



February 2022

Invitation to the Andante Study Days 2022

Dear Members of Andante and Friends,

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to the next Andante Study Days

A Vulnerable World calls for Creative Women

1st – 6th June 2022

International Culture and Education Centre Lizari, Latvia

The vulnerable world appeals to all of us, also to the inventive spirit of women. It concerns challenges regarding environment and sustainability. How can we protect our planet for the next generations?

In his encyclical letter *Laudato Si* (June 2015) and many times afterwards, Pope Francis called us to take care of our common home. Climate change, sustainability, ecology and the environment are key words that require global attention.

Andante, the European Alliance of Catholic Women's Organisations, also wants to focus on these items. During the Study Days in Lizari International Culture and Education Centre, Latvia, the issue of sustainability will be approached from different points of view.

Four speakers from different European countries, with various backgrounds and experiences, will urge the participants of the Study Days to act for their common future: The Dutch theologian Trees van Montfoort who published in 2019 her highly appreciated book "Green Theology" (in Dutch "Groene Theologie") will go deeper into the relation of religion, belief, sustainability and maintenance of our planet. She will give an inspiring overview of how Christian faith can give a motivation to care for this earth. Vroni Peterhans (Switzerland) will focus on Church and Creation, Mary McHugh (Great Britain) on Medicine and Creation, and Iluta Lace (Latvia) will talk about women's rights and gender equality. Various workshops will be offered in the afternoons. Have a look at the detailed programme!

We are sure that this important topic of sustainability will inspire and motivate European women to take part in the Andante Study Days.

The Study Days will start on Wednesday, 1st June 2022, with dinner and end on Monday, 6th June 2022 after breakfast. They include the General Assembly of Andante, which will be accessible for all participants.

Participation

We want to invite women from all levels of the Andante member organisations – from the local, the regional, the diocesan and the national levels, as well as Friends of Andante and other interested women to come to the Study Days.

As our working languages are English, French and German, it is necessary that the participants are proficient in at least one of these languages. There will be simultaneous translation provided and discussion groups in all three languages.

Andante Liturgy

Already now we ask those who want to prepare a part for the ANDANTE liturgy please contact Vroni Peterhans: vroni.peterhans@wgt.ch

Cultural Evening

At our Study Days, it is a good custom to organise a cultural evening on the last evening with contributions from our member organisations. There will be a Latvian dance performance, and Latvian songs will be sung accompanied by guitar. We would be very pleased if we can expect a contribution or a performance from the participants and delegates as well.

Market Place

On Thursday evening there will be a market place: a market full of stalls where you can buy everything like: things that make you wiser (leaflets, booklets), things that make you happy (liqueur, self-knitted socks, bottles of oil), things that you want to give to others (a song, a poem, a bite of fresh air) and things that bring you closer to heaven (prayers, meditation texts, etc.). These can simply be sold for the price you want. The possibilities and the inspiring trifles can be sold for a small (symbolic) price. With the revenue, we will support Martinshaus, a house for women in need in Liepaja, Latvia.

Travel information

The airport to fly to is Riga airport (RIX).

There is no public transport to Lizari from the airport. Therefore we will organise transfer busses.

In order to arrange the transfers, we need your arrival and departure times and flight numbers as indicated in the registration form.

Registration

Please notice that you have to register via our website www.andante-europa.net for the Study Days. The registration is possible from now on.

Costs / Participation fee

Participation fee	600 €
Member Organisations from Eastern Europe	150 €
Transfer from/ to Airport Riga	20 €

The real price p.p. is approximately 850 €. For those of you for whom this price is possible to pay, we will be happy if you can pay it.

The participation fee includes lodging, all meals, coffee/tea during the breaks, interpretation and technical services, excursion to the Pilgrimage Church of Skaistkalne and Palace of Rundale with rose garden on Sunday.

As there are limited rooms, we offer you twin bedrooms. If for any (medical) reason you want a single room, we ask you kindly to write this to giselahoeve@gmail.com

Please note the payment at the ANDANTE bank account till the 20th May 2022.

**ANDANTE Europese Alliantie v.Kath. Vrouwenver
NL 1506 TX Zaandam,
IBAN: NL68 INGB 0005 1432 88
BIC: INGBNL2A**

For any questions please contact: secretariat@andante-europa.net

Accommodation

The International Culture and Education Centre Lizari is situated in a beautiful landscape 60 km away from Riga Airport. You can go for a little stroll in the lunch breaks, we will have the opportunity to do some workshops on the outside, and there is also the possibility to use the sauna and to take a swim, so do not forget your bathing suit!



Address

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Further practical information will be sent to all participants closer to the event. If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask.

We hope that the pandemic will not interfere with our plans. We are looking forward to your coming and we are waiting for you in Latvia.

For the Coordinating Committee of Andante



Vroni Peterhans and Sabine Slawik, Co-Chairs