



### 2021: Will it finally be the year we start to reverse climate change?



Above: 4 consequences of climate change. Top: from left to right: Denialist **Charles Koch**, US industrialist; former US N° 1 **Donald Trump**; former France N° 1 **Nicolas Sarkozy**; Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Brexit formaliser **Boris Johnson**; Russia's N° 1 **Vladimir Putin**; N° 1 from Brazil **Jair Bolsonaro**; leader of the ultra-right VOX in Spain **Santiago Abascal Conde** and tycoon spokesman for new pandemics **Bill Gates**.

Pages 3 and 4



#### ARCHITECT AND ACADEMIC DESIGNS MULTI-FAMILY VILLA IN TUNISIA

Left: partial view of the path that connects the different units of the Villa. Bottom: **Leila Ayoub** says:

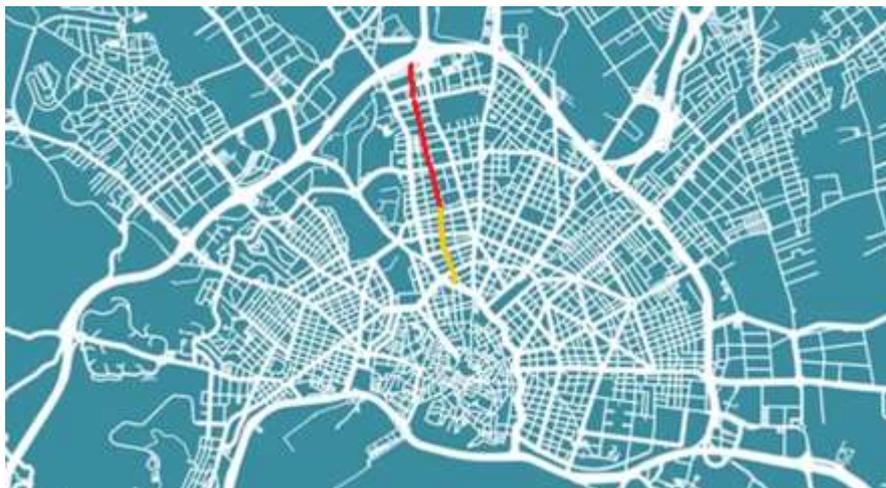
*“Designing a habitat, for me, means designing a way of life; in terms of places, atmospheres, moments of calm, participation, relaxation, sociability and meditation”.*



Page 7

#### ARC•PEACE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN IMPORTANT URBAN AXIS IN THE CITY OF PALMA

Page 6



#### EDUCATION IN PROGRESS OF ITALY AND ARC•PEACE PARTNERS IN ARCHITECTURAL URBAN PROJECT

Right: **Dr. Aldo Cammara**. He promotes a joint action based on the EU Program for the dissemination of good practices that will benefit young people from Messina, Italy, with the support of professionals from Palma, Spain. Page 8



### PREPARATIONS BEGIN FOR THE XXI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Postponed in 2020 due to the pandemic, an attempt is being made to do it virtually and in person in July of this year.

**Join ARC • PEACE International now from your country and participate in this important call!**

Editorial – Page 2

## Let's prevent the muscle of Participation from atrophying!

It is a fact that with Covid-19 a fear that paralyzed many activities took over the planet. **So much so, that not a few humans were disturbed by the ability to think.** When we find it difficult to think before acting, we multiply our problems. The mind is a powerful muscle in the human being. It needs to be constantly exercised; otherwise we are in serious danger of atrophying it and falling into laziness.

In Newsletter No. 65, when referring to the problem that ARC•PEACE has suffered for a long time we cited the central character of Shakespeare's great play in which Hamlet immortalizes the phrase: **"To be or not to be; that is the question"**<sup>1</sup>.

We remember the explanation given to the viewer at the beginning of the play: **"This is the tragedy of a man who could not make up his mind."**

Indecision is a symptom of this mental pathology that induces fatigue and anticipates definitive atrophy. Among the admirers of the great thinkers, not a few ignore that those who transcend are women and men who not only think; **they work too!** Almost all of them work very hard. Otherwise science would not advance as it does.

The Executive Committee (EC) of ARC•PEACE is actually in the process of organizing the XXI General Assembly (GA), postponed in July 2020 due to the pandemic. The first step has already been taken, with the letter sent to all members and supporters of the organization, announcing the XXI GA.

Now the Agenda to be discussed in that Assembly is being drawn up. Among other issues, the Fundraising Committee analyses the update of the Manual that it published after the XVII GA, 2012. In addition, the ARC•PEACE's **Refoundation Project** was already circulated at the beginning of this year; something postponed even before the departure of mentors **Sven Thiberg** and **Dick Urban Vestbro**.

All this is part of the program to be carried out in parallel under the motto: **'Participation is a Right'**. To awaken the action, the Newsletter Editor repeats the guide already published in October 2020:

- I. *Collaboration is a key strategic value at ARC•PEACE.*
- II. *It is time to gain institutional capacity.*
- III. *It is time to answer these questions:*

1. *What mission is ARC•PEACE's?*
2. *What vision guides us in the long term?*
3. *What things must we transform to make this vision come true?*
4. *What obstacles must we overcome to make our vision come true?*
5. *What existing mechanisms in the theory of change can we use to help us transform?*
6. *Which of the main value or service chains that currently exist can help us?*
7. *How can we promote a more favourable environment?*
8. *What specific objectives do we want to achieve?*
9. *What resources, capacities or competences do we have?*
10. *Can we be creators or catalysts of ecosystems favourable to our mission and vision?*

At closing this Editorial, only a few responded to the questionnaire, after 5 months. We thank them for their enriching comments and ideas; especially to the much loved Emeritus Member who joined.

***If we use the muscle of our mind positively, we will participate constructively and live longer.***

***The Editor***

*1. Newsletter N°65, page 8, Sept. Oct., 2020*

### Make up your mind! Start Using Your Right to Participate

Just 2 years ago we published 'HUMANITARIAN AID TO VENEZUELA ARRIVES IN PRIVATE FORM' (NL # 59, March 2019). The occasion was born there for members of ARC•PEACE with the desire to participate in the great work that the NGO **Vida Digna** carries out for the love of Venezuelans with health problems. In the photos of the NGO you can see the delivery of the medicines and nursing material recently arrived from Mallorca, Spain.

*How can you participate in this great work? Donate to **Vida Digna** the medicines you no longer use!*



You can also contribute by helping pay for shipping costs. **Contact now:**

[vidadignapalma@gmail.com](mailto:vidadignapalma@gmail.com)

**Vida Digna** delivers a diploma to donors and keeps them informed on the use given to their donations. ***The Editor***

The Editor of *ARC•PEACE Newsletters* has never stopped investigating and reporting on the issues related to Climate Change<sup>1</sup>. There are all kinds of conjectures and opinions about this phenomenon. In this edition we must point out that the deniers of this reality only contribute to sowing scepticism and doubts about what science does not stop revealing.

Among the pioneers of this cohort of authoritarian deniers are: the US industrialist, **Charles Koch**; former US No. 1, clown **Donald Trump**; former No. 1 of France, smug **Nicolas Sarkozy**; Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Brexit king **Boris Johnson**; No. 1 of Russia, Tsarist **Vladimir Putin**; No. 1 of Brazil, the chaos boss **Jair Bolsonaro**; the leader of ultra-right VOX in Spain, dangerous **Santiago Abascal Conde**; and the billionaire prophet of worst pandemics still to come, US **Bill Gates**.

On the opposite sidewalk is the British journalist **Justin Rowlett**<sup>2</sup> who provides five reasons why 2021 could be crucial in the fight against global warming. His hope is that the big problem caused by Covid-19 in 2020 will be overcome by the end of this year thanks to vaccines. He believes that perhaps that is the decisive moment to return to the treatment of the climate issue, as **Antonio Guterres**, Secretary General of the UN, maintains.

## 1. The crucial climate conference

World leaders will meet in **Glasgow, Scotland** (partial view in right picture) in November 2021. There they will follow the landmark **2015 Paris** meeting, in which virtually every nation in the world for the first time recognized that, together, they must help address the problem.

However, the commitment made by the countries to reduce carbon emissions did not translate into concrete actions. The goal was to keep the global temperature rise to 1.5 ° C, in order to limit the 2 ° C rise above pre-industrial levels by the end of XXI century.

## The planet in our hands

We are far from the desired goal: in 12 years or less the world will exceed the 1.5 ° C limit; and it will touch 3 ° C of warming at the end of this century. As agreed in Paris, countries will return every five years to confirm their decision to curb carbon emissions.

That was to be held in Glasgow in November 2020; but, the Covid-19 postponed it. This year the cuts should be increased.

## 2. Some countries are adding deep carbon cuts

When no one expected it, at the 75th UN General Assembly in September 2020, President **Xi Jinping** announced that by 2060 China would become carbon neutral.

Astonished environmentalists heard that the world's most polluting nation, with approximately 28% of global emissions, was unconditionally committed to meeting such a commitment, whether or not other countries did the same.

China thus kicked the board of the perverse negotiation game, in which everyone fears they will end up incurring the cost of decarbonizing their own economy, when others who do nothing end up enjoying the fruits of the work done by others.



## Coal processing plant

The UK was the world's first major economy to make a legally binding 'net zero' commitment in June 2019; UE did the same in March 2020.

Since then, Japan and South Korea have joined; and according to UN estimates, more than 110 countries have set a 'net zero' goal by mid-century.



They represent more than 65% of global emissions and more than 70% of the world economy. In addition, with the election of **Joe Biden** in the US, the world's largest economy re-joined the carbon reduction chorus.

**This is a positive change.** All of these countries are expected to report on their plans to achieve these goals in Glasgow.

## 3. Renewable energies are the cheapest of all time

There's a good reason so many countries now say they plan to go to net zero: the collapse in the cost of renewables is completely changing the calculus of decarbonisation.

The intergovernmental and international Energy Agency (IEA) concluded, in October 2020, that the best solar energy schemes now offer "the cheapest source of electricity in history."

In much of the world, renewables prove to be cheaper than fossil fuels when compared to building new power plants. If the world were to invest more in wind and solar power, in the near future their prices are likely to fall to a point where it will start to make business sense to shut down existing coal and gas power plants.

**'The laws of the market state that the more something is produced and built, the cheaper it is; and cheaper will be produced and built.'**

[\(It continues in page 4\)](#)

(From page 3)

If this works, investors will not need to be intimidated by green activists to do the right thing. They will follow the route that money marks.

If governments used more renewables in their own economies, they would help accelerate the energy transition globally, as renewables will be cheaper and more competitive everywhere.

#### 4. Covid changes everything

Covid-19 caused the biggest economic upheaval since the Great Depression.

It jeopardized our sense of invulnerability; and it showed us that our world can be transformed in ways we cannot control.

Some governments are emboldening themselves to step forward with "stimulus investment packages" designed to restart their economies.

**The good** (and rare) **news** is that governments have found it cheaper to make this type of investment.

All over the world, interest rates are around zero or even negative. This creates an unprecedented opportunity to "build back better."

Both the EU and the **Joe Biden** US administration pledged trillions of dollars in green investments to jump-start both their economies and the decarbonisation process.

While they wait for other countries to join them, to reduce the cost of renewable energy globally, they also warn that they plan to create a new tax: on imports from countries that continue to emit too much carbon.

With this they try to induce to join those still reluctant to reduce their emissions, such as Brazil, Russia, Australia and Saudi Arabia.

**The bad news** is that, according to the UN, developed nations are spending 50% more on fossil fuel sectors than on low-carbon energy.

#### 5. Business is also going green

The falling cost of renewables and mounting public pressure for climate action are also transforming attitudes in business.

It is no longer mere rhetoric to ask: Why invest in new oil wells or coal-fired power plants, if before amortizing over their useful life of 20 to 30 years they will become obsolete? The logic is already showing in the markets.

So far this year alone, **Tesla's** stock price has made it the most valuable auto company in the world. At the same time, the share price of **Exxon**, once the world's most valuable company, fell so much that it was pushed off the *Dow Jones Industrial Average* for major US corporations.

The growing drive to get companies to incorporate climate risk into their financial decision making is palpable.

It is the only way to achieve the goal: to make it mandatory for companies and investors to demonstrate that their activities and investments are taking the necessary steps to transition to a 'net zero world'.

It is estimated that 70 central banks are already working to make this happen; hence the integration of these requirements into the global financial architecture is a key issue at the Glasgow conference.

#### Conclusions

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, backed by the UN, is the body that compiles the science necessary to inform the policies to be adopted.

It states that the way to reach the 1.5 °C target is to cut total emissions in half, by the end of 2030.

But, given that the type of emission reductions achieved in 2020 have not held up as expected, emissions are already returning to the levels they were in 2019.

Of the many countries that expressed their ambition to reduce carbon emissions, only a few implemented strategies to achieve that goal. The challenge for Glasgow is to get the nations of the world to adhere to policies that start reducing emissions now. The UN aspires to see coal phased out completely, an end to all fossil fuel subsidies, and a global coalition to reach net zero by 2050. That remains a very difficult task, even considering that global sentiments about tackling global warming have already started to change for the better.

#### **What can architects and urban planners do about it?**



Perhaps this is the time to join the task of raising awareness about the academic education offered to young people, so that they can begin to participate from the classrooms in the task of designing, planning and building in a sustainable way, and with total social responsibility.

*Adapted from English by The Editor*

From:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-55498657>

#### References

1 Newsletters: No66, December 2020, page 3; No65, September-October 2020, page 2; No64, June 2020, page 7; No62, December 2019, page 4; No59, March 2019, page 7; No58, December 2018, page 5; No57, September 2018, pages 6 and 8; and others before.

2 Justin Rowlatt (1966, right) is a London born journalist, graduate of Oxford University; BBC News correspondent on global environmental issues, he's the author of the original article.



# ARC•PEACE members respond with help to those in need

In the *Newsletter N°65, September-October 2020, page 6*, we appealed to the goodwill and social responsibility which, we take for granted, are the characteristics of the members and supporters of ARC • PEACE.

In these days of pandemic, the Kenyan couple in charge of the **Children's Home** in Kissi faced great difficulties. **Gladys**, **John's** wife, had to undergo surgery, and suffered long weeks before recovering. Due to this, the Home underwent a troublesome period to continue educating and raising the sixty children taken out of poverty.

The good news is that **Gladys** is back, recovered from her health trouble, fulfilling her roles as mother and teacher of those little ones.

*Right: Two of the sixty little ones who live and are educated at the 'Light for Life' Home in Kisii, Kenya, with John and Gladys Akaki.*



In the aforementioned Newsletter we asked for donations to cooperate with this worthy effort to love our neighbour in extreme weakness.

**Two members of ARC • PEACE, in response to this request, sent their donations to the Children's Home.**

**John Akaki** advised this Editor that the aid received allowed them to pay for the provision of firewood for combustion and electric service to cover the needs of a whole month.

This encourages us to redouble the bet, with the request for help for this effort that deserves all the support.

If what you read makes you feel part of the solution in the lives of those little ones, donate something of what you have, no matter how small.

**Make your donation through:**  
PayPal <https://www.paypal.com/>

To the order of  
[arcpeaceinternational@gmail.com](mailto:arcpeaceinternational@gmail.com)

**Thanks for cooperating!**

*The Editor*

## COUNT DOWN FOR THE XXI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

As it has been announced for some time, the ARC•PEACE Secretariat is working fully in the preparation of the General Assembly that was to take place in July of last year and was postponed due to the pandemic.

The date set is for July 15 to 18 of this year. It will be done virtually; and, if the sanitary conditions allow it, it will be done in person with those who can participate personally.

The Secretary has circulated a series of documents in pdf for the members of the Board of Directors to give their opinion and to configure the Agenda with the matters to be discussed on those days.

One of the conditions to participate with voice and vote is to be up to date with the annual fee.

Each year members are reminded that the subscription must be paid at the beginning of the year.

**This traditional default on the part of not a few not only damages the functioning of the Association but is also a paradox in those advocating for Social Responsibility.**

From this Newsletter we encourage those who wish to promote such noble tasks as enforcing the human rights of the most exposed, one of whose examples is the article above.

The theme of the Assembly was set as **"Participation is a Right"**; and like with charity its practice must begin at home.

All readers are invited to take part, even if they are not current associate members or are sympathisers.

Your ideas, criticisms, comments and proposals are necessary to enrich our vision and mission worldwide.

Live broadcasts are an example. In 2020 one was made from Bolivia thanks to **Prof. Fernando David Mendizábal Mendoza** (photo below). But, this year it could be done from more countries.

Thus, the task is alleviated by opening the opportunity for a greater number of collaborators to participate.



As it did happen in previous versions of the General Assemblies held in Palma, a local team is in charge of planning and logistics. Now, anyone wanting to help can do so without leaving their home, using technology.

For example, thanks to the 'part-time' help of young people like **Joan Gabriel** (right) the website goes up, little by little, up to date. **Joan** receives Professional Training education these days; if someone helped him, the job would get done more quickly.



<https://arcpeaceinternational.org/>

Take a look at the Facebook Page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/ArcPeace-International-425665954845118>

From this Newsletter we encourage you to contact the Secretariat to find out in what areas you can help.

**Think, decide and participate!**  
[arcpeaceinternational@gmail.com](mailto:arcpeaceinternational@gmail.com)

You may also use WhatsApp or Telegram to the mobile:

**Int + 34 638 556 953**

*The Editor*

## ARC•PEACE INTERVENES IN URBAN PLANNING PROJECTS

In mid-2019, the General Director of Urban Planning of Palma invited ARC•PEACE International to take part in one of the redevelopment projects that the Municipality is promoting in an important street in the northeast of the capital city of the Autonomous Community of Balearic Islands.

It is, without a doubt, in recognition of the series of activities that the NGO has been carrying out since 2010; particularly in Majorca, the largest island in the archipelago.

Among the objectives of this work the improvement of the quality of urban life with the active citizen participation plays a key aspect; since this urban intervention will benefit both Palma residents and Majorcans, Balearic Islanders and tourists in general; the latter, the main source of income. There are two key aspects worth noting by this Editor:

**The first** is that the Palma authorities decided to maintain urban planning within a justified process of continuity, despite the typical ups and downs that every democratic society suffers.

**The second** is that due to the appearance of COVID-19, the challenge was that urban planning is to be at the inclusive service of the citizen, without exceptions.

ARC•PEACE helped coordinating the participation of residents in the so-called 'Car-free Day' in 2019. A group of young Slovaks and Germans from ERASMUS also took part during the activity called 'The Palma Scroll' (photo below).



The Municipality made available to ARC•PEACE the use of comfortable offices to facilitate its task, until March 2020 (photo below).



The work included meetings with authorities and teachers from schools and neighbourhood entities in the area, who presented their objectives and needs to find best alternatives together (photo below).



Between the months of May to December 2019, eighteen young people from the UE ERASMUS Program were trained, who came from Germany, Slovakia and Sweden.

With them the topogeographic and use survey of the area was carried out; with photographs and sketches; also the important number of vehicles using free parking spaces was verified (photos below and right).



Finally they made a scale model of the Camp Redó - Cotlliure streets in which they put all the existing front buildings and trees at the exact place along the streets.

Now that the project has been put out to tender, ARC•PEACE will continue cooperating as did at the beginning, since its vision coincides with the emphasis given to the citizen participation in the sustainable development of this urban-territorial habitat.



The Secretary of the NGO extended the invitation to all members to participate as if they were "neighbours" of the favoured area.

This is an ideal opportunity to reinforce citizens' right to participate and enrich the urban process.



For more information see Newsletters N° 60, 61 y 62 in our webpage: <https://arcpeaceinternational.org/es/>

*El Editor*

The Editor of the Newsletter called **Prof. Leila Ayoub** (right), who a few years ago was in the Board of ARC•PEACE to find out about her current activity. The academican responded to the request with joy and her well-known kindness. What follows, is a summary of the interview.



*Talking about the intimate relationship between home and life*



**Editor:** Dear Leila, what could you share with our readers about your current activity as an architectural professional?

**Leila:** Thank you for this contact, Oscar. For me it is a pleasure to share with the Newsletter readers some of my participation in Tunisian architecture.

**Editor:** You anticipated a bit of your involvement in housing design and build process; what can you tell us?

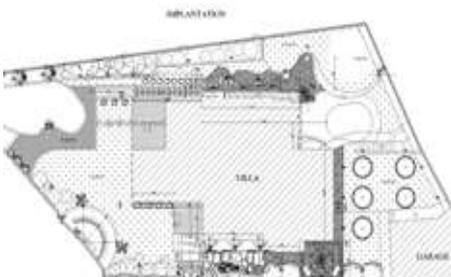
**Leila:** It is about two villas; one of provincial style in the city of Tunis and the other in the port city of Sfax in the south of the country.

**Editor:** It sounds quite interesting.

**Leila:** Yes, because in general, when someone wants to build the villa of their dreams, it is with the intention of spending their entire life there. So my concern is to design a home where the family can live there prospering in peace and quiet for as long as possible. My priorities are to provide the so coveted security; and consolidate cohesion and family ties.

**Editor:** That means getting to know your customers very well, doesn't it?

**Leila:** Indeed. I had previously known the character of the family members; this helped me to find the most suitable solution to their need. The villa is the remodelling of an existing property, the work of another architect (photo below).



*"The owners enjoy complementary characters; the parents have not much time to spend with their children as they work a lot. They asked me for a more pronounced provincial style to the exterior, and for more welcoming interior spaces. So I redesigned the facades and the interior with details and cladding, and I designed the garden"* explains Leila (photos above).

**Editor:** So many things had to be rethought within the process.

**Leila:** yes; the plan was conditioned by the structure and the narrow terrain, it consisted of a series of juxtaposed spaces without strong connection. It was necessary to create a nucleus that materialized and symbolized cohesion; uniting the family around a warm, welcoming and harmonious space.

The idea was to create an axis of symmetry that crossed the meeting spaces (the living room, the atrium).



At one end the fireplace and at the other the source of water: Water and fire, facing each other, symbolize the generating force of life in harmony. In keeping with the design of the outdoor garden, the design of the openings is inspired by Japanese architecture.

**Editor:** From what you count I notice there is a certain Japanese influence in your training.

**Leila:** That's right. My third cycle thesis was on the concept of openness and the relationship between interior exterior. I have another about Japanese Ma; therefore, I unconsciously blur the line between inside and outside (photos below).



Regarding the style of the furniture, I wanted it to be timeless, a mix of styles. I introduced in some places the oriental style, although not in harmony with the provincial style.

**Editor:** I invite you to tell us about the other village in a future Newsletter. Will you accept?

**Leila:** I will gladly do it. Thank you for giving me this interview.

**Editor:** to you Leila. See you soon!

*Translated and adapted by The Editor*

## EiP + ARC•PEACE JOINT EUROPEAN INSULAR PROJECT

Urban problems such as traffic congestion, polluted sites and high noise levels are affecting most European cities.

Because of this, it is imperative that an increasing number of municipalities devise new and more efficient urban development strategies to address environmental problems and achieve a better quality of life.

In this context **Dr. Aldo Cammara**, the representative of the *Education in Progress (EiP)* organization from the city of Messina, Italy, contacted **Arch. Oscar Margenet Nadal** the Secretary of ARC•PEACE International, at its headquarters in Palma, Spain.

The invitation was to discuss the project that EiP is shaping within the EU Erasmus program known as "Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices" whose topic is the "Sustainable City, Architecture and Landscape".



Above, file photo: **Lic. Karin Callipo**, EiP Chairwoman and **Dr. Aldo Cammara**, both from Italy, with **Architect Oscar Margenet Nadal**, the Secretary of ARC•PEACE, talking in Palma (right: aerial photo of Messina, from Google)

"We believe that citizen participation is essential for a real change and opening of cities towards sustainable internationalization" says Cammara.

He aims to involve citizens in a discussion with city councils to listen to proposals, needs and viewpoints as shared by the common citizen.

Quite often, the urban designer does not take into account the degree of practical use of his projects. With the professionals and future urban planners of Messina in mind, **Dr. Cammara** is working to organize a conference with the architects of the Messina Order in which the good practices implemented in Palma with the active participation of ARC•PEACE will be presented.

**More information about this important project will be published in next Newsletters.**



This video is recommended:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/2/#search/Karin?projector=1>

*The Editor*



Above: Palma XV C. La Lonja of Merchants, (Wikipedia photo)  
Right: interior (A. Cerutti photo)



Left and above: Messina Cathedral, rebuilt after the 1908 earthquake (Wikipedia photos)

**If you are still not up to date with your annual subscription, transfer now to the PayPal account of Arc Peace international. Thus, you will be able to participate in the XXI General Assembly, with voice and vote, next July.**

The Secretary of ARC•PEACE International, **Architect-Urban Planner Oscar Margenet Nadal**, Editor in charge of this Newsletter, appreciates the valuable collaboration of all the people who made this edition possible: **Dr. Architect Biel Horrach Estarellas**, General Director of Urban Planning of Palma, Spain; **Architect and Urban Planner Prof. Leila Ayoub**, Tunisia; **Lic. Karin Callipo**, Chairwoman of Education in Progress (EiP) and **Dr. Aldo Cammara**, Representative of EiP, Italy; **Alejandra Cerutti Jacob**, Secretary of ARC•PEACE Iberoamérica, Spain; **Joan Gabriel Margenet**, Professional Formation training student collaborating with the website, Spain; **Lic. Ivana Fischer-Margenet**, sponsor of ARC•PEACE International, Germany; and special thanks to colleague **Hans Skotte**, Norway, for his donation to Light of Life Orphanage in Kisii, Kenya. Contributions welcome: articles, projects, ideas, constructive criticism, translations into French, German, Portuguese and Arabic.

**Visit us in Facebook and the Web:**

ARC•PEACE Iberoamérica (Spanish), <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1535062103438673>

ARC•PEACE International (English), <https://www.facebook.com/ArcPeace-International-425665954845118>  
<https://arcepeaceinternational.org/>

If you wish more information or to cooperate, please contact the Secretariat: [arcepeaceinternational@gmail.com](mailto:arcepeaceinternational@gmail.com)

Donate via PayPal to the account: arc peace international

**Join ARC•PEACE and use your right to participate! / Newsletter N° 68 will appear on June 2021**