

HISTORY OF AND GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO THE CATHERINE PROGRAMME

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Background

The Salvation Army (TSA) is an organisation that is one in its kind. It is a movement that is a church *and* an organisation for social work. It has members and people that are employed by it. It is worldwide, working in more than 130 countries with all kinds of differences and yet one strong identity and culture with a long-standing tradition since 1865.

For those who recently have taken up or are preparing to take up the position as an officer and for those who work as an employee on a key-position, it is necessary to know about this background of The Salvation Army. It helps to do one's work more inspired and more in line with what is in the heart of the organisation: the love of Jesus Christ and the care for those who are in need.

In many continental European countries officers, cadets and employees receive their training and education at external (theological) colleges or universities. These colleges and universities offer excellent education, but, naturally, they do not provide teaching relating to specific Salvation Army topics and culture.

The Catherine Programme will provide in this gap and organises a Summer School in which participants are offered lectures with an introduction in history, doctrine, social work of The Salvation Army. These lectures are offered in an international atmosphere in which the meeting of one another, and the 'learning together' are important. In all Summer Schools the vocation of the participant, be it as an officer or as an employee is brought to the front.

The Catherine Programme is established by the European Training Leaders Network (ETLN) and the first School was held in February 2007. The Catherine Programme is named after 'the Army mother' Catherine Booth who emphasised the importance of studying.

Organisational history

The Catherine Programme was established by the European Training Leaders on proposal by major Hervé Cachelin, by then training leader in Switzerland and major Jeanne van Hal, by then training leader in The Netherlands, with a draft by rev. Hans Blom, by then staff person in the Dutch training and education department.

The first study week was held in February 2007, as a 'try-out'. An official "go" was given at the European Zonal Conference, Rome, April 2007.

The first couple of years this study week was called the 'Catherine Programme' (CP). Later the name changed into 'Catherine Programme Summer School' (CPSS). Catherine Programme became an umbrella name under which several activities can be placed. Besides the Summer School this is at the moment the Emma Programme. See below.

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The Emma Programme is named after Emma Booth, daughter of William and Catherine Booth, who was at the age of 21 already leader of the officer training school for women in London.

Mission Statement of the Catherine Programme

The Catherine Programme provides grounding in The Salvation Army identity, spirituality, and mission for officers (in training), Salvationists and employees in leading positions.

The aim of the Catherine Programme Summer School (CPSS)

The Catherine Programme Summer School fulfils the Catherine Programme mission statement by teaching Salvation Army subjects as history, theology and practical ministry, within a European Salvation Army setting and inviting participants to embrace TSA identity, spirituality and mission.

Participants in the Catherine Programme Summer School

The Catherine Programme Summer School is specifically intended for:

- Accepted Candidates;
- First and Second years Cadets;
- Lieutenants;
- Salvationists in short-term full-time or employed ministries like Envoys, Sergeants, Auxiliary Lieutenants and Auxiliary Captains;
- People within The Salvation Army in a leadership role or in a key position in which a broad knowledge of the movement in Europe is necessary.

Participants come from one of the territories in the Europe Zone, although guests from other Zones can be welcomed as well.

Territorial Leadership and Training Leaders are responsible for the selection of delegates. Applications will only be accepted when confirmed by the Leadership or Training Leader of the respective territories.

Basic Course and Advanced Course

The CPSS includes a Basic Course and an Advanced Course. Only participants who have previously attended the Basic Course can participate in the Advanced Course.

Subjects of the lectures in the Basic Course are:

- Aspects from the history of TSA
- Introduction into the doctrines of TSA

- Key elements of the theology of Social Work
- Dealing with ethical questions in TSA

Subjects of the lectures in the Advanced Course are:

- Cultural changes in today's society
- Ecclesiology of TSA
- Form & Essence
- Social Justice
- Salvationist Expression of Spirituality
- Leadership within TSA

Participants of the Basic and Advanced follow together the following programme:

- Opening meeting with Key-note address
- Morning praise at the start of every day
- Guest lecture on Spiritual Leadership with TSA context
- Sharing Outreach initiatives
- A visit to social institutions
- Bible Study
- Praise & worship evening
- Closing meeting

Preparation and completion of the Summer School

Delegates are invited to read some books in advance to prepare themselves for this Summer School.

Afterwards delegates have the possibility to write a reflection report before 15 November. The Committee let this be a free choice. But Training Leaders can decide to make this obligatory for their own cadets and possibly other participants.

CP-Online

During the year that people participate in the Catherine Programme they have access to CP-Online in which they can find all information, the hand-outs of the lectures, downloadable books, and other reading materials.

Training of officers and employees

Besides lectures, discussion, and reflection on important Salvation Army topics, in the programme much emphasis is paid to everyone's calling within The Salvation Army. Special quality of the Summer School is that officers (in training), soldiers and non-Salvationist employees are learning together. For many of them this is very inspirational and deepens the understanding of everyone's calling. This helps for a better 'grounding' into the movement. The programme is a study programme and thus knowledge based. At the same time much emphasis is put on spiritual life.

CPSS is not an obligatory programme, but a possibility offered to Territories to deepen The Salvation Army understanding of participants. 6 out of 13 territories in Europe has chosen to send their cadets, and in some cases their candidates, as part of their officers training to the Basic and Advanced Course of the Catherine Programme Summer School. These territories and commands are:

- Finland and Estonia territory
- France and Belgium territory
- Germany, Lithuania, and Poland territory
- Italy and Greece territory
- The Netherlands, Czech Republic, and Slovakia territory
- Switzerland, Austria, and Hungary territory

Some figures

| Year | Delegates | Total | Keynote Address and Guest Lecture |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Feb 2007 | 19 all lectures + 12 some lectures | 31 | - |
| Jun 2008 | 47 all lectures | 47 | - |
| Jun 2009 | 36 BC + 17 AC | 53 | Comm. Barry Pobjie, IS Europe Zone |
| Aug 2010 | 39 BC + 10 AC | 49 | Comm. Dick Krommenhoek, TC Finland |
| Aug 2011 | 43 BC + 26 AC | 69 | Comm. Hans van Vliet, TC Netherlands |
| Aug 2012 | 44 BC + 31 AC | 75 | Comm. Clive Adams, TC Norway |
| Aug 2013 | 53 BC + 33 AC | 86 | Comm. Brigitte Brekke, Europe Zone |
| Aug 2014 | 51 BC + 28 AC | 79 | Colonel David Hinton, CS United Kingdom |
| Aug 2015 | 47 BC + 33 AC | 80 | Colonel Hannelise Tvedt, TC Denmark |
| Aug 2016 | 58 BC + 23 AC | 81 | Comm. Brian Peddle, Chief of Staff |
| Aug 2017 | 54 BC + 34 AC | 88 | Comm. Marie Willermark, TC Germany |
| Aug 2018 | 58 BC + 22 AC | 80 | Major David Kinsey, IS Europe Zone |
| Aug 2019 | 46 BC + 30 AC | 76 | Lieut.-Colonel Massimo Tursi, OC Italy |
| Aug 2020 | Cancelled... | | ...because of covid |
| Aug 2021 Online | 63 BC + 21 AC | 84 | Colonel Donna Evans, CS Netherlands |
| Aug 2022 | 61 BC + 19 AC | 80 | Lieut.-Colonel Daniël Imboden, CS Switzerland |
| Aug 2023 | 63 BC + 22 AC | 85 | Comm. Bente Gundersen, TC Netherlands |
| Aug 2024 | 54 BC + 13 AC | 67 | Comm.'s Paul & Jenine Main, Nat. Leaders UK |
| Aug 2025 | | | Comm.'s Cedric & Lyn Hills, ISs Europe Zone |

For the opening of the Catherine Programme Summer School the Catherine Programme invites one of the leaders of The Salvation Army in Europe, to speak a keynote address during the opening meeting and give a guest lecture on Spiritual Leadership within The Salvation Army context. The invitees of previous years are mentioned above with the rank and location of their appointment at the time of the keynote address and lecture.

Venue

From 2007 until 2011 the CP Summer School was held in The Salvation Army Training Centre ('Bildungszentrum') in Basel, Switzerland. From 2012 on, the CP Summer School is held in The Salvation Army 50|50 hotel and conference centre Belmont in the Netherlands.

Finance

Territories and regions pay a fee per participant. As a form of solidarity, Eastern European regions and Southern European territories pay less and territories with more financial possibilities and like Switzerland, Germany and The Netherlands pay more than the regular fee.

The Salvation Army in the Netherlands supports the Catherine Programme Committee by secretarial and ICT support, doing the bookkeeping and saving of the CP budget, free of charge, and by making it possible to stay low budget in Belmont.

CP on the web

The website of the Catherine Programme Committee can be found at: www.catherine-programme.eu. Through this website applications can be done, CP-Online can be reached, the latest brochure can be found and a small public library with downloadable books can be reached.

Emma Programme

Somme territories would like to let more Salvationists and employees be exposed to knowledge and experience presented at the Catherine Programme Summer School. But for financial reasons, lack of time and the fact that a Catherine Programme Summer School cannot host too many delegates from one country, it was asked if a shortened version of the Catherine Programme could be given within the territory itself. So the Emma Programme was born. This is a 2 to 3 days programme, with a selection of lectures given on a location within a certain territory.

One territory provides for the organisation and for hosting of the delegates. The Catherine Programme Committee provides for lecturers. Apart from the organisation and hosting of the participants, the organising territory only pays for the travel costs and board and lodging of the lecturers.

The Emma Programme can be tailor made, but in the first four editions the content was as follows:

«Эмма» программа, Молдова, 20 – 22 октября 2017 /

Programul "EMMA", Moldova, 20-22 Octombrie 2017

День 1 Пятница 20 октября/ Ziua 1 Vineri 20 Octombrie

Приезд делегатов в «Одиссей» начиная с 14.00/Sosirea delegațiilor la "ODISEU" începând cu orele 14.00

16.30 -17.15 – Собрание открытия программы «Эмма»/Întâlnirea de deschidere a programului EMMA

17.15 – Лекция 1 - Армия Спасения и я/Sesiunea 1 – Armata Salvării și EU

18.00 – Ужин/Сіна

19.30 – Лекция 2 - Когда-то в Восточном Лондоне/Sesiunea 2 A fost o dată cu năciodată în Estul Londrei

21.00 – кофе брэйк/Pauză de cafea/ceai

- The Salvation Army and me
- Once upon a time in East London – Some aspects of history
- Salvation and Holiness as heart of TSA Some aspects of doctrine
- Symbols of TSA and their spiritual meaning
- Theology of Social Work
- Leadership within The Salvation Army
- Bible study about notions of chaplaincy and integrated mission

The Emma Programme was so far held in:

| Date | Country | Estimated number of participants |
|---------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| November 2016 | Czech Republic | 70 |
| October 2017 | Moldova | 50 |
| October 2018 | Moldova | 40 |
| May 2019 | Portugal | 20 |
| June 2025 | Netherlands | 50 |
| ... 2025 | France | 15 |

Catherine Programme Committee

Present Members

The Catherine Programme Committee consists of officers, soldiers and employees. Their respective territories have granted them the possibility to take part in this committee. The present members of the Catherine Programme Committee can be found on the Catherine Programme website: www.catherine.programme.eu

Previous CPC members:

- Lieut.-Col. Hervé Cachelin (2007 – 2014), by then Training Principal and DC in Switzerland; Chairperson CPC till 2014.
- Major Jeanne van Hal (2007 – 2017), by then Training Principal in The Netherlands and later retired.
- Lieut.-Col. Anne-Florence Tursi (2009 – 2020), chairperson since 2014, by then CSWM Italy and Greece Command, TSWM Switzerland, Austria and Hungary territory; CPWM and responsible for Training & Education Italy and Greece Command; and Assistant Chief Secretary for Personnel at IHQ.
- Lieut.-Col. Andrew Morgan (2012 – 2014), by then Regional Commander in Hungary.
- Major Mattias Nordenberg (2014 – 2015), by then Training Principal in Sweden.
- Major Enny van Triest (2017 – 2019), by then project officer THQ in The Netherlands.
- Captain Anita Kamperman (2021 – 2023), by then Field Secretary in The Netherlands.
- Rev. Hans Blom (2007 – 2025), by then staff person on Christian identity and spiritual life within social work; Secretary CPC till 2024; Advisor till 2025.