

PEACE AS A COMMON GOOD IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

SECOND PEACEMED PROJECT MEETING IN ROME

The **PeaceMed** project, an initiative led by Caritas Italy, aims to **promote a culture of peace, intercultural and interreligious dialogue, as well as sustainable development in the Mediterranean region and beyond.** The project also seeks to create a Mediterranean network of organizations committed to peace, in order to foster cooperation, the sharing of experiences, and collective action. This program aspires to strengthen the capacities of partner organizations to better respond to challenges related to conflicts, social cohesion, and the construction of more inclusive societies.



From October 29 to November 3, 2024, representatives of all the organizations participating in the project, coming from several Mediterranean and Horn of Africa countries, gathered in Rome for the second project meeting. This event was a key moment to consolidate the PeaceMed network, share progress, and align visions concerning the next steps.

One of the major aspects of this meeting was the discussion surrounding the project's central activity: identifying NGOs active in the Mediterranean region working on peace, intercultural dialogue, and social cohesion. **This work will help identify committed actors, understand local dynamics, and build a solid network—a true collaborative platform dedicated to promoting peace.**



BUILDING A PEACE TOOLBOX TOGETHER

This meeting also allowed participants to co-design the training toolbox that each organization will implement in its own country. Developed collectively, **this toolbox will bring together methods, approaches, and educational resources to train local actors in peace and dialogue.**

Each partner organization will then adapt the training to its national context, in order to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. This participatory approach strengthens ownership of the project and ensures the sustainable dissemination of skills.

DEEPENING KNOWLEDGE AND DRAWING INSPIRATION

Participants also had the opportunity to deepen their knowledge through thematic workshops and moments of exchange. One of the highlights was the visit to the project's main partner, **Rondine - Cittadella della Pace**, an institution renowned for its unique method of conflict transformation, based on **encounter, listening, and the deconstruction of prejudices**. This approach represents a key reference for PeaceMed in strengthening skills in peaceful conflict management.



A PILGRIMAGE TO THE VATICAN IN THE SPIRIT OF THE JUBILEE AND A COLLECTIVE DYNAMIC FILLED WITH HOPE

The program also included a visit to the Vatican, offering participants a powerful spiritual moment thanks to a pilgrimage organized for the Jubilee Year. This moment of reflection allowed participants to reconnect the pursuit of peace with its human, spiritual, and universal dimension.

This second meeting confirmed the partners' determination to **work together to build a more peaceful, inclusive, and united Mediterranean**. Thanks to the commitment of the participating organizations and the support of Caritas Italy, the PeaceMed project is moving decisively toward a shared goal: making peace a common good, embodied by trained, connected, and committed local actors.

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