

FIAC/IFCA

**FORUM INTERNAZIONALE AZIONE CATTOLICA
FORO INTERNACIONAL ACCION CATOLICA
INTERNATIONAL FORUM CATHOLIC ACTION**

(our translation for [Italian](#))

PRESS RELEASE

One minute for peace with Pope Francis

LEAVE YOUR MARK FOR PEACE

Rome, 7 June 2023

"Today more than 20 armed conflicts are active in the world. At the doors of Europe, in Ukraine, there has been uninterrupted fighting for more than a year. Peace is the gift that humanity needs immensely and we ask you to invoke it with us". This is the invitation of Eva Fernández Mateo, coordinator of the International Forum of Catholic Action (IFCA) and president of the Spanish Accion Catolica General, to join the initiative "One Minute for Peace" together with Pope Francis that returns for the ninth year in a row tomorrow 8 June 2023 at 1pm.

"One Minute for Peace" is an initiative launched by the International Catholic Action Forum, Italian Catholic Action, Catholic Action Argentina, the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO) and others, for the first time in 2014, in support of the 'Invocation for Peace' meeting promoted by Pope Francis on 8 June in the Vatican Gardens together with the President of Israel, Simon Peres, the President of the Palestinian Authority, Maḥmūd 'Abbās - Abu Mazen and the Patriarch of Constantinople, Bartholomew I.

It is a simple initiative: wherever you are at 1 p.m. on 8 June, alone or in company, whatever faith you belong to, the invitation is to bow your head for a minute and pray for peace in Ukraine, in the Holy Land and in all places of conflict.

<https://www.catholicactionforum.org/un-minuto-por-la-paz-2023/?lang=en>

In this way, as this year's claim goes, you will help to trace paths of peace together. Everyone can add his or her own imprint. On the IFCA website, you can also do so materially by posting a prayer, a wish or your own peace gesture on a Padlet link. Small actions that help to change the world.

<https://padlet.com/catholicactionforum/leave-your-minute-for-peace-prayer-good-wish-action-3vw8pq8xfs3yt7zl>

On 10 June, there will also be an international online prayer meeting at 3pm (Italian time) with the participation of representatives from countries in conflict or with serious crisis situations: Ukraine, the Holy Land, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Myanmar, Mexico and Peru. It will also be an

opportunity to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the publication of Pope John XXIII's encyclical *Pacem in Terris*.

On [Fb](#) e [Instagram](#) channels #unminutoporlapaz and [You Tube](#)

have already left their 'peace footprint':

- **Brother Alois of Taizé**, Prior of Taizé
- **Adolfo Pérez Esquivel**, Nobel Peace Laureate 1980
- **Sister Alessandra Smerilli**, Secretary of the Dicastery Service for Integral Human Development
- **Emilce Cuda**, Secretary of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America
- **Monica Santamarina**, newly elected president of WUCWO (World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations)
- **Eva Fernández Mateo**, National President ACG Spain, Fiac Secretariat Coordinator
- **Giuseppe Notarstefano**, National President Italian Catholic Action
- **Claudia Carbajal**, National President Catholic Action Argentina
- **Ana Maria Rebeca Vilchis Chavez**, President Catholic Action Mexico
- **Albert Loteyro**, LAIKO Philippines representative
- **Zénobé Niragira**, national responsible for Catholic Action Movements (MAC) Burundi
- **Anne Marie Rose Ndione**, responsible for the Teachers' Movement (MAC) Senegal

[Here](#) are the materials of the initiative in 4 languages prepared by Fiac and some participating countries:

Info:

<https://www.catholicactionforum.org>