



To:  
Ferdinand KAINEDER, Brigitte KNELL, Katharina  
RENNER  
**KAÖ Katholische Aktion Österreich**

Rome, 8 May 2024

Dear Ferdinand, Briditte and Katharina,

we are happy to share with all of you the embrace of all the CA of the world that are part of the International Forum of Catholic Action: we wish the CA of Austria "Happy 75th Anniversary"!

IFCA has a special bond with Austria, which is a founding country and where we held our first Assembly precisely thirty years ago, in 1994 in Vienna with the theme **"That the world may believe** (Jn 17:21). Men and women of the Church in the heart of the world. Men and women of the world in the heart of the Church."

Also linked to that Assembly is the memory of Cardinal Eduardo F. Pironio, beatified in December 2023, who encouraged us with a magisterium that still guides us. His report in Vienna is our point of reference.

We wish you a fruitful meeting on your 75th Anniversary.

The chosen theme 'Pilgern im Jetzt' emphasises that the laity of Catholic Action are called to live in the present with the whole Church, faithful to the Gospel among the men and women of our time, picking up the baton from those who have gone before us and sowing the seeds day by day, in our parishes, in our dioceses, in our cities, paving the way for those who will continue the journey.

Last 25 April, meeting with Italian Catholic Action, Pope Francis encouraged CA in Italy and the CA of the world with these demanding words :


*Friends, you will be all the more a presence of Christ the more you know how to hold and support every brother in need with merciful and compassionate arms, as lay people engaged in the events of the world and history, rich in a great tradition, trained and competent in what concerns your responsibilities, and at the same time humble and fervent in the life of the spirit. In this way you will be able to make concrete signs of change in accordance with the Gospel on the social, cultural, political and economic levels in the contexts in which you operate.*

We will join your celebration with a prayer for peace \*

An affectionate greeting to each and every one of you, on behalf of the Secretariat, especially on behalf of the continental coordinators Giuseppe Notarstefano (AC Italy) and Marija Cachia (AC Malta)

In Christ

  
**Eva Fernández Mateo**  
FIAC Secretariat Coordinator

  
**+ Eduardo Horacio García**  
Ecclesiastical Assistant

  
**Maria Grazia Tibaldi**  
Secretary

\* we would like to remind you of the invitation to spread the UMPP (One Minute for Peace) initiative of the 8th of June 2024 in Austria