



In partnership with



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Living Peace, a project promoted and supported by Associazione Azione per un Mondo Unito - AMU is now in its **ninth year**.*

By the end of 2020, this peace education project has grown in popularity and spread more widely throughout the world:

- More than 1,700 schools and universities have been engaged, and more than one million children and youth have been involved through the various activities.
- Eighty organizations are participating in the project of which about 42 work cooperatively to create new peace initiatives. Living Peace acts as a container: it collects these peace actions, spreads them and presents them.

Here are some of the activities carried out **locally and internationally**:

➤ **On-site training**

The general coordinator of the Living Peace project conducted several trainings on the foundations and methodologies of Living Peace through art workshops and sharing of best practices to strengthen and expand the project. Nearly 700 people, including teachers/educators and students, attended the sessions, which were held:

- Luxembourg - January 20 to 24
- Israel - February 29 to March 9
- Jordan - March 10 to 12

involving about 700 people between teachers/educators and students.



➤ **Training, meetings and activities in telematic mode**

Due to the pandemic situation from March 2020 to December 2020 all activities and meetings were held in telematic mode. This virtual mode led the project to spread and created new links and synergies in Germany, Russia, Chile, French Polynesia and the Persian Gulf.

On a national and international level, about one hundred Living Peace project meetings/activities and trainings were held in Latin America, Africa, Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

The main protagonist of these events has been the network of young leaders and Ambassadors for Peace born during the Madrid congress (December 2019) and supported by local coordinators.



Among the events we highlight:

○ **International Day of Peace 2020**

The International Day of Peace is celebrated on September 21. For this occasion, 4 zoom meetings were held, involving territorial neighboring countries (in Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and Asia) in which many young people, organizations and popular personalities participated. In addition, in different parts of the world, about 40 smaller, local connections were made to commemorate this day.



○ **One Year After Madrid**

On December 12, 2020, the meeting entitled "One Year After Madrid" was held in telematic mode. One year after the first congress for young Leaders and Ambassadors for Peace, the meeting involved about one hundred young people from 33 countries around the world, committed to promoting peace.

The meeting was prepared by an international committee of young Ambassadors for Peace who oversaw both the technical aspects and the content of the meeting, supported by the Living Peace coordination of the AMU.

The young people of the Living Peace network are increasingly protagonists and promoters of peace actions. In Argentina, for example, the young Ambassadors kept in touch with their Spanish-speaking peers and throughout the year experienced important moments of training and exchange. Then, in June, they began a collaboration with a children's center in a poor neighborhood called "La Lata", where the economic situation has become much worse due to the pandemic. Thus, a collection was made in the city to help buy vegetables and basic needs that were then distributed to the center every Monday.



➤ **Network of Local Coordinators**

The Living Peace network has been enriched with new coordinators. The role of the coordinators is fundamental for:

- the dissemination and strengthening of the project in their contexts;
- the promotion of local initiatives;
- on-site training meetings and via national and international zoom sessions, addressed to educators and trainers.

Through them, the sharing of peace initiatives with the international secretariat is facilitated and periodic meetings are held for their training.



➤ The Dice of Peace

The Dice has been translated into 29 languages. Used as a pedagogical tool, the Dice has been adapted to different situations and educational fields and various versions have been created: The Ethical Peace Dice (Colombia), the Axiological Peace Dice (Colombia), the Interreligious Peace Dice (Mexico), the Peace Tools Dice (with MMPAZ, Argentina), the Elephant Peace Dice (together with Elephants4Peace, Germany), the Peace Consciousness Dice (or Introspection, Switzerland), Peace Mandala Dice (Mimos para tus Ojos, Argentina), the Family Peace Dice during the Pandemic (Italy), the Peace Dice for Catechesis (Spain). In addition to the 37 Large Dice of Peace placed in squares/parks in different parts of the world, there are 3 new ones in southern Brazil.



➤ World relay for peace - Run4Unity

The Run4Unity promoted by Teens4Unity is enriched by the contribution and presence of many schools/groups that adhere to Living Peace, becoming for them the final event of the project. This year the relay race took place in virtual mode. Depending on the time zone, many Living Peace groups of the international network have created their own telematic Run4Unity entitled In Time for Peace, for a total of 42 relays.

For example:

- In **Argentina** they organized a "mateada" for peace, where everyone had their own "mate", ready to drink (a drink made from the infusion of a plant, a real social ritual!), they then shared experiences and played games.
 - In **Italy**, the virtual race took place with a group of Young Ambassadors for Peace. It began with the "passing of the baton", which took place with some Young Ambassadors from Jordan and continued with music and testimonies of commitment to spread peace.
 - In **Egypt**, workshops, songs and prayers were held during the event.
 - In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, artistic talents were expressed by painting mandalas of peace.
- In short, this year Run4Unity has brought imagination into action!



➤ #Daretocare

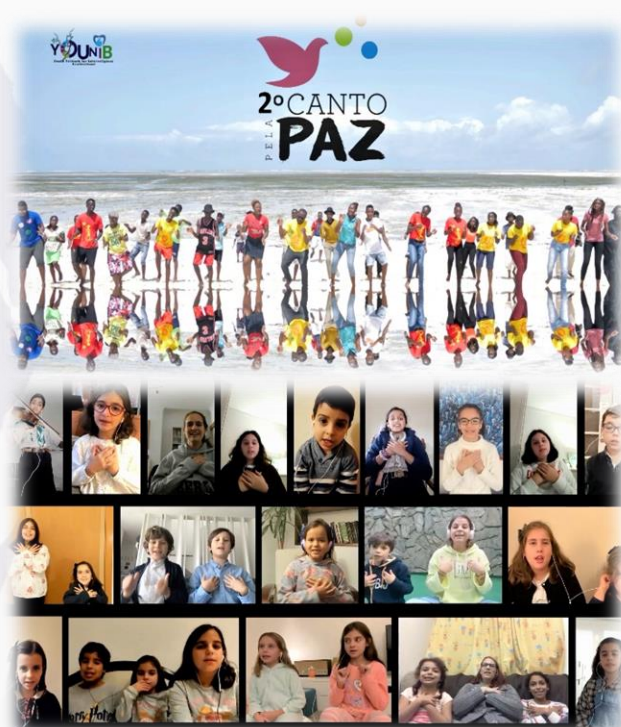
During this year marked by the Pandemic, the Living Peace network did not stop, on the contrary many initiatives were born to respond to some of the many challenges. So it was natural to take part in the campaign #Daretocare, launched by the Youth for a United World: taking charge, being interested, actively caring for the most fragile of the planet, being attentive to the problems of society. Here are some examples:

- Thousands of letters of support and encouragement sent to hospitals, for patients but also for staff, retirement homes, detoxification centers, in different parts of the world.
- Collection and distribution of basic necessities to people isolated and/or in a vulnerable situation, such as in Nepal, Tunisia, Brazil, Portugal.
- International online initiatives aimed at raising awareness of anti-covid norms, such as the campaign "Stay at home", to promote the safety and integrity of each person: the responsibility to be part of the solution, this is also contributing to world peace.
- Active and constant participation in an initiative of assistance and closeness aimed at a group of homeless people in Brazil through the distribution of meals and accommodation in temporary housing during the period of the pandemic.
- Immediate activation of young people and adults after the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon: help in cleaning the rubble inside houses and in the streets, care of the wounded and distribution of meals to the displaced.
- Initiatives, for example in Congo, of production of masks to be distributed free of charge in isolated regions or disadvantaged communities.
- Despite the lockdown period, the students of a school in Argentina found a way to activate a project using the 6x1 methodology! They circulated their "concrete" solidarity within a pediatric hospital where children were bored by the fact that they could not receive visits due to the epidemic: they made toys at home that were then delivered to the hospital.

THE REMEDY OF ART

During this period, we realized the importance of art for well-being and peace. Several Living Peace proposals have had an artistic value.

➤ Certainly the initiative that surprised everyone with its wide participation was the second edition of Canto pela Paz, where choirs of children and young people from the international network presented songs of peace. This initiative, created together with the Canto pela Paz Association, aims to bring together young people of different religions to build peace through the universal language of music. In fact, 30 groups from 24 countries participated. The live broadcast was conducted by two young people from Living Peace Portugal and reached 3620 views on Youtube, 2400 the same day, confirming that in times of pandemic, stress and agony, Art is a remedy that cures and alleviates.



➤ Comunication

- On September 2020, the guide of the project for the new school year was distributed in 6 languages, with good practices, insights and ideas.
- Through a special platform, the international coordination offers monthly peace activities to be carried out with the children and international appointments to all members of the network.
- The website www.livingpeaceinternational.org, translated into 5 languages, is reviewed and updated periodically.
- The project is present in the AMU website at the following link <https://www.amu-it.eu/living-peace/> and in the AMU news magazine.
- The AMU has activated the Christmas Campaign to support the Living Peace project through the purchase and sending of e-cards.
- The Facebook page allows the sharing of news and good practices of the network, giving visibility and importance to every little activity or experience done.
- There are 4735 people following the page: <https://www.facebook.com/Living-Peace-International-317874851740169>
- There are currently 30 whatsapp groups in the Living Peace network. Each group has between 20 and 150 members.

➤ **United World Week**

Also this year Living Peace actively participated in the United World Week, taking part in national and international events, through social works addressed to the most needy, writing of letters for hospitals, sharing of peace songs, online exhibitions of drawings, etc.. The project was presented on 5 occasions through international zoom links that involved many countries on 5 continents.

#SMM2020 #inTimeForPeace

Taller

Día 5

"CRECER COMO CONSTRUCTORES DE PAZ"

Un camino de Educación a la paz. Origen, historia y difusión. Compromisos y desafíos

Carlos Palma (Coordinador General de Living Peace en New Humanity ONG)

PARTICIPA DEL TALLER A TRAVÉS DE ZOOM
ID de reunión: 845 1332 5163

Living PEACE INTERNACIONAL

Semana Mundo Unido
1-7 MAYO 2020

2019 / 2020
Derechos Humanos, Paz, Legalidad y Justicia

Martes 5 de Mayo

17:30 Hrs / 18:30 Hrs / 19:30 Hrs

HUMAN RIGHTS, PEACE, LEGALITY AND JUSTICE

2020

United World Week

LIVING PEACE INTERNACIONAL

RUN

JXMU COLOMBIA

movimiento de los focolares



Un camino de educación a la PAZ

Semana Mundo Unido
ONLINE

Organizado por los JMU de Cuba para todos los Jóvenes de América Latina

con **Carlos Palma**
coordinador de Living Peace

UnTimeForPeace

Hora: 2 mayo 2020
15:30 Cuba

Unítrate a la reunión Zoom
<https://zoom.us/j/94988834597>

LIVING PEACE

1-7 MAYO 2020

***AMU** is an **NGO** that carries out development cooperation projects and training and education activities for global citizenship and peace. It is inspired by the spirituality of the Focolare Movement and aims to spread a culture of dialogue and unity among peoples. The AMU has been supporting the project for five years, as well as giving financial support, in the organizational management and training of young people and adults, both nationally and internationally, thanks to its experience in this field, also recognized by the Italian Ministry of Education.

Link to the website: <https://www.amu-it.eu/>