

WFWP Italy's webinar: Role of Faith and Spirituality in the Time of Coronavirus

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WFWP Italy cooperated with UPF Italy in organizing this webinar and inviting speakers. Franca Coen, President of the Women's session in the Association Religion for Peace and Co-President of the Italian Federation of Progressive Judaism, is a friend of WFWP who gave a very nice speech on the value of all things that God and Mother Nature are always giving to us even in difficult times. She also mentioned the time of Esodo when the Jewish people were complaining about the difficulties they were facing and forgot God's Promise of Holy Land and freedom. So in this difficult time, too, we should not forget to be faithful and keep our relationship with God.

The other speakers also gave deep content in their speeches: Imam Nader Akkad, PhD and Ambassador for Peace; Don Valentino Cottini, Catholic Priest and lecturer at the Pontifical Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies; Francesco Canale, Pastor of the Evangelical Community "Equippers Church," and Raffaella Di Marzio, Director of the Centre of Studies for Freedom of Religion, Belief and Consciousness LIREC.

Raffaella Di Marzio of LIREC stressed that places of worship are not yet allowed to reopen unlike almost all other activities including cultural ones, as if the spiritual practices are not considered an important aspect of social life. Actually religious practice is very important for people of faith, especially in this difficult time, and therefore the government needs to pay more attention to that. WFWP is part of the advisory board of LIREC.

At the end of the meeting everybody could really feel a sisterhood atmosphere between all the speakers. About 200 people attended it by Zoom and on Facebook live.

Reported by Elisabetta Nistri
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