



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Pax Christi Italy,

I greet you from Medellín, a place where there was a milestone in the development of the ideas proposed after the Second Vatican Council, of a Church truly committed, as Jesus did, to the causes of the most vulnerable.

During my mandate as Secretary General, I was able to see the deep commitment of Pax Christi Italia... of you, men and women, in your tireless work for human rights, in the demand for a Just Peace, for Peace with Social Justice, for Ecological Justice, for a Justice that promotes Integral Disarmament in this world where conflicts – and the budgets associated with the war industry – are high on the global agenda.

I wish you success in your reflections, in strengthening global peace strategies, including your struggle for the cessation of hostilities in Gaza; that Palestine be allowed to be a full, free and self-reliant state, with reparation for the damage caused for so long.

May the inspiration left by Fr Tonino Bello, Fr Luigi Bettazzi and so many women and men of the Pax Christi Italia movement produce important effects for local, national, regional and global peace. You have an International Office, small in number of people, but with a high professional sense and a great commitment to the ideals of the Movement.

See you next year, God willing, in Florence, to celebrate the 80th anniversary of this movement that reinvents itself every day in a creative and inclusive way!

With my embrace of peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Martha Inés R.' with a horizontal line underneath.

**Martha Inés Romero**

Secretary-general



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