Welcome Speech – JuFra Spain
Yuleidy Stefanía López, President of JuFra Spain

"Dear brothers and sisters,
Peace and all good!

My name is Yuleidy, and the service my brothers and sisters have entrusted to me is the Presidency of JuFra Spain.

With great joy in my heart, I welcome you to the 4th European Congress of OFS and JuFra. What a gift to have you here! Spain welcomes each of you with open arms: those coming from 20 different countries, Spiritual Assistants to the fraternity, the international presidency, and of course, all of us young people who make up this great Franciscan family.

In a special way, we want to thank and greet our brothers and sisters from:
Spain, Belgium, Great Britain, Malta, Bosnia, Italy, Lebanon, the Netherlands, Lithuania, Germany, Croatia, Czech Republic, Russia, France, Ireland, Poland, Cyprus, Hungary, Ukraine, and Slovakia.
Thank you for coming, for crossing borders, and for believing in the power of encounter!

This Congress is a precious opportunity to live European fraternity not just as a concept, but as a real experience: through hugs, through listening, through different languages understood with a smile, through shared prayer and journeys that cross because God desires it so.

I want to especially thank my brothers and sisters from JuFra Spain: Pablo, Nerea, and Myriam. Thank you for walking alongside me, for your commitment, for your dedication, and for making everything easier. I also thank all those who made this Congress possible, and each and every one of you who are here today.

This Congress is a gift, but also a call. I invite you to live it with joy, with openness, without fear, and above all, without barriers. Let language not be an obstacle — the most important things are not said with words, but with gestures, looks, and the heart.

Let us allow ourselves to be found by one another. Let us open our hearts to the unexpected. And let us live these days with the enthusiasm of those who discover that fraternity knows no borders, because it is born of the Gospel and comes to life in us.

As Saint Francis once said: "The Lord gave me brothers."

Let us live these days with grateful hearts, under the theme:
“Creation and Fraternity: one family, one mission.”

Welcome home!"