

Note / document sent by electronic mail:

“Comments to draft issue of World Congress welcome discourse”

From: ~Nudism Friends~, Information & Documentation Department
Servicio de Información y Documentación ~Amigos del Nudismo~
To: President of FEN
To: FEN associations (according to list of official web page)
Copy to: ENE, Board of Directors
Copy to: President of ADDAN
Copy to: President of ALETEIA
Copy to: AANUMA, Board of Directors

Madrid, 2006, June 19th

Dear FEN colleagues.

We have received the draft issue of your September Congress welcome discourse, which is available in the link <http://www.naturismo.org/25aniversario/discurso25ae.html> ([english version](#)), and we remark to you that some parts and contents of this discourse have some rights reserved under **Copyleft** and **Creative Commons** licenses. The use and acceptance of these licenses implies to do a clear and explicit reference to original authors and information sources related to mentioned contents. Also the public recognition of previous effort and dedication realised for other people or working groups is an usual and very good polite rule.

Waiting for your update version and without any other comments, we wish you to enjoy and to have a happy congress.

Yours faithfully,

~Nudism Friends~, Information & Documentation Department

WORLD CONGRESS DISCOURSE. EL PORTUS 2006
25th FEN ANIVERSARY

By Ismael Rodrigo, president of FEN
The Naturist Revolution: The Right to Be Nude.
A Debate

Dear Naturists Friends,

A new statute was adopted at our last World Congress. There we upheld the traditional and already familiar definition that “Naturism/Nudism is a way of living in harmony with nature. It is expressed by communal nudity, associated with self-respect, respect for the opinions of others and care for the environment.” (Art. 2.1)1 .

The Spanish federation, which, by the way, is celebrating its 25th birthday as this World Congress is being held, would like to take this opportunity to call for a debate among all naturist federations. We would also like to extend this debate to the mass media in order to effectively achieve the goals mentioned in Article 2.1 of our statutes.

Ismael Rodrigo

IS NUDE RECREATION THE ONLY WAY?

We often hear our federations say Body Acceptance is the Ideal as the goal to achieve, which frequently though is translated into the more practical Nude Recreation is the Way. Let us question whether this is the only way.

We believe the time has come to take a step forward so as to make nudism socially acceptable. Let us give our movement a rather revolutionary tilt and yet keep on enjoying our nude recreation.

In countries, such as Spain, where public nudity is not longer illegal, we take the view that **nudity is one more right** which has been achieved in the pursuit of freedom and must be spread everywhere.

In countries where there are still laws against nudity, derived from unacceptable moral codes, we must fight for their repeal within the legal framework of the land, appealing, as a last resort, to the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, (Articles 2, 18, 19, 20 and 26)2.

Information related to “Nudism is another or your Rights”

- Read carefully the document “El Nudismo es una más de tus Libertades | Nudism is another of your Rights” http://ene-naturismo.org/docu/legalidad_cas.pdf (by ENE courtesy) dated at 2003 June, which includes a public **Copyleft** note.
- See this updated document <http://www.aanuma.org/triptico.pdf> (by AANUMA courtesy), dated at 2004 April, including the original ENE **Copyleft** note.

Information related to “Universal Declaration of Human Rights”

- See the presentation “Jornadas contra la discriminación del desnudo | Papers against the discrimination of the nudity” (by ENE courtesy), dated at 2004 March.
- Read carefully the document “Nudismo, Derechos Humanos y Constitución | Nudism, Human Rights and Spanish Constitution” <http://ene-naturismo.org/docu/jornadas.pdf> (by ENE courtesy) which includes a public **Creative Commons licence** <http://creativecommons.org/projects/international/es/translated-license> (now is an updated licence for **ATTRIBUTION – NON COMMERCIAL – SHARE ALIKE**), and presents an explicit reference to articles 1, 2.1, 7, 13.1, 18 and 19, and also to Spanish Constitution.

CONCERN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

With regards to another aspect of our goals, concern for **the environment**, we see that often it is insufficiently dealt with in Naturist publications, being replaced by health concerns instead. Many a time what is known as alternative medicine is the only view on the subject of health.

While the promotion of physical and mental health can be read in successive paragraphs of our statutes³, we should take care as neither the definition or methods of achieving are even mentioned.

According to the goals stated in our statutes a person can be a Naturist and also be sceptical of all that goes under the name of alternative medicine. Likewise, a Naturist can be a believer of all that is alternative medicine regardless of its reability. In a similar manner a naturist can be either against what might be thought of as 'naturist ghettos' or in favor of leisure during the holidays in zoned-off areas.

Our movement is sufficiently open to take in **people of differing beliefs and ideas**. That does not mean we should take up our promoting them either institutionally or giving them support through our publications.

Conversely, we must promote all that might lead to a wider acceptance of nudity in our society and we must also fight for the **preservation and improvement of our environment**. Both ideas are explicitly stated in our definition of Naturism and are fundamental beliefs which should not be detached from each other. That is, we must promote a concern for our environment while enjoying nature, in the nude, with other people.

Article 2.6 of our statutes points in the direction of how to achieve this, through sports and other activities with special consideration to the youth ⁴.

Indeed, we regret the decrease in membership among the youth. In our opinion, the lack of new ideas and goals worth fighting for could be part of the problem. We need to give our movement a revolutionary U-turn if we want young people to be involved. That U-turn must have an ecological concern, **incorporating and picking up some of the ideas** out there to bring back to our fold those who have moved away from what they thought was a submissive movement ⁵. We must not give up the freedom that means the right of our bodies to be in the nude in any environment. We must not be complacent at having private areas where strangers can be subject to compulsory nudity.

Our movement, once reinvigorated, would undoubtedly attract number of young people with new ideas, new energy and new values; leaders in a new world; not just youth who may only enjoy spending their holidays without their clothes on.

Information related to Nudism, Ecology and Society

- See "Primeras Jornadas Abiertas sobre Nudismo | First Forum about Nudism" <http://www.aanuma.org/nudlmad/w1710.htm> (by AANUMA courtesy) dated at 2004 July, which includes a public **Copyleft** note.
- Read carefully main ideas in the document "Nudismo versus Naturismo (4a/5)" <http://www.aanuma.org/nudlmad/w1744.htm> (by AANUMA courtesy), section 4a. Society.
- Read carefully main ideas in the document "Nudismo versus Naturismo (4b/5)" <http://www.aanuma.org/nudlmad/w1745.htm> (by AANUMA courtesy), section 4b. Society.
- Read carefully main ideas in the document "Nudismo versus Naturismo (5/5)" <http://www.aanuma.org/nudlmad/w1746.htm> (by AANUMA courtesy), section 5. Conclusions.
- Above documents in their web format have a public **Creative Commons license** <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.5/> applicable for all them.

Additional information in **English** and related to "First Forum about Nudism" is available in the link <http://www.aanuma.org/nudlmad/w3040.htm> dated at 2004 June.

SOME SUGGESTIONS

Here are some suggestions on ways to follow and changes to carry out so as to reach the goals stated in Art.2 of the INF/FNI statutes:

1. The World Congress should not only be an executive assembly but also a meeting where Naturists can contribute with **presentations and projects which are eventually compiled and published in a proceedings book**. The INF/FNI must **gather and select these presentations**. The biennial assembly can continue being held while the World Congress takes place. The Naturist movement must generate its own philosophy which will find its way in forums, publications and research studies which should be financially supported by the IFN/FNI (Art. 2.6.e)6 .

Working methodologies for congress and discussions

- See “*Primeras Jornadas Abiertas sobre Nudismo | First Forum about Nudism*” <http://www.aanuma.org/nudlmad/w1700.htm> (by AANUMA courtesy), section “*Dossier con las sesiones y resumen final | Session texts and executive summaries*”.

Additional information in **English** and related to “*First Forum about Nudism*” is available in the link <http://www.aanuma.org/nudlmad/w3040.htm> dated at 2004 June.

2. The present statutes of the Spanish Naturist Federation, (FEN), has amongst its goals ‘to protect and claim **the right to be nude amongst our freedoms** and to spread that ideal’ (Art. 5-2-d). We encourage every federation and indeed the INF/FNI to add a similar article to its statutes (Art. 2.4; in the present statutes it is not clear enough about it)⁷

Information related to “Nudism is another or your Rights”

- Read again the document “*El Nudismo es una más de tus Libertades | Nudism is another or your Rights*” http://ene-naturismo.org/docu/legalidad_cas.pdf and http://ene-naturismo.org/docu/legalidad_euk.pdf (by ENE courtesy in both Spanish and Basque editions) dated at 2003 June, which include their appropriate public **Copyleft** notes.

3. We should publicly show ourselves in the nude thus making a stand for our rights and demanding the removal of all legal obstacles which may curtail that right. (Ibid.) Let us spread the notion of mutual respect; that is, we, Naturists, do not compel anybody to take their clothes off and, likewise, Naturists should not be forced to be clothed. **There is no such right as ‘not to see’** what may not be agreeable to the eye of the beholder. Thus, nobody should be able to impose on others their prejudices or ethical imperatives. Naturism is our philosophy, we should defend it.

Information related to “Right for not to seeing”

- See the presentation “*Jornadas contra la discriminación del desnudo | Papers against the discrimination of the nudity*” (by ENE courtesy), dated at 2004 March.
- Read carefully the page 4 of document “*Nudismo, Derechos Humanos y Constitución | Nudism, Human rights and Spanish Constitution*” <http://ene-naturismo.org/docu/jornadas.pdf> (by ENE courtesy) which includes a public **Creative Commons licence** <http://creativecommons.org/projects/international/es/translated-license> (now is an updated licence for **ATTRIBUTION – NON COMMERCIAL – SHARE ALIKE**).

4. The federations must foster ‘independent’ sites on Internet which promote media campaigns to inform about public events and massive e-mailing acting as independent lobbies.

5. We must encourage and hold nude public events in defence of our environment. For instance,
- To demand, in the nude and in the presence of at least a journalist, reforestation of burnt down areas which are led by experts and subsidised by the authorities.
 - To demand the cleaning of beaches and recreational areas under the same conditions as in above.
 - To support and assist environmentalist groups in their activities which our associations can not carry out directly. Such support can be translated into protests in the nude against the purchase, sale and wearing of furs
 - To support and assist other groups with their demands for bicycle paths** and other initiatives which are geared towards sustainable lifestyles in our cities. We should be able to support and publicise events although we might not organise them as they fall outside the range of our goals, but reflect the variety of interests there are amongst our members.

Information related to Naked Bike 2205 and 2006 rides

- See editorial about “Ciclo nudistas | Naked Bike Ride” <http://www.aanuma.org/nudlmad/w3070.htm> (by AANUMA courtesy) dated at 2005 June.
- Read carefully the 2006 final report <http://www.aanuma.org/inf06.pdf> (by AANUMA courtesy), dated at 2006 May, which includes a public **Creative Commons license** <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.5/> for the overall contents.
- This report is for public use and free distribution, and it is edited for Spain according to guidelines of Spanish Naked Bike managers as response of none enthusiasm on the part of other naturist federative organisms that declined support or diffusion.

Naturists have plenty to offer our culture and our society. The repression of nudity is still a fundamental cog in the whole machinery that controls the behaviour of human beings.

‘Recreation’ and ‘leisure’ are concepts which have the connotation of ‘holiday making’ and have inspired our model so far. We think that that approach may now be obsolete and often has been the source of an undesirable perception of our movement.

We should neither profit from nor be linked to past beliefs already debunked by Science and modern Medicine. On the contrary, our movement must come closer to environmentalist concerns, to mental health and educational preoccupations, which we see as closer to an urgent need for freedom from conventional repressions. (Art. 2.2) Achieving freedom from having to wear clothes does not mean giving up our Naturist locations. By the same token, the existence of football federations and specific areas to play it has absolutely nothing to do with the fact that it was once declared a legal sport. In fact, since nudity stopped being forbidden in any public place in Spain Naturist centres have kept growing in number and membership and they have been fully utilised summer after summer.

We regret the increasing desertion of young people from our associations. In view of this fact we should ask ourselves if we provide them with ideals and goals to strive for. Our movement must make the necessary revolutionary changes if we want the youth to be involved.

These are the ideas we lay before the Congress for debate by all world federations . This is our contribution on this our 25th anniversary. It is our wish that the outcome of that debate could be achieved at this, our World Congress. During 2005 we have been commemorating the 50th anniversary of Rosa Parks’ stance against discrimination. She was a 42 year old seamstress returning home from her job in Montgomery, Alabama, in December 1955 when she took a decision that changed History; Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man on a segregated bus. Great battles for freedom are fought on apparently insignificant fronts; the right to sit on a bus, the right to show ourselves the way we are. The fight against criminalisation of nudity is no less important than any other fight, like that against the deterioration of our environment.

Our fight is the fight against all burkas, for the rights of women, and a healthy education for future generations so that they can go on enjoying this wonderful planet, in the nude

*Ismael Rodrigo,
Presidente de la FEN*

POINTS FOR DISCUSSION (Federations may suggest additional topics before the Congress convenes):

- *Nudism and the Law in each INF/FNI member country. How to change the legislation. Universal Declaration of Human Rights.*
- *Mutual respect: nudity in frequently non-nudist places.*
- *Nudism and Alternative Health Movements. Distancing.*
- *Youth in their relationship to the points above.*
- *World Congress: widening our range of goals.*
- *Internet: workshop on proposals through the webs of the different federations.*
- *Internet: active independent sites.*
- *Cooperation with Universities and other Scientific Institutions on subjects such as Naturism and Childhood, Naturism and Psychological Health, among others.*
- *Cooperation for cultural purposes. A season exhibiting Naturist motion pictures; Award giving contests for literary contributions on the subject.*
- *Debate on the INF/FNI aims and goals within the framework of Art. 2, one by one.*

Annexes

1. INF Statutes, Art.2. Naturism/nudism is a way of living in harmony with nature. It is expressed by communal nudity, associated with self-respect, respect for the opinions of others and care for the environment.

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2. Annex II: Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights mentioned:

ARTICLE 2.

"Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status."

ARTICLE 18.

"Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance."

ARTICLE 19.

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

ARTICLE 20.

"Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

No one may be compelled to belong to an association."

ARTICLE 26.

"Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages.

Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children"

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3. INF Statutes Art 2.2. The purpose of naturism/nudism is the promotion of the physical and mental health of humanity in open air or on the occasion of sporting activities. The INF-FNI supports all initiatives that contribute to the development of the body, the heart and the soul, and opposes everything detrimental to it, in particular the abuse of nicotine, alcohol, and drugs. It encourages the protection of nature and the environment.

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4. INF Statutes, Art. 6.2.d. promoting the organisation of sporting activities and activities for the young

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5. *“The Naturist/Nudist ideal arises within a cultural background that represses nudity and consigns it to intimate moments. In general, opinions within this culture do not question that repression but they still demand a special consideration for people who wish to be nudists. They thoroughly accept the repressive prejudices the rest of society hold, as they look for some intimacy, the support of a group and the reclusion in places, partially or totally exclusive. Hence, the Naturist/Nudist groups that abide by these prejudices, are looked upon condescendingly and are consequently easily given some concessions which are readily presented as advances and a great success; a zoned-off beach, an exclusive timetable at a swimming pool, a camp site and so on. Once these demands are fulfilled, the discrimination the movement suffers is turned round against clothed people in the exclusive places it now enjoys: like an image reflected in a mirror.” (Passage from a letter to Barcelona’s City Hall)*

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Information related to a possible nudism regulation supported by Barcelona Mayor

- See the ADDAN web page <http://www.addan.com>
- Read carefully the page 1 of letter sent to Barcelona Mayor <http://www.webpersonal.net/addan/Cartaobertacat.pdf> (by ALETEIA courtesy) dated at November 2005.

6. *INF Statutes, Art. 2.6.e. the publication of materials about naturism/nudism,*

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7. *4. The INF-FNI works for the worldwide recognition of naturism/nudism and encourages its development. The INF-FNI works together with national and international institutions.*

(back to the text)
