



Assisi, 2 March 2020

**Dear young friends of the Economy of Francesco,**

first of all, we wish to thank you for your generosity, enthusiasm and joy in responding to the call for becoming the main actors of The Economy of Francesco event, to be held in Assisi from 24 to 28 March 2020.

The preparatory stage of the meeting required a strong commitment and passion from many of us. It witnessed the involvement of several hundred people all over the world, and sparked considerable and widespread interest, which resulted in over 200 preparatory meetings, with your protagonism in many cases. But, above all, it took substantial shape thanks to each of you: 2000 young economists and entrepreneurs, coming from 115 countries worldwide. Your inspiring stories deal with commitment, innovation, courage. Each and every one of you is essential to design the Economy of Francesco, today.

In order to encourage the best progress of the initiative, given the objective difficulty that so many people are currently experiencing when travelling internationally and nationally, due to the growing COVID-19 outbreak, **the Organizing Committee, in agreement with the Holy See, decided to postpone the event and schedule it for November 19-21, 2020, preceded by two days of pre-event (to be held on November 17-18, 2020).** This choice is guided by the willingness to ensure that the event takes place with greater peace of mind for all participants, nobody excluded.

We need to change pace. All of us were already absorbed in the final preparatory stage of the event. Now, we have to slow down and proceed along this “path” for a few more months before meeting in Assisi, but we will do it with even stronger joy, motivation and, above all, together with you. The Economy of Francesco is a process that has already started, and in the face of this situation and its consequences, which we know are challenging for many of you, we wish to remain united, as we are confident that we will be able to overcome difficulties, with a collaborative and positive spirit. Nothing that has already been done will be lost. The following months available will be useful to further explore the preparatory paths we have embarked on, starting from the work of the 12 thematic villages, that will soon get all participants involved.

Meanwhile, we invite you to participate in an international Webinar on March 28th, to get to know each other and proceed together along this path towards the Covenant with Pope Francis.

Our warmest greetings to each and every one of you.

+ Domenico Sorrentino, Bishop of Assisi

Prof. Luigino Bruni, LUMSA University

**IMPORTANT**

As we are confident about your attendance on the new scheduled dates, we inform you that bookings made via the tour operator working with the Committee are maintained, and are automatically postponed:

for pre-event registered young participants: from 16 evening to 21 November 2020

for event registered young participants: from 18 evening to 21 November 2020

under the same conditions established and confirmed for the event in March.

**We kindly ask you to adjust your flight tickets to the new schedule, as soon as possible. For those of you encountering objective difficulties in ensuring attendance on the new dates, please contact [staff@francescoeconomy.org](mailto:staff@francescoeconomy.org) by March 20th, 2020.**