

## **PROGRAMMED ACTIVITIES OF REDES CRISTIANAS UNTIL 2024 PROPOSED FROM THE WORKSHOPS OF THE MEETING.**

### **UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME (UBI) WORKSHOP:**

1°. While we move towards the UTOPIA of the establishment of the UBI, we must support the fulfilment of all the plans of the Minimum Income for Life and the guaranteed minimum incomes for citizens and other contributions of the Spanish Autonomous Regions, so that, at least, severe poverty disappears, thus complying with the European Social Charter.

2°. Redes Cristianas and its member groups confirm they support the UBI.

3°. Other proposals have been put forward, such as establishing the UBI in the areas of Spain with very low populations and in the poorest urban districts of Spain, for which agreement has not yet been reached.

### **IMMATRICULATION WORKSHOP**

To elaborate a definitive proposal in an Assembly of Christians to achieve the return to the nation of the thousands of historical buildings and properties registered (inmatriculated) in recent years as being owned by the Catholic Church.

### **WORKSHOP ON THE CONFINEMENT OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH**

1- In order for women to advance, men must assume the task of caring for family members thus sharing this responsibility with women. This will allow women to take on responsibilities, in the Church and Society instead of being confined to the home. Care is essential to sustain life, but it must be shared equally by men and women.

2.- It is necessary and urgent to create alliances with women of different beliefs, as well as to working with other associations and NGOs to achieve progress in achieving an equalitarian and just society and Church. We need to focus on what unites us and what we have in common, regardless of what separates us.

3.- We need to promote changes in the liturgy, both in form and content with the participation of all members of the community, especially women. We must celebrate life after a profound reflection but in a spirit of cheerfulness.

### **PANDEMIC AND FRAGILITY WORKSHOP**

1. The experience of the Pandemic has led us to experience HOPE & DESPAIR in the life of the planet. We understand that the cause of the current crisis is due to human activity on Nature. This attitude stems from a will to dominate, so as Christians we realise the urgency of making a personal and social change of this basic toxic attitude of, possession, domination, power, etc., present in our society. We must live and share other parameters based on the responsible care of others and on an experience of fraternity/filiation and respect for Nature.

2. - The fragility, which the pandemic has revealed, shows us all the benefits we have received and continue to receive. This gives rise to an attitude of gratitude, and at the same time we became aware of our privileges, which are not universal, and of our task to extend them, to share them, to create that fraternity and sorority that the pandemic has shown exists.

3. Draft Operational Conclusions: From our experience during the pandemic, from our fragility, we realise the urgency of carrying out a personal and structural change, both at a local and global level.

4.- We must cultivate CARE, SOLIDARITY, SUSTAINABILITY (consuming the essentials), GRATUITY and RESPONSIBILITY.

5.- We must become involved in activities aimed at changing the parameters that favour the life of the planet, at a local level (micro level): food, clothing, sharing salaries, recycling, at neighbourhood, district and family levels, etc.

6.- As believers, we need to explain the benefits of belonging and sharing as a COMMUNITY, in all its aspects.

7.- We must take clear critical positions on the political, economic and social levels (macro level) that affect the deterioration of the life of the planet and of humanity.

8.- We must strengthen HOPE by working on these objectives.

**FRATELLI TUTTI WORKSHOP** In our workshop the proposals/commitments are: Within the Church, to participate as RRCC (abbreviation of Redes Cristianas) in the Synod, which has already started, sending our proposals directly to the Synod's secretariat. The proposals would be the basis of the documents already worked on and it would be appropriate for the communities to review their contributions. Outside the Church: Work on the mentality and education in the commons<sup>1</sup>, to create a future with a different common sense<sup>2</sup>. Get more involved in popular mobilisations and actively participate in social movements; e.g. to support those affected by losing their homes due to unpaid mortgages because of unemployment, public health and education, the environment, etc. Social and political action must be combined. We should support a green-socialism, participate in Social organisations such as consumer groups and cooperatives; Put our money into financial cooperatives, where we can participate in the decision making. Withdraw from the electricity oligopoly and participate in energy cooperatives; We should have a commitment over the coming years to send articles about our work on the above issues for uploading on the RRCC website.

#### <sup>1</sup>What do we mean by "the commons"?

We mean by "the commons", in our Welfare State societies, basically the social rights recognised for all citizens in Section II of Chapter II of Title I of the Spanish Constitution, which include:

- Right to work, right to collective bargaining, the right to freedom of association and the right to strike.
- Right to social protection in cases of need (social security, sick leave, unemployment, retirement, maternity, etc.).
- Right to decent and adequate housing.
- Right to free and quality education.
- Right to health, a healthy environment,
- Right to access to culture and to all areas of public life in the community.
- Right to fair and progressive taxation, etc.

These rights, according to the Spanish Constitution itself, are binding on the public authorities who must guarantee their fulfilment:

- The public authorities "ensure the social, economic and legal protection of the family" (Article 39.1 EC).
- They are responsible for ensuring "health and safety at work" and guaranteeing "the necessary rest, by limiting the working day, periodic paid holidays and the promotion of suitable centres" (Article 40.2 EC).
- The public authorities "shall maintain a public social security system for all citizens that guarantees sufficient social assistance and benefits in situations of need, especially in the event of unemployment" (Article 41 EC).
- The "right to health protection" is recognised and protected (Article 43.1 EC). However, it is the responsibility of the public authorities to "organise and protect public health through preventive measures and the necessary benefits and services" (Article 43.2 EC).
- The public authorities "shall promote and protect access to culture" (Article 44.1 EC).
- The right to enjoy "an environment suitable for the development of the individual" (Article 45.1 EC) is recognised, and the public authorities are responsible for ensuring "the rational use of all natural resources in order to protect and improve the quality of life and to defend and restore the environment" (Article 45.2 EC).
- The right to enjoy decent and adequate housing is recognised and proclaimed, and the public authorities are entrusted with the task of promoting "the necessary conditions and [...] the relevant rules to give effect to this right" (Article 47 EC).
- The public authorities "shall guarantee, by means of adequate and periodically updated pensions, the economic sufficiency of citizens in old age" (Article 50 EC).

#### <sup>2</sup>What do we mean by a "different common sense"?

All these rights and the responsibility of the public authorities to maintain and increase them are threatened and in fact are being eliminated or degraded by successive labour, education and health reforms, privatisation of public housing, privatisation of pensions, outsourcing of old people's homes, etc. So that what is proclaimed in the Constitution as rights that must be guaranteed by the public authorities are becoming a source of business for large private companies and investment funds.

Progressively, the media, the education system, living conditions, etc. are segregating a "common sense" favourable to these practices that degrade the effective implementation of social rights (the "common" ones). The shareholders of these platforms for the creation and dissemination of "common sense", of neo-liberal ideological public opinion, end up being the same people who benefit from the privatisation process.

The UN rapporteurs on social rights have denounced: "The coronavirus reveals the catastrophic effects of the privatisation of basic services. The conversion of public services into a financial product has resulted in higher prices, a deterioration of their quality and the casualisation of the working conditions of their workers. Private companies do not respond to public interests, but to those of their shareholders.

When we say that we intend to "create a different common sense", we mean that, as far as we can, we will disseminate news, reflections, reports, etc. that are in line with defending and increasing the social rights recognised in the Constitution. And that, at present, is an alternative common sense to that of the published opinion of the ruling class.

## **WORKSHOP: SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF THE PANDEMIC: A LOOK AT THE REALITY OF THE WORKING WORLD AND WORKING CONDITIONS.**

### **Proposals for action from the workshop:**

1. To accompany the lives and struggles of people who live in vulnerable conditions caused by an unjust economic-labour system, taking co-responsibility in promoting a change of mentality in the contexts in which we move that places the person at the centre of the world of work, seeking the common good and valuing the merits of the really essential jobs (amongst others, all those related to caring for others where the majority of care workers are women). We must also review our forms of consumerism and use them as a powerful tool for political intervention.
2. Denounce the disproportionate profits and tax evasion of some companies by demanding a structural change in the institutions (public authorities, political parties, the Law, the Church...). And to promote a fairer distribution of existing work opportunities so that everyone can have a decent job and share in the "profits" (with a linear distribution of wage increases).
3. Cooperate in the construction and visibility of alternative experiences to the current way of living, both personally and socially. Make visible the problem of young people's access to the world of work and highlight their difficulties in obtaining adequate training. Refrain from extending the retirement age in order to make it possible for new generations to obtain jobs.
4. Specifically support immigrant workers, demanding a change in the law on foreigners that facilitates their exploitation and the death of thousands of immigrants in the open boats that are shipwrecked in the Mediterranean.

**SYNODALITY PROPOSAL:** Independently of participating in the Synod individually, the Coordinating Committee of Redes Cristianas agrees with the proposal of one of the workshops and proposes that we draw up a document in the name of Redes Cristianas, that we publicise and send to the Synod's Secretariat (and perhaps also to the dioceses). This document would draw on the long history of the Redes Cristianas member groups and their ideas about the Church. It would also gather opinions from other groups close to us, not necessarily Catholic, that can contribute from the peripheries. The idea is to have the document drafted and revised by the Redes Cristianas member groups by the middle of February 2022.

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