

CONFIDENTIAL (R)

Fundação Cuidar o Futuro



To the leaders of Pax Romana - MIEC Federations

Dear friends:

A short time ago, the Holy Father, in his message to the UMOFC Congress pointed out the special contribution of feminine apostolate to the work of the Church. He also insisted near the organizations affiliated in the Union, on the necessity of an adequate formation of women to their specific apostolate, in Truth, Love and action.

P.R. cannot remain indifferent to this appeal of the Holy Father. On the contrary, P.R. recognizes the very special responsibility of university women in the apostolic mission of the Church. In fact, the high culture received in the University is a decisive element of a vocation, whose principal elements are: The Love and the Search of Truth and the service of the society of men on the very beginning of its organic life - on the cultural life, which vivifies it and on the structures, which integrate it.

The existence of a feminine vocation (it doesn't matter the terms by which it was be defined) is an undeniable fact in our epoch. So, the fulfillment of this vocation is, for each woman, the key of her human destiny. The discovery of its deep theoretical implications, as well as the understanding of the situations rooted the daily reality are indispensable elements of every authentic formation of girls.

Our Federations have as their most important task "the formation of adult Christians, whose intelectual life must be illuminated by Faith". So, the girls of our Federations have the right to hope that the group gives them some possibilities of formation, as adult Christians as well as women. But women, really conscious of the fact that they belong, through the inner of her being, to the body of Church, as free and responsible persons, and that, for this fact, they must fulfil their specific task and contribute in this way, to the growth and expansion of Church".

This formation has not as an end, the segregation of women from the social life to build a closed "feminine society". On the contrary, this formation, at the same time as it gives to the woman, the possibility to define herself truly, in her personal destiny, gives her the conditions of a most fruitful irradiation in human society.

But the study and the reflection about the feminine vocation have also a great importance to the apostolic life of the Federation. Each catholic group is in the University, the presence of the Church. It must take there the apostolic anguish of a living catholicism.



* This apostolic anguish must be transmitted by the group to each student, both men and women. And, as the group is becoming conscious of the feminine values, the apostolic action near the girl students appears in a more real plan, it does not ask them something vague, but it reaches them on the inmost of their human destiny.

Pax Romana is conscious of these tasks, which belong to the National Federations and to the International Movement itself. Long ago (almost since its beginning) P.R. has tried to do a formative and informative work in this aspect. (In the annexed appendix A you can find a short indication of the initiatives taken by the Movement in an international plan. However, we have not yet been able to set up a systematic work, nor even to discover the general lines of a specific plan of formation for girls, which might be adopted by all the Federations. Now, it seems to us, it is the time to do it! It is for us, for each one of us, to contribute with our effort and our enthusiasm. The coming society, the new world is to be built by us. Will it be a world of peace, of love, of serenity, of joyful hope of God! The answer is, in a special way, in the heart of each woman. But we cannot leave this answer to the spontaneity of each one. As leaders, it belongs to each one of you, this real feminine work of education. In order to help you, we join a Bibliography, which is far from exhausting the existent sources, but however, it will help you in a first work of study.

Besides that, at the A.I. we have decided to organize a meeting of girls, this year, in the plan of P.R. A short inquiry (see appendix C) has been made to prepare this meeting (the details of which we'll send you within some weeks. We suggest you a meeting with some girls, already (or potentially) interested in this subject to answer the inquiry. You must make an effort and send us the answers until the end of November! This will make it possible for us to prepare the meeting, according to the real interests of our Federations.