



Appointment from 22 to 24 September, more than one thousand young people from all over the world to meet the Holy Father and sign a pact for a new economy

POPE FRANCIS IN ASSISI ON 24 SEPTEMBER FOR THE ECONOMY OF FRANCESCO

Assisi (Italy) ~ Pope Francis will be in Assisi on 24 September for the event “Economy of Francesco (EoF), programmed from 22-24 September in the seraphic city. The Holy Father has enthusiastically expressed his desire to be present and meet the world’s young economists, entrepreneurs and change-makers, engaged for three years in EoF, the process, willed by the same Pontiff, to lay the bases for a new economy, that is more just, fair and fraternal.

In these years, the Holy Father has been kept constantly informed about the activities undertaken by the young people, Thor which he has offered words of inspiration and encouragement in two video messages on the occasion of EoF events, held online in 2020 and 2021. Now comes confirmation of a meeting in person in Assisi. “A confirmation that fills us with joy: we are immensely grateful to the Holy Father” - the comment of the organizing committee, formed by the Bishop of Assisi, Domenico Sorrentino, Professor Luigino Bruni, Francesca di Maolo, president of the Seraphic Institute of Assisi, with the support of the Dicastery for the Service of Integral Human Development - “we pray for the health of the Holy Father and continue to move forward with even greater enthusiasm and strength in the organizing activities of the first global in person meeting in Assisi. We are at work to welcome young people from over 100 of the world’s countries - the organizers

explain - who have labored actively in these months and those who have the desire to contribute to a new season of economic thinking and practice.”

The program of the Pope’s visit foresees the departure at 9 am on the 24th from the Vatican’s helipad, arrival in the piazza close to the Paleventi and the transfer of the Holy Father by car to the nearby Lyrick theatre in Santa Maria degli Angeli. Welcoming the Holy Father will be three young people of EoF, Cardinal Michael Czerny, Prefect of the Dicastery for the Service of Integral Human Development, Bishop Domenico Sorrentino, the highest civil authorities, members of the organizing committee, representatives of the Franciscan families and Pro Civitate Christiana. At 10 am, the Pontiff will reach the stage, where, after an artistic-cultural moment, there will take place the welcome, introduction and eight witnesses of young people from throughout the world, he will deliver his address and sign the Pact with the young of EoF to launch the change of economy that he himself wishes.

The complete program of three days, which will take place between the Lyric theatre, the Paleventi of Santa Maria degli Angeli and the historic center through conferences, workshops and thematic villages, will concentrate on gathering ideas and experiences generated worldwide in these three years of work. “There will be room - the organizing committee explains - for moments of dialogue between the young people and renowned international figures, to discuss their proposals and continue to consider more deeply the challenges of our time, beginning with the building of an economy of peace. There shall be available a permanent area for ideas and projects, networking sessions and thematic workshops.” Among the speakers of the event are Vandana Shiva, Jeffrey Sachs, Kate Raworth, Gael Guraud, Sabina Alkire, Helen Alford, Vilson Groh and Stefano Zamagni.



The Participants and Villages of EoF

Arriving from all over the world are young people, who in these three years have formed a true community that has produced projects, initiatives, study materials and research. But who are the young people of EoF? The average age is 28, 30% of young people come from the business world, and another 30% from research, while 40% are change makers (students, social movements, NGO's). Most of them will come from Europe (35%) and Central - South America (30%), but Asia and North America will also be represented, from which 8% and 6% of the participants, respectively, will hail. In Assisi, the young people will gather in the 12 thematic "villages," following on the virtual ones which have been ongoing in these two years of pandemic: Work and Care; Management and Gift; Finance and Humanity; Agriculture and Justice; Energy and Poverty; Vocation and profit; Policies for Happiness; CO2 of Inequality; Business and Peace; Women for Economy; Businesses in Transition; Life and Life-style.

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All began with the invitation that Pope Francis sent on May 1, 2019, to economists, change makers, and entrepreneurs under the age of 35 from around the world. In the last two years, despite the pandemic, in five continents, thousands of young people from 120 countries have been engaged, mainly from Italy, Brazil, USA, Argentina, Spain, Portugal, France, Mexico, Germany and the United Kingdom. There have been two global online events, carried out via live streaming with over 500,000 views, over 50 webinars, some 25

entrepreneurial projects, 2 online EoF Schools and direct participation in a Summer School, an EoF Academy with 18 researchers and 25 senior members. Moreover, over 50 internationally renowned experts have also been involved (including 3 Nobel prize winners), and the Pope has addressed 2 video messages to young people.

All information and the latest news are available on the website www.Francesco_economy.org and the official social channels of the event: Facebook @francescoeconomy; Instagram @francesco_economy; Twitter @FrancescoEcon; YouTube e Flickr.