

ESA supported in Croatia

„Cjelovit život“ (Integral Life), an NGO in Sinj, Croatia has supported the initiative of the European Sunday Alliance (ESA) to ban work on Sundays.

On the first of March they organized a round table on the theme of „Alliance for a Work Free Sunday“. Among the speakers was a prominent Croatian politician, Mrs. Marijana Petir. She referred to her campaign in the Parliament of Croatia when the relevant law was issued. She stressed a need for better juridical and political regulation of work of markets on Sundays in Croatia. Phd. Neven Šimac pointed the significance and seriousness of work free Sunday from a religious, social, political and economic point of view, indicating the lack of solidarity in Croatian and European society as one of the social causes of lower social cohesion. Fr. Bože Vuleta, the guardian of the Franciscan friary in Sinj spoke about his experience in the campaign for a work free Sunday in 2003. After a successful campaign which brought a new law, the Constitutional law of Croatia abrogated the law. The same happened with a new attempt in 2008. He also emphasized both the spiritual as well as the material reality of a human being which has to have freedom to develop to the point of a balance. Work free Sunday contributes to an enormous extent to that.

On the 3rd of March there was a meeting organised on the main town square from 10 to 12 o'clock. There were seven speakers invited. One from the Trade Union of Croatia, our NGO and some other civil organisations, town council, Iustitia and Pax Commission of Croatian Bishop Conference (which issued its own public statement on the theme), etc. They called the citizens of Sinj and Croatia to join the ESA's 4 March Campaign to boycott the shopping on March 4 onwards.

The campaign has been very well covered by the media, National TV channel, several radio stations and some daily and other newspapers.