

## Newsletter Dezember 2017

### International Community of Integration (ICoI) e. V.



Dear friends and supporters of ICoI,  
Many things happened the last year of 2017...

International Community  
of Integration

#### Data/numbers/facts 2017

**Volunteers:** Roberto from Brazil: 3 times in Germany, 14 weeks altogether  
Karina from USA: 1 time in Germany, 4 weeks altogether  
Sandra from USA: 1 time in Gambia und 2 times in Germany, 2 weeks altogether

**Activities:** endless visits, parties, support services and hundreds of new friends

**Journeys:** 2 times to Gambia, 2 times to Irak-Kurdistan and 1 time to Afghanistan

**Staff:** Simeon is a chairperson of ICoI since February  
Roberto is Executive Director of Sports and Arts for ICoI-Germany since November



#### What for?

Reports of attacks, crises, and violence often dominate the media. Information is important but reports and analysis alone do not help.

How can we really help? What does change the situation in these crisis countries? What is the answer to violence and war? How can traumatized and deeply hurt people become hope for themselves and their country?



This is impossible! They are to blame themselves! I have enough problems by myself. Or ignoring, running away, and hiding myself?! This is an understandable reaction, but does this really help? The work of ICoI moves exactly in this field of tension.



#### How does this work?

We speak to refugees. We offer our friendship. We offer new perspectives to get a changed heart and a new mind. A heart and mind that enables to forgive the enemies, to give peace, and to give hope to seemingly hopeless situations.

#### Dream or reality?

ICoI-Gambia is founded. ICoI-Kurdistan-Irak is under development and in Afghanistan we are having first talks. In all these countries as well as in Germany we were able to get in touch with several parliamentarians and NGO's and thus build valuable networks and partnerships.



#### Outlook for 2018?

We hope that Roberto from Brazil comes back to support us. We hope that we will be able to make some more journeys, for example to visit countries like Syria. In addition we hope the most and we would be very happy if more people are willing to face this challenge and support refugees as well as our work.



#### How can I help?

Your heart actually wants to help but the external circumstances have prevented this so far? Anyone who would like to work as a volunteer in Germany or in crisis countries for a longer period of time is welcome and can start flexibly.

**Financial donations are also welcome:** VR-MIBA - IBAN: DE60 6656 2300 0075 6500 00 - BIC: GENODE61IFF

Best regards from

Thomas, Silke, and Simeon (more information on: [www.icoi.info](http://www.icoi.info) or on Facebook)