



europäische allianz katholischer frauenverbände
european alliance of catholic women's organisations
alliance européenne d'organisations féminines catholiques



Dear members and friends of Andante,

Are you happy to hear the dawn chorus of the birds every morning? Do you look hopefully at the trees in your garden? And do the early rays of the sun on your skin warm you up even inside?

Yes - then you are suffering from Spring-fever, a miraculous "illness" that you hope will last a long time.

Spring: a wonderful season, which makes both woman/man and nature happy.

Sadly, our happiness is tempered again this year; corona virus, like last year, limits our possibilities. Yet, because of the vaccine, we can look hopefully into the future, although regrettably not the immediate future. Despite the fact that some countries have already vaccinated different target groups, the CoCoA decided it would not be responsible to come together physically with our dear member organisations for the study days that we had planned in Riga from 30 June to 5 July.

Covid has also offered **many new hopeful possibilities**: e. g. how we have improved in the technology of video calls, remote meetings and webinars. I followed webinars of meetings that I could never physically go to, not so much in terms of content, but because of the distances involved. I have even followed webinars in which women from Senegal told me, on my screen in the Netherlands, how resilient they try to be in times of Corona.

We as CoCoA decided we should entrust our study days to the Internet. Everyone knows that physical meetings are more inspiring, more familiar, but above all much more sociable, and as women we like that! Yet, we must be positive and enjoy the possibility we can now have more participants, up to 300, many who would not be able to travel to Riga. Although in the future we will certainly meet again physically - but sadly not just yet...

Our study days are, as announced, limited to 2 days: 2 and 3 July 2021.

After Pentecost, registration will be open and following registration, several days before the Study Days, you will receive more information and the Zoom-link to log in. You can also find the programme on the Andante website.

As you can see, on Saturday at 11:20 h, we shall give the Zoom-floor to our member organisations - so **we should like to ask you to prepare a short presentation of your experiences about the topic of the webinar, the empowerment of women** (approximately 2 mins). Please could you confirm before the 15th June if a representative from your organisation can share your experiences with everyone?

For physical seminars, we have always requested a study day fee for participation. However, with digital seminars, the organising costs are not so apparent. We hope you will appreciate that this online meeting also involves costs, for example, the simultaneous translation of the presentations, interpreters, technology, licences etc. We are indebted to *Bonifatius Werk* who have very generously sponsored this event and made it possible to happen. May we also count on your voluntary contribution. All donations, however small, will be very gratefully received! You certainly know our account number:

Account number: NL68INGB0005143288

Account holder: Andante Europese Alliantie v Kath Vrouwenver

Bank: ING Bank, Zaandam, Netherlands

IBAN: NL68INGB0005143288

BIC: INGBNL2A

We should like to wish you and your organisation every blessing during this Eastertide and look forward to meeting you on our screen, a European screen with women from different European countries, but all interested in our voice - our lives - our future!

Marleen Peters

On behalf of the whole CoCoA,

Sabine Slawik

Vroni Peterhans

Gisela Hoeve

Sophie Rudge

Inara Uzolina

Noemi Adorjani