

ACADEMIA
POST CORONA



Worldwid Initiative



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Hello everybody. First of all, I would like to thank Professor Sami Basha and the American University of Sicily Syracuse for this important meeting. I am very happy to participate in this dialogue.

I will be very short, a few words, with one or two ideas that I consider important and useful for this health and economic emergency, a situation that we can say and express with the word "anguish". A word that means distress, tightness, a narrow passage and a difficult birth.

We are in the Easter period. This recalls the transition from death to life. We must face and overcome this narrow passage, this emergency, in the best way. And our university-work can also help.

Faced with the difficulties of this emergency and this transition, we are faced with two possibilities, two alternatives. The first possibility is to withdraw, to get worse, to aggravate intolerance towards others, fear of foreign people and to build new forms of conflict, new wars between us, new wars at local level and in international relations.

The other possibility is to improve, break down walls, overcome many borders and build peace experiences, dialogue experiences, intercultural experiences, between different religions, both locally and internationally.

My proposal is that in the university, in the academic field, peace research and peace experiences be realized, especially in the local area, in our communities.

It is possible to work in this direction with teaching and with social engagement and with service-learning in local communities.

It is also possible by offering students artistic experiences, music, theater, in dialogue with teachers and artists.

And, again for this proposal, it is possible to build an archive of research and experiences, to help us spread peace through our university work.

Another idea: I know that some students have economic difficulties.

So, I think I will propose to my university to provide them with some computers and devices to be used for on-line learning.

I am sure that the American University of Sicily Syracuse is the experience of academic and scientific dialogue that can really help us for our intentions.

Thank you. Greetings to all.