

## **Concerted Action 2007 on Migration**

In January 2007 the Conference of European Justice and Peace Commissions (JP Europe) carried out its first ever Concerted Action in which all the 29 member commissions participated.

The object of this Concerted Action was to focus the attention of governments and public on the human rights of irregular migrants.

### **Purpose:**

- To put pressure on governments to assure that the human rights of irregular migrants are safeguarded;
- To alert the public that the human rights of these migrants are not honored today.

### **Action:**

- To demand that the government acts decisively to assure a minimum of human rights for irregular migrants in accordance with the Recommendation 1755 (2006) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- To demand that the governments and parliaments work for the ratification of the UN International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; it was adopted unanimously by the UN General Assembly in 1990, but only three European countries have so far ratified the convention;
- To demand that the government and parliaments work for the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings CETS No 197 of 2005; though all member states of the Council of Europe have signed this convention, only four (out of the needed ten countries) have so far ratified it.

In January 2007 the member commissions of JP Europe started to lobby in their particular national contexts on the agreed issues. They took contacts with ministers, wrote letters to governments, ministers and MPs and fed material to the press – all according to each commission's possibilities.

Doing this the commissions gave a common European witness of their solidarity with the migrant workers and their families.