

FIAC/IFCA

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

## **PRESS CONFERENCE**

**With Pope Francis, one minute for peace**

### **IV ANNIVERSARY OF THE MEETING IN THE VATICAN TO PRAY FOR PEACE**

Rome, 7 June 2018

“Wherever you happen to be at **1.00p.m.** on the **8th June**, stop, bow your head and pray for peace”.

This year too, on the occasion of the 4th anniversary of the meeting with President Peres and Abu Mazen and the patriarch of Constantinople Bartolomeo, promoted in the Vatican by Pope Francis to pray for peace (8 June 2014), the **International Forum of Catholic Action (Fiac)**, the **Union of Female Catholic Organisations (WUCWO)**, the **Italian Catholic Action**, the **Argentinian Catholic Action** and the **Argentinian Episcopal Commission for Justice and Peace** renew their simple appeal to their members, and to all those who wish to join them, to dedicate one minute of their time to pray for the end of the conflicts which are causing so much bloodshed in the world.

**About 250 representatives of the Episcopal Conferences Pastoral Youth Workers and of International Lay Organisations** who, from the 6th to the 10th June, are meeting in **Panama** in preparation for the **World Youth Day** which will be held in **January 2019**, will stop and, with bowed head, pray for one minute in silence. Among these there are also two members from the **Ifca Youth Coordination Group**, **Emanuela Gitto** (Italy) and **Noelia Leon** (Argentina), who, in their suitcase, have dozens of copies of the **invitation** to this initiative which is available in more than 30 languages from **Arabic** to **Korean**, from **Kiswahili** the **Guarani**, from **Chinese** to **Bulgarian**

<http://www.catholicactionforum.org/8-6-2018-otherlanguages/?lang=en>

The organisers want in particular to recall in prayer **four conflict situations and difficulties**, in four Ifca members or observers countries, which, for some time, have been lacking the attention of the media and public opinion: **Colombia**, **Myanmar**, **Ukraine** and **Burundi**

<http://www.catholicactionforum.org/verso8giugno2018/?lang=en>

A moment of prayer is also planned in **Rome**, in via della Conciliazione 1, in front of the the Italian Catholic Head Office and in **Buenos Aires**, at the headquarters of the

Episcopal Conference of Argentina. Here, in continuity with this initiative, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m., the "**Forum for Peace**", together with representatives of various organisations, will be having a dialogue on the themes of **peace** and **respect for human rights**.

"In our times –**Bergoglio** stressed during the general audience of the 7th June 2017 when recalling the initiative of the following day, - **there is such a great need for prayer - Christians, Jews and Muslims – for peace**".

In answer to the invitation of the pontiff, the promoting organisations of the "Minute for peace", ensure their commitment to **unceasing prayers** in preparation of the **ecumenical meeting**, desired by Pope Francis to reflect and pray together for the **dramatic situation in the Middle East**, to be held on the **7th July** in **Bari**.

For information and material in different languages:

<http://www.catholicactionforum.org/un-minuto-per-la-pace-2018/>

<http://www.catholicactionforum.org/un-minuto-per-la-pace-2018/?lang=en>

<http://www.catholicactionforum.org/un-minuto-per-la-pace-2018/?lang=es>

<http://www.catholicactionforum.org/un-minuto-per-la-pace-2018/?lang=fr>

#### **PRESS OFFICE**

**CHIARA SANTOMIERO**

**3384148251**

VIA DELLA CONCILIAZIONE, 1

00193 ROMA

06 661321