



The voice of Maria Dolens

n.50
Year IV
October 2024

Monthly newsletter from the Peace Bell Foundation

SPECIAL EDITION

The first 50 issues

By a fortunate coincidence, the 50th issue of “La Voce di Maria Dolens” will be available to readers just before 4 October, the birthday of our monumental Bell. And this isn't just any birthday, given that it comes right before the Bell's historic 100th anniversary.

In the challenging post-pandemic context, a great idea from the former Director, Senator, and teacher Alberto Robol, had led to the creation of the publication, though in a different format. The goal was to equip the Campana dei Caduti Foundation with a tool it could use to consistently and effectively share its many important activities with the public. This includes those performed under the partnerships established a few years ago with the two major multilateral organizations focused on human rights: the Council of Europe and the United Nations. This led to the decision to create a bilingual magazine, designed to appeal to readers beyond the typically 'regional' reach, such as members of the diplomatic corps, government officials, and representatives of foreign non-governmental organisations.

For this reason, we chose to focus on current international issues, addressing them with an approach based on an objective and balanced analysis of events and staying as far as possible away from bias or interpretations based on partiality.

We also keep an eye on the topics gradually emerging at the two multilateral forums in Strasbourg and New York, often drawing on contributions from respected insiders.

Not to mention giving due prominence to the events at Colle di Miravalle, often organised in collaboration and synergy with other significant local organisations, confirming the existence in the Foundation of two inseparable aspects, two sides of the same coin: its strong international vocation and its solid roots in Trentino.

Now, with its 50th issue since its debut in November 2020 going to press, it only seems fitting to recognise that “La Voce” has reached a certain level of “maturity,” reflected in a well-balanced mix of content—exemplified in this celebratory edition—and an appealing graphic design. This observation, of course, won't prevent it from adapting when needed, embracing new areas of focus and innovative approaches to strengthen its relationship with current readers and even broaden its audience.

I could not conclude my remarks without expressing my heartfelt thanks to the Editor of the publication, Marcello Filotei, for his unwavering personal dedication and the high quality of his professional collaboration over the past four years.

Reggente Marco Marsilli, Foundation President

Editor
Marcello Filotei
marcello.filotei@fondazionecampanadeicaduti.org

Enrolled at the ROC, an Italian association for
journalists specializing in Communications n. 35952

PEACE BELL FOUNDATION OF
ROVERETO

Colle di Miravalle - 38068 Rovereto
T. +39 0464.434412 - F. +39 0464.434084
info@fondazioneoperacampana.it
www.fondazioneoperacampana.it

DESIGN

OGP srl
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Our look on the world



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Global boiling

As the world's climate continues to heat up, the impact on our planet is becoming increasingly apparent. The rising temperatures are leading to more frequent and severe weather events, such as hurricanes, droughts, and wildfires. This is not only a threat to our environment but also to our health and well-being. We must take action now to reduce our carbon footprint and protect our planet for future generations.

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BRASIL
ELEIÇÕES 2022

Opposing visions

Presidential elections in Brazil have brought to the forefront two contrasting visions for the country's future. On one side, there is a vision of economic growth and social progress, while on the other, there is a vision of authoritarianism and social regression. The outcome of these elections will have a profound impact on the lives of millions of Brazilians.

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The future of BRICS

The BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) are emerging as a major force in the global economy. Their combined economic power is rivaling that of the G7 nations. This shift in global power dynamics has significant implications for international relations and the world's economic future.

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De bello libico

The conflict in Libya has entered a new phase, with various factions vying for control of the country. The international community has been unable to reach a consensus on how to resolve the conflict, leading to a prolonged and devastating war. The human toll of this conflict is staggering, and it is crucial that we find a way to bring peace to this region.

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Getting a piece of the "African" Pie

The African continent is a vast and diverse region with immense potential. However, it has long been a source of exploitation and resource extraction for other nations. It is time for Africa to take control of its own destiny and reap the benefits of its own resources.

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The Indian giant

India has emerged as a global superpower, with its economy growing rapidly and its influence expanding across the world. This rise to power has led to a re-evaluation of India's role in the international system and its impact on global politics.

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UKRAINE
A strong and unambiguous response

The conflict in Ukraine has highlighted the need for a strong and unambiguous international response. The aggression against a sovereign nation is unacceptable, and the international community must stand in solidarity with Ukraine to bring an end to the violence.

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The world at the polls

As global elections take place across the world, the political landscape is shifting. Voters are demanding more transparency, accountability, and action on issues such as climate change and social justice. The outcome of these elections will shape the future of our world.

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Two Flags Two States

The relationship between the United States and Puerto Rico remains a contentious issue. The debate over statehood for Puerto Rico is ongoing, and it is essential that we address the needs and desires of the people of Puerto Rico.

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Sultan Erdogan

The leadership of Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Turkey has been a subject of international debate. His policies and actions have had a significant impact on the region and the world, and it is important to continue to monitor and analyze his influence.

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Kamala, surprise contender

Kamala Harris has emerged as a surprise contender in the 2024 US presidential election. Her rise to prominence is a testament to her political skills and her ability to connect with voters across the country.

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Environment and Defence

The intersection of environmental protection and national defense is becoming increasingly important. Climate change poses a significant threat to global security, and we must take action to address this challenge.

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The return of Tokyo

The return of Tokyo to its former glory is a testament to the resilience and strength of the Japanese people. The city has rebuilt itself after the devastation of World War II and is now a global leader in technology and innovation.

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The Nobel Prize for women

The Nobel Prize for women is a recognition of their significant contributions to society and the world. It is a testament to their strength, resilience, and ability to overcome adversity.

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A void to fill

The loss of a loved one leaves a void that is difficult to fill. It is a natural part of the grieving process, and it is important to take time to heal and find meaning in life again.

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Environment and Defence

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N.23 - AUGUST 2022
POETS AND THE WAR

A blade of grass in the mouth

«I see a sorrowful and more and more sordid world in front of me ... The word 'hope' is cancelled entirely from my vocabulary". Pier Paolo Pasolini did not compromise. Poets cannot compromise. One hundred years after his birth, the words of the great intellectual and visionary are only not still relevant, but disturbing, because nothing seems to have changed. It is no use wondering what he would have written, because he has already written it: "Did you know, to sin does not mean to do harm. Not doing good, that's what sinning means".

Beyond the responsibilities, and the economic, political and geopolitical causes of the horror we are witnessing after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, what seems to be lacking are the intellectuals - the poets, writers, painters, and composers. Somebody who might use their abilities to say what they think, to look towards the future, into the human soul, or at least deep into their

own. For example, as Quasimodo did: "You are still the one with the stone and the sling, man of my time. (...) I have seen you: it was you, with your exact science set on extermination, without love, without Christ. You have killed again, as always, as your fathers killed, as the animals that saw you for the first time killed". But there is no need to go so far back in time; we can go to our own times with the Syrian poet Maram al-Masri, who took refuge in Paris when fleeing from the horrors of the war that has tormented her country for years: "Have you seen him? Carrying his infant in his arms, advancing with magisterial step, head up, back straight ... as if the infant should be happy and proud to be carried like this in his father's arms ... if only he was alive."

This may all be completely useless; it will always be the same people who pay the price and we must resign ourselves to Bertolt Brecht's logic: "The war which is coming is not the first one. There were other wars before it. When the last one came to an end there were conquerors and conquered. Among the conquered the common people starved. Among the conquerors the common people starved too". Or we should stand and watch because, as Wisława Szymborska reminds us: "After every war someone has to clean up. Things won't straighten themselves up, after all. Someone has to push the rubble to the sides of the road, so the corpse-filled wagons can pass. Someone has to get mired in scum and ashes, sofa-springs, splintered glass, and bloody rags. (...) In the grass which has overgrown causes and effects, someone must be stretched out, blade of grass in his mouth, gazing at the clouds". Perhaps dear Wisława is right, but at least we can try and avoid the "blade of grass in the mouth". It is too painful.



N.22 - JULY 2022

HAPPENING AT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

The “black man” in our homes

You can bar the doors, take all kinds of precautions, but the risk is that the “black man” is already in your house. Once upon a time children were warned against the risk of being lured: «Don't accept candy from strangers». An unconscious pre-globalization racism identified danger with the colour of the stranger par excellence. But the danger does not come from far away as most of the time the torturer lives in the next room, or in the same bed, and is male.

Domestic violence is more and more widespread. The laws that sanction it exist, but they are not always applied with rigor. For this reason, the Council of Europe has entrusted a group of experts with the task of verifying the state of implementation of the Convention on preventing and combating violence against

A group of international experts calls for more state interventions against domestic violence

women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), and results are not encouraging.

Grevis (Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence) believes that many countries do not pay sufficient attention to the issue. In the recently published annual report, specialists describe the strengths and weaknesses of states with regard to the implementation of articles 26, 31 and 45, relating to victims of domestic violence and

decisions regarding child custody and visiting rights. The report indicates that, while noting that all states have taken satisfactory measures, «there is still a long way to go», as implementation of the regulations is inconsistent.

A female victim of domestic violence who abandons her partner-abuser, for example, is often alone in facing threats against her children, and the report notes an «alarming rate of murders of women and children».

Compared to the past, however, attention to the phenomenon has increased and the laws are adapting. In Montenegro and Italy, for example, Grevis observed that acts of domestic violence committed in the presence of children lead to more severe penalties, and in some cases are equated with child maltreatment. In Andorra and Montenegro, legislation maintains that witnessing this form of violence is equivalent to having suffered it directly. The legislation of the Principality of Andorra defines «victims» as women who suffer forms of violence based on gender or who witness the mistreatment of children. The aim is to acknowledge their right to social, psychological and medical support. The experts also expressed satisfaction with the recent amendment of Article 156 of the Civil Code of Spain, which eliminates the obligation to obtain the consent of both parents so that a child can benefit from interventions in psychological support and counseling. The abusive parent can thus no longer prevent their children from attending psychotherapy sessions.

Steps forward are therefore being taken. Women and children are not out of danger, but they have more means with which to try to escape from dramatic situations. The fact that the person who threatens their safety is often the one who should have protected them says a lot about human nature.



N.17 - FEBRUARY 2022
HAPPENING AT THE UN

The razor of shame

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE
FOR FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

All you need is a razor, sometimes a razor blade. It hurts, it's true, but grandmother, mother, all your older sisters and friends have already done it. Almost all. It's normal. After all, it's time to get married, to grow up. And then what would the people, the village, the religious leaders, the men say. The men in particular.

How can a little girl stand up to her whole world to prevent being subjected to genital mutilation? She can't, at least by herself. It would take an enlightened father, because the mother generally has no say in the matter. There are some, but they are rare. It takes a man who must have courage, but also the economic capacity to abandon everything and change his life. It seldom happens, and this is how every year around three million girls in the name of tradition are subjected to this unacceptable practice, which has permanent physical and psychological consequences.

Most of the young women who are subjected to mutilations are found in 29 African countries while a much smaller proportion live in Asia, in Muslim-dominated areas. The phenomenon is complex, it includes traditional practices ranging from incision to partial or total removal of the external genitalia, and can also vary greatly in different areas. Despite being recogni-

zed internationally as an extreme violation of women's rights and integrity, this remains a scourge that cannot be eradicated. The United Nations has organized the «International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation» every year since 2012, on 6 February, so that we don't forget this. The aim is to keep the spotlight on a universal problem that also affects Western Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand, where many immigrant families continue to respect this tradition.

The mutilations are carried out mainly by women, sometimes midwives, rarely obstetricians. Their work is not considered of particular value, the remuneration is low.

Most of the young women who undergo these practices are found in 29 African countries while a much smaller proportion live in predominantly Islamic regions of Asia

Their livelihood is largely linked to the outcome of these interventions. Ladies who are no longer young, who have been victims of the same practice, over time have had to accept it and then they themselves become the instrument of what the UN defines as «the manifestation of a deep and rooted gender inequality».

Maybe some young girls have thought of allying with their friends and rebelling against their grandmother, their mother, all their older sisters and especially their father. But these are things you only see in television series. Indeed not even there. Nobody tells these stories on Netflix, and often not even in the newspapers.



N.46 - JUNE 2024

FROM 8 JUNE TO 8 OCTOBER THE
EXHIBITION «HUMAN RIGHTS? #DIGNITY»

A look at poverty

INTERVIEW WITH THE CURATOR ROBERTO RONCA

On June 8th the exhibition «Human Rights? #Dignity» opens at the *Fondazione Campana Dei Caduti*. It was created by Debora Salardi and Roberto Ronca who is also the artistic director and will remain open until October 8th. We asked Ronca why he decided to use visual art as the medium through which to promote peace and fight poverty. «Through art, created and enjoyed – he explained – people can express their emotions, share their stories and

create a sense of community. Art can also be used to raise public awareness of social problems and to promote change. Precisely for this reason in this edition Human Rights asked artists from all over the world to focus on Goal 1 of the United Nations 2030 Agenda which aims to “eradicate poverty in all its forms everywhere in the world”. Everyone must be guaranteed a minimum economic and social subsistence that allows them to maintain an adequate quality of life with regard to food, health,



Theo Hues, «Why? », (Germany)

education and environment. In a word, dignity. This is why in 2024 Human Rights? has the tag “Dignity”».

The dignity of every human being, that is, the value that every man possesses for the simple fact of being man and existing, is what makes a person a unique and one-of-a-kind individual. The value of individual existence is therefore the authentic foundation of human dignity. But how does this become action?



Nobxhiro Santana, «#240314-03 “Expectations from the equinoctial shore” », (Japan)

The President, members of the Board and collaborators of the *Fondazione Campana dei Caduti* support the family of the foundation's fourth president, Sen. Prof. Alberto Robol, sharing the very sad news, with tremendous sentiment and deep sorrow, of his passing which occurred in Trento in the early hours of today.

During his long mandate (2003-2020) at Colle di Miravalle, which culminated in a crowning achievement of exceptional public activity also carried out at a national level, President Robol gave an extraordinary boost to the foundation's activity by having it approved as an internationally recognized centre in the sector of the culture of peace and the affirmation of human rights.

His example and the memory of him will remain ingrained in all those who had the privilege of collaborating with him and were able to appreciate his excellent intellectual qualities, unconditional passion and exceptional vision.

Rovereto, 05/29/2024

Reggente Marco Marsilli



We are all aware that situations of extreme poverty exist and that there are entire nations whose citizens live in conditions of total and continuous poverty. Changing your destiny, especially if you are born in these places, is not easy. The 2030 agenda examines this very clearly, bringing concrete, real and dramatic facts and numbers. In developing areas, one in five people still lives on less than \$1.25 a day, and there are millions who earn even less. Poverty generates not only hunger and malnutrition, but also limited access to

education and other basic services, discrimination and social exclusion, as well as a lack of participation in decision-making processes. Economic growth must be inclusive, with the aim of creating sustainable jobs and promoting equality. The fight against poverty is an important commitment that concerns everyone. We all have a responsibility towards a fair redistribution of resources. It could happen to anyone, at any time, to find themselves in conditions of poverty and difficulty.

also, and above all, show the hope and commitment related to the real possibilities of recovering from them. The event therefore focuses more on goals, for only with a strong sense of community and the desire for real change can this world succeed in advancing the destinies of those who, due to birth or unfortunate events, have not had the possibility of a life with dignity. We have entrusted the artists with the difficult but fundamental task of showing everyone how to concretely move towards a more equal society.



Elena Vichi, «La sete», (Italy)

What role can art play?

In this event CreActivity, the company that coordinates and manages the project, asked the artists to raise public awareness, prompt reflection and promote a profound sense of community and belonging, by depicting unexpected and in no way ordinary images that are real and immediate. The concepts that accompany the works are incisive and should inspire reflection in the public. As in every edition of «Human Rights?» it follows its creative vocation in wanting to not only expose inequalities and social injustices but



Petr Vlach, «Constant adaptation to changes», (Czech Republic)

N.33 - MAY 2023

IT HAPPENED TODAY

Morricone at the Bell

«Once upon a time there was... – A king! – my young readers will immediately shout». No, a group of composers, and the readers aren't young. «But what do they have to do with Peace?». They are relevant, first of all because they were particularly good, and good artists always work for dialogue, tolerance, and understanding between different cultures, and secondly because they formed the jury for a competition entitled «Instruments of Peace». It was May 22, 2010, it was almost hot, many scores

arrived, and seated around a table were the president, Ennio Morricone, the vice president Salvatore Sciarrino, Jesús Rueda Azcuaga, Michel Tabachnik, a composer who is also a great conductor, and Marcello Filotei who writes music, organizes competitions and directs this publication. A few months later, on July 9, there was the final concert at the Colle in which the winning piece was performed: *Tre Forme dell'infinito informe* by Andrea Portera. But the format of the Competition also demanded something else: the president of the jury was commissioned a piece with

the same ensemble and with the same text offered to the participants, large orchestra, baritone and verses of Peace taken from the Old Testament, the Gospels and the Koran. Thus, it was that Ennio Morricone, a composer for whom any presentation would be reductive, decided to make Maria Dolens a gift by writing *Jerusalem*, and the word "gift" must be understood in the literal sense. The world premiere performance was entrusted to the Rai National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Daniel Kawka featuring the voice of Christian Miedl. Radio3Rai enthusiasts were given the chance to listen to the concert live. The program also included Brahms' *Tragic Overture and Symphony n. 4 "Tragic"* by Schubert. In the end, it was enough for the radio listeners to switch off their device while for the 5,000 who crowded the open-air theatre and the Memorial Garden on the Colle, it took some time to get home. Sometimes the roads aren't as wide as the passion for music and for peace.



The work of the jury: Ennio Morricone in the foreground, Marcello Filotei in the centre, Jesús Rueda Azcuaga in the background



The jury under the Bell, from left: Michel Tabachnik, Ennio Morricone, Salvatore Sciarrino, Marcello Filotei, Jesús Rueda Azcuaga