

## THE MEAN 's DECALOGUE

1. We go to Kiev because we have decided not to consent to war as an event and as a totalitarian thought which, like a poison, conquers heads and hearts. War feeds the friend-enemy, good-bad, weapons-non-weapons binary scheme that gradually designs a world without the possibility of understanding. We have decided to leave this scheme and this logic in search of thoughts and relationships in which an understanding is at least desirable;
2. Ukraine is neither the stage for our reasoning nor for our feelings. We don't go to Ukraine to say we are good and peaceful. We go to be next to the Ukrainians who have been attacked and martyred for many, too many, weeks. We are there to embrace them and share their pain;
3. Our action does not come from above but is prepared, shared, discussed, with Ukrainian civil society and its organizations and institutions. We are with them and beside them to ask for the silence of weapons and the withdrawal of the aggressor and to offer a concrete hand to the most fragile and to minors;
4. Our action is also inspired and shared by the many organizations involved in Italy and throughout Europe (starting with those in neighboring countries) which for over 100 days have welcomed and helped Ukrainian refugees and internally displaced people, millions and millions of people, women, children, elderly. Our action does not replace theirs but wants to exalt it as a concrete gesture of peace that today must be invoked and asked out loud;
5. Our action wants to propose nonviolence as a weapon for pacification. Gandhi also said: "Nonviolence is the greatest force available to mankind. More powerful than the most powerful weapon of destruction that mankind can conceive." Our bodies along with those of many Ukrainians and Europeans marching towards Kiev and then in Lviv, Kharkiv, Černivci they want to be a weapon of mass construction. More arms for hugs, no more war, we Mean it.
6. French foreign minister Robert Schuman, in nascent post-war Europe, said. "World peace can only be safeguarded with creative efforts proportional to the dangers that threaten it". A very topical invitation. This is why ours does not want to be a symbolic initiative, but a mass initiative even in a context that will require our presence to be diluted in time and space. A mass initiative of which no one is the owner but which everyone contributes to create and sustain;
7. We believe that in the international political arena Europe must act as a more autonomous and decisive actor capable as such of putting an end to this conflict and that the mobilization of European civil societies is decisive for putting this claim in the foreground;
8. We believe in particular that it is no coincidence that this European movement was born from an Italian initiative. In fact, from our history and political elaboration we can draw two ideas that are more topical today than ever, relating to the Creative Management of differences and conflicts: the drafting of our Constitution in which opposing political parties have dialogued and have come to declare the repudiation of war as an instrument for the solution of conflicts between states and the proposal of the Civil Peace Corps advanced by

Alex Langer in 1994 to the European Parliament as an intervention device in conflict zones capable of preventing escalation and rebuilding cooperation. Italy and Europe must forcefully and decisively revive the existence of the Civil Peace Corps. We will be demanding this from Ukraine

9. Today to rethink peace, we must rethink Europe. This is why our initiative takes place on 11 July., a significant date for two anniversaries. It is the day of St. Benedict patron of Europe who, as Paul VI said proclaiming him patron, "knew how to instill spiritual unity in Europe by virtue of which peoples divided on a linguistic, ethnic and cultural level felt they were constituting a single people". But July 11 is also the anniversary of the worst massacre in Europe since the end of World War II, which took place in Srebrenica between July 11 and July 19, 1995, when Serbian forces in Bosnia massacred 8,000 Muslim boys and men under the eyes of the UN and Europe. July 11th is therefore the date of historical failure and hope;
10. Thinking about peace today means first of all having an idea of a desirable future for the humankind against the many dystopian futures that moviemaking has been preparing us for for decades. Putting in place new forms and techniques of dialogue has nothing to do with an image of pacifists and the nonviolent as beautiful souls intent on "playing at peace" or declaring themselves "neutralists" while Ukrainians are forced to fly anti-tank missiles. Thinking peace means preparing it through a Europe of citizens as Altiero Spinelli said, a Europe of peoples and not of nationalisms, as Giorgio La Pira said. It is time for us to stand on the shoulders of the giants.