

WFWP Italy: The Role of Communication and Media in the Time of the Pandemic

Elisabetta Nistri
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A webinar titled "The Role of Communication and Media in the Time of the Pandemic" was organized by UPF Italy with the cooperation of WFWP Italy, and it had a great impact. The speakers were: Prof. Marino D'Amore, Sociologist of Communication, University Niccolò Cusano, Rome; Dr. Marco Respinti, Journalist, Director of "Bitter Winter"; Dr. Carmen Lasorella, Journalist; Dr. Francesco Fravolini, Journalist, member of the board of ENT D Ente Nazionale per la Trasformazione Digitale e l'Innovazione. The moderator of the meeting was Dr. Fabrizio Annaro, Journalist Director of "IL DIALOGO DI MONZA."

Here you can find the video of the webinar:

vimeo.com/437116768

Hundreds of people followed the program through Zoom, UPF and WFWP Facebook pages and through ECO DEI PALAZZI, an institutional web page.

Elisabetta Nistri, President WFWP Italy, introduced the topic by stressing the important role media had during the lockdown, when we were not able to go out from home, and we received all information from TG News. In the beginning we very much liked the tam tam from people that came from the terraces: city by city, people were trying to inspire each other that EVERYTHING WILL GO WELL.

Later, day by day, we had the bulletin reporting how many people had died, how many were newly infected, and so on. At this point, many people turned off the News because there was too much depression and suffering, with the perception that there was no hope.

Elisabetta Nistri asked the journalists if it would be possible to shift the attention from the problem to the eventual solution, and to report more on the many virtuous and solidarity examples that have been successful.

All the speakers gave very deep analyses of the situation, denouncing that journalism lost a very good opportunity during the pandemic, and most of them realized the value of Rev. Sun Myung Moon's word: "The pen can kill more than a sword." All of them agreed that journalism should be more free to tell the truth.

Reported by Elisabetta Nistri
WFWP Italy President