-cultural environments

Women from the Global South are particularly encouraged to apply.

In General

Cooperating with the two Co-Presidents and the International Treasurer of Pax Christi International, assisted by a dedicated International Board and the Deputy Secretary General, the Secretary General will inspire and lead Pax Christi International as an international movement and ensure active engagement of its member organizations.

The Secretary General serves – together with the Co-Presidents – as the principal public face of Pax Christi around the world, presenting the organization’s vision and inspiration in a compelling way both to its members and outside the network.

This will require vision and enthusiasm, strategic leadership, and a belief in and personal commitment to the Christian values that lie at the heart of peace and reconciliation, social and ecological justice, and nonviolence.

Pax Christi International

Pax Christi is an international Catholic movement for peace. Founded to promote reconciliation in Europe at the end of the Second World War, Pax Christi is now active on six continents, bringing together people and groups from many different countries and cultures to shape and act upon a shared vision of peace, reconciliation, and justice for all.

As a faith-based network, Pax Christi believes that religion should be an unequivocal force for peace rooted in social justice, respect for human rights, and care for the integrity of creation. While it is an organization that is Catholic in both origin and tradition, Pax Christi is also autonomous, and is firmly committed to cooperation with other religious traditions, as with all who share its values, principles, and objectives.

Pax Christi places a high priority on identifying and pursuing nonviolent means of resolving conflicts, leading to peaceful societies based on human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. Pax Christi works to create a culture of peace, collaborating with many different organizations, networks, and coalitions, including in the crucial area of international advocacy and campaigning.

While each Pax Christi Member Organization works for peace with significant autonomy in its own context, the Pax Christi International Secretariat facilitates the movement's global presence and growth through networking and communications; articulation of an experience-based peace spirituality; international advocacy; and capacity-building for active nonviolence and peace-building.

Primary Areas of Responsibility of the Secretary General

- The Secretary General ensures that the general orientation of the work of Pax Christi International, as well as its Christian and faith-based inspiration, are maintained and developed in accordance with the vision and mission defined by its governing bodies.
- The Secretary General gives leadership and direction to the growth, coordination, and cohesiveness of the international movement.
- The Secretary General works with the Co-presidents and the International Board to provide vision and consistent leadership in the areas of:
 - Networking and communications: Ensuring positive working relationships among the various Pax Christi Member Organizations and with governing bodies; promoting the identification within the Pax Christi membership of key capacities for peace building
 - Spiritual development: Inspiring the development and articulation of a vibrant Pax Christi spirituality/theology of peace and nonviolence
 - International advocacy and campaigning: Ensuring that Pax Christi is present and well-represented at international meetings and conferences; is active in important campaigns and coalitions; addresses issues of concern of Pax Christi

Member Organizations to key international decision makers; and builds excellent working relationships with the PCI teams of representatives at intergovernmental fora such as the UN, Council of Europe, UNESCO, and others

- The Secretary General works actively with the Co-presidents, International Board Members, and a Fund Development Officer to identify fundraising opportunities and engage in raising funds
- Collaborating with the Deputy Secretary General, the Secretary General promotes collaboration and teamwork with the staff of PCI

Employment Conditions

- While the Secretary General does not have to move to Brussels, Belgium, where the International Office is based, the position will periodically require presence and work there
- Salary is commensurate with experience and Belgian norms for Non-Profit organisations. The gross salary depends on relevant experience, with a maximum of 2.700 euros per month for a half-time position with a Belgian employment contract, including social security. (The form of the contract will be adapted depending on the place of residence of the candidate.)
- Length of contract: 3-year contract, renewable subject to the evaluation by the Board
- Start date: 1 January 2023

Application Process

- Applications are to be submitted by 1 September 2022.
- Please send the following items to Jan Peters, International Treasurer, via email at: j.peters@paxchristi.net:
 - A letter explaining why you believe you would be a good candidate for the position
 - CV (in English)
 - Supporting documents showing relevant experience
 - Two (2) professional references
- No phone calls, please
- Only those candidates on the short list will be contacted for an interview, which will take place via a Zoom call with the mandated election committee
- For more information: please contact j.peters@paxchristi.net or Greet Vanaerschot (Secretary General) g.vanaerschot@paxchristi.net