



In partnership with



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Living Peace is a project promoted and supported by the Association *Azione per un Mondo Unito* - AMU (Action for a United World). AMU is an NGO that carries out projects of development cooperation and training activities for Education towards 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. AMU has been sustaining the project since six years, as well as giving financial support in the organisational management and training of young people and adults, at national and international level, thanks to its experience in this field, recognised also by the Italian Ministry of Education.

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

In 2021, Living Peace continued to strengthen, expand and spread through numerous activities and events at local and international level involving about one million children, adolescents and young people from schools, universities, youth groups, prisons, religious groups, etc...

➤ **Presential trainings**

The general coordinator of Living Peace, Carlos Palma presented the project, its foundations and methodologies through artistic workshops and sharing of good practices:

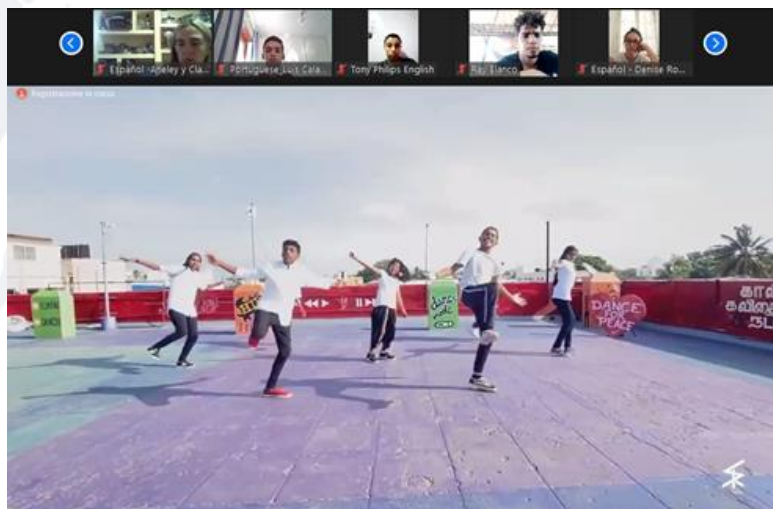
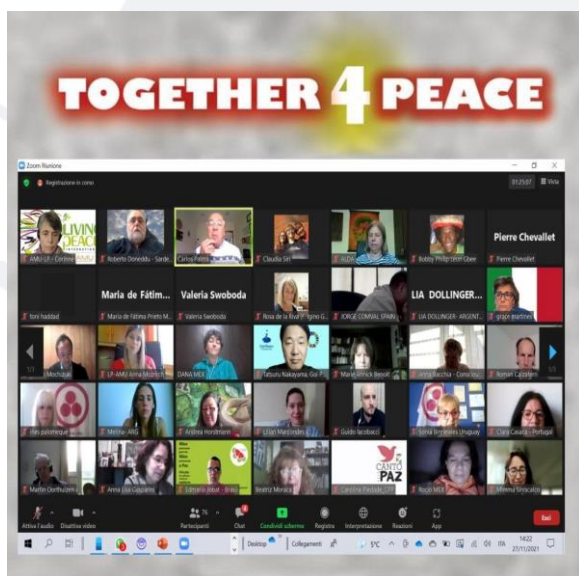
- 13 meetings in some communities in the north of Uruguay involving 860 teachers, educators and persons with interest in it, and 850 students.
- On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of "Vivre Ensemble à Cannes - Living together to better inhabit our land", an international forum in Cannes/France attended by some 270 people including youth, adults and representatives of different religions.



➤ Trainings, meetings and activities in telematic mode

More than 200 meetings via web to raise awareness and offer trainings to peace education involved 250 teachers and educators and 1600 young people from 56 countries around the world, including:

- International training for Living Peace network coordinators and collaborators with about 55 coordinators/collaborators from around the world. The main scope was to give space to share their experiences, to present the programme of activities and the theme of the year "Dare to Care - integral ecology".
- Meeting with the Italian Living Peace network to strengthen it and present the new Italian coordinators. The meeting was attended by 15 people.
- Meeting with the Associations, Organisations and Foundations partners of LP, to share their peace actions in collaboration with Living Peace and the results collected together during these years, and to favour the mutual knowledge among them. The meeting was attended by 84 people representing 47 organisations from 40 countries.
- Training Young Leaders and Ambassadors for Peace - "Link4Peace", the second international videoconference meeting of Young Leaders and Ambassadors for Peace, on the occasion of the first meeting in Madrid in 2019. The aim of the meeting was to meet, exchange good practices and renew the personal commitment to building a culture of peace. Around 100 young people from 27 countries participated.



Among the events we highlight:

o School Day of Peace and Non-Violence – 30th January

About 100 groups, members of the worldwide Living Peace network, took part in this occasion, promoting national or international celebrations in schools, universities, educational centres, involving students of different religions and cultures:

- The Italian network of the Living Peace project for this occasion promoted a zoom event entitled "Let us make the difference, let us live Peace. School Day of Peace and Non-Violence". About 70 people among teachers, educators and students took part in the event.

o International Day of Peace – 21st September

About 80 groups from schools, universities, parishes, movements, associations and foundations of the Living Peace International network actively participated in this anniversary through events, meetings, activities promoting the culture of peace:

- In Jordan, at the Rosary School Marj Elhamam, the Time Out took place and different activities such as dances, songs and peace drawings.
- In Italy, in Rosolini (SR), a Living Peace school connected all the classes of the various plexuses of the Institute to carry out together some activities such as Time Out, listening to peace testimonies, singing and dancing.



➤ Network of Local Coordinators

There are currently 60 coordinators who are part of different coordination groups, in which several young people participate, in order to support:

- the spreading and strengthening of the project in their own contexts;
- the promotion of local initiatives
- the preparation of national and international, in-person and via zoom, training sessions addressed to educators and trainers.

➤ The Dice of Peace

Since last year, another language has been added and the dice is now used by people of 30 different languages. Used as a pedagogical tool, the Dice has been adapted to different realities and educational fields, and new versions have been created:

- ✚ Therapeutic Dice of Peace (Philadelphia, USA)
- ✚ Dice of Peace in Psychology (Spain)
- ✚ Dice of Peace and of inclusion (Portugal)
- ✚ Dice of Peace for childhood (Spain)

The number of the Large Dices, inspired by the Dice of Trent, has grown further and at the end of the year 2021 they enrich 51 places, inviting everyone to live for peace.



➤ **World Relay for Peace - Run4Unity**

Depending on the time zone, many Living Peace groups in the international network carried out their own telematic Run4Unity entitled Dare to Care, with a total of about 80 relays. Together with Teens4Unity more than 400 cities around the world were connected.

- In the DR of Congo, in the province of Lualaba, every day, for 3 days, 3 or 4 schools of the Living Peace network, together, "delivered" the relay to another group of schools in the region.

➤ **"#Daretocare" and "Young Leaders and Ambassadors for Peace".**

During the Pandemic period of 2021, the Living Peace network continued the path #Daretocare - our ecological conversion (2021-2022) launched by the Movement Youth for a United World: taking charge, caring, actively looking after the most fragile, the planet, attentive to the problems of society.

Ambassadors for peace and young people committed to peace were the protagonists who promoted these initiatives, adhering to the #Daretocare campaigns and offering their closeness to those in need.

Some examples

- packaging of games accompanied by cards of greetings and encouragement for the children of three paediatric hospitals in Catania - Italy
- construction of heart-shaped origami of peace sent to the health staff of two hospitals in Portugal to assure support, comfort and courage
- reception and distribution of basic necessities in the centre for the homeless in Ibiporã - Brazil
- construction and inauguration of a conservatory for children in vulnerable circumstances, giving them access to the study of a musical instrument, Uruguay
- collection of food for a centre offering free snacks to children in vulnerable situations (Argentina, Rosario); collection of school materials for children from immigrant communities (Argentina, Cordoba)
- sending letters of support (from Argentina, Spain, Peru, Bolivia, Italy, Mexico, Congo, Jordan, Philippines, Myanmar, Portugal, Uruguay and Brazil) to communities in need following the eruption of the La Palma vulcan and the typhoon in the Philippines
- implementation of an international virtual march for peace, conceived by Dancelab, a dance school in Italy, with the theme "respect"
- promotion of solidarity activities of encouragement and support sent to 4 local old people's homes, Croatia
- organization of the "plogging" that allows you to walk or run, collecting waste on the ground. At a school in Portugal, 20 bags of waste were collected inside the institute, in the city and on the beach.



Since 2017, more than 600 adolescents and young people have been appointed Ambassadors of Peace, working nationally and internationally in various fields: social, scholastic, university, religious, sports and artistic.



Aiming at their formation, a training course for young Spanish and Portuguese-speaking Peace Ambassadors was born in Argentina, on the initiative of the National Coordinator of Living Peace, with 65 participants from 11 countries. The 10 points of the Young Peace Ambassador addressed during the Training Congress in Madrid in 2019 were deepened. The course has been translated into Italian and English in order to use and activate it in other countries.

➤ **United World Week**

The highlight of the **#daretocare - dare to take care** was the United World Week. For this occasion, Living Peace and the Young Ambassadors of Peace of the network have prepared 5 webinars in 6 languages (Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, Arabic and English). The central theme of each meeting was to live peace by taking care of the persons.



➤ **Art as an important vehicle of Peace**

Several Living Peace proposals have an artistic value, as art is a universal language that enhances beauty as an expression of Peace:

- "PeaceGotTalent" festival of talents to enhance Peace. In 2021 the online event took on an international and inclusive dimension. The protagonists were young artists of different ages, adolescents with disabilities, young people from different cultures and religions, from the 5 continents who through music promoted the values of peace.
- "Canto pela Paz - III Edition", an initiative created together with the Canto pela Paz Association. The online concert, this year entitled "Peace is not a Utopia", aimed to bring together young people from different religions, churches and cultures to build up peace through music. Twenty-two groups from 16 countries participated.
- The international peace mandala exhibition in Argentina, which involved around 500 children, adolescents and young people from 48 countries around the world.
- The international drawing competition entitled "Sport and Peace" with an exhibition of the finalists' works, in Tokyo, Japan, involving about 5,300 children and adolescents from 83 countries around the world.



➤ **Fundraising for the sustainability of the project.**

#Supportpeace
10 years of Living Peace

In recent years we have never stopped, with more than 600 Ambassadors of Peace, involving more than 1700 schools and activating actions in 130 countries we want to continue building a culture of peace!

the network

In recent years, the participants in the network have implemented concrete actions:

- to devise initiatives for peace, brotherhood and care for the environment involving young people;
- to collect basic necessities for people who are isolated and/or in vulnerable situations;
- design comfort letters and drawings for patients and staff in hospitals, nursing homes, detoxification centres.

What can you do?

- create a solidarity stall with objects created by yourself or recycled
- start a small fundraiser
- dedicate a special occasion or party to Living Peace and ask for a contribution from those who will participate
- follow the website www.livingpeaceinternational.org and the FB page and spread peace!

With your support, we will be able to keep the network active and involve even more young people. To give your contribution go to the website www.amu-it.eu and from the "How to help us" section you can donate online or make a transfer to the Living Peace #Supportpeace

#SostienilaPace (Support Peace) is the name given to the fundraiser launched to the entire Living Peace network to contribute to the sustainability of the Project, since the coordination of such a large project requires a periodic and competent management, as well as professional skills. This allows the project to strengthen, grow, expand and reach other areas of the world, so that also in those places actions for the construction of a culture of peace and of fraternal relations and solidarity may be promoted.

➤ **Communication**

- This year, in addition to the six languages in which the Annual Project Guide is presented, an Arabic translation has been produced by a member of the network, to the joy of participants from the Middle East!
- The network is constantly being enriched with new members, through registrations on the project platform, and so the peace activities to be carried out with the children and the international events, proposed by the international coordination, are reaching larger and larger groups.
- The website www.livingpeaceinternational.org , translated into 5 languages, is an important tool for getting to know the project.
- The Facebook page allows news and good practices to be shared on the network, giving visibility and importance to each small activity or experience carried out.

- 5152 people follow the page: <https://www.facebook.com/Living-Peace-International-317874851740169>
- New and recent LP news is also reported in the AMU news magazine, the AMU newsletter and on the AMU Facebook page.
- There are currently 30 LP WhatsApp groups. Each group has between 20 and 150 members.

