

CONSIGLIO REGIONALE DEL VENETO

Il Presidente

Venezia, 19th March 2020.

Dear friends,

I am writing to you in these dramatic hours about the Veneto Region, which is among the first in Europe that has experienced, without hiding anything to the public opinion, the impact of the epidemic from Covid-19, immediately activating rigorous measures to contain the disease.

From the first moment, we understood that the emergency would not be short and that the most at risk would be the elderly and those who had previous diseases: the weakest were and are the subjects most exposed and in danger.

So, from the early days, we have chosen to respond consistently with what we have publicly said at the United Nations in New York in recent years, "Not only no one must be left behind, but also no one must be left alone".

This was and is the spirit of the "Venice Declaration" promoted by IFFD International Federation for Family Development in the framework of the "Inclusive Cities for Sustainable Families" project, and I am proud to recall that among the writers of that document was also the colleague and friend Manuela Lanzarin, who today as Regional Minister for Health of Veneto and together with the Veneto Region's President Luca Zaia, is in the front row in managing our social and health system and structures .

I don't know when we will get out of the Covid-19 emergency, but in these difficult days our social structure in Veneto is holding thanks to the family: the family has proven to be the reference point and the authentic pillar of society, allowing us to endure a challenge that for other aspects is much more difficult.

Tomorrow, when the emergency is over, we will have to re-discuss our life and development models, we will have to get out of the nightmare of a society dominated by the interests of the economy and finance and put the individual at the center of our action, the person and with it the family.

Today the Venice Declaration is important, but tomorrow it will be even more important to build a new world and start again together by treasuring what has happened:

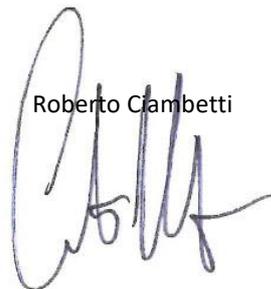
I don't think I'm far from reality if I say that the Venice Declaration is already an excellent political-administrative program of intense work for the future of our Cities, Regions and Nations.

You have been the protagonists of this experience and I want to thank and encourage you not to lose hope and the desire to act. If today's reality is bitter and difficult, if today we have to look at the present with the pessimism of intelligence, it is equally true that we must look to the future with the optimism of the will: "No one must be left behind, no one must be left alone".

Thank you for what you have done and what you will do: waiting to meet again in person, certain of your commitment in favor of the weakest,

Yours faithfully.

Roberto Cambetti



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