

FEDERAZIONE MONDIALE DEI CLUB E CENTRI UNESCO (WFUCA)

Consiglio Esecutivo e Convegno Internazionale

“Il Linguaggio Universale della Musica e dell’Arte per un’Etica Globale”

Lucca e Firenze, 8-13 marzo 2013

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President of Center UNESCO of Florence ONLUS

President of Italian Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Centers

Firenze, 11 March 2013

I am pleased and honored to take the floor in the context of this ceremony first of all I wish to welcome all the members of the Executive Board, all the representatives of UNESCO Clubs and Centers arrived here from many countries from different continents, and also in great number from Italy. Let’s me thank also the Authorities and Institutions of Lucca for the moving opening of this Conference with the excellent performance of one of the greatest genius of the Music , which has proved once again the wonderful and enormous power of music to build bridges between people, and civilization.

Their collaboration, together with that of the Authorities in Firenze has been precious for the organization of these days.

But first of all I wish to thank all the members of the World Federation for their participation to this very important event : his XXXIV Executive Board of the WFUCA and the International Meeting “the language of a music and Art for a Global Ethics”. You are here, coming from different countries of the world, first of all because this Event offers to us the opportunity to meet each other, to see old friends, to know new ones, overcoming all the frontiers, in order to develop common programs and proposing new ones., for a better future of peace. As a matter of fact this is for the Club UNESCO all over the world, a reason to be.

But you are here also because this meeting is particularly important for the World Federation: as you know, WFUCA will play in these days an historical role, as interpreter of the civil society, launching the proposal to declare A UNESCO WORLD DAY FOR THE GLOBAL ETHICS: The final document will be launched end signed in Palazzo Vecchio, the 11th of March, an historical date, the anniversary of the disaster of Fukushima

But this is not a time for celebration: these days are for all of us, UNESCO Clubs and Centers a time for reflection on our new engagement in a world whose social, economic, cultural, political dimensions are changing every day and are too often neglected forgetting the ethical values.

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Everybody see the importance of raising old values but always new in human, social, ethical, and scientific reality, that in the last decades is living rapid changes and that seems to increasingly ignore the boundaries of what is permissible in every field: in the science and in the technologies, in bioethics *in primis* , in sciences applied to the Hearth changing the environment, in human social and cultural relations among peoples and individuals: we know which role can assume the rapid evolution of informatics and how the exchanges and meeting between peoples show the diversity of traditions, laws and cultures.

Changes that impose a big reflection on the ethical limits of these new horizons and on the values that have to be on the base of our action.

UNESCO, mindful of the challenges that come from reality and from history, faces as a priority the ethical problem since the 90s.

Let try first to define, with words of UNESCO what can be meant by "ethics" and what is the commitment of UNESCO in this field; in the COMEST Report - the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology - “The Teaching of Ethics” Paris – Oslo, 2003 we can read that “ *Ethics is the systematic investigation of questions of right and wrong , good and bad. [...] the aim of ethics is to find a set of moral principles that there are good reasons for accepting and that ought to guide us in our lives. All scientist should commit themselves to high ethical standards and should behave properly in their professional life*”. Furthermore “ *The study of ethics is important not only for our individual lives, but also for developing the insight and competence we as a community need in order to face the challenges of the present and the future in a reasonably successful way*”.

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The very first meeting on ethics of informatics, that explored the ethical, juridical and social aspects of informatics, held in Montecarlo, was in 1997, and I had the honor to participate on behalf of Italy.

Always in 1997, during the 28th UNESCO General Conference in Paris has been adopted the “Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights that at article 20 underlines the need to instill in the students “awareness of ethical dilemmas in front of which they may meet during their professional lives”.

On this way the COMEST, instituted in 1999, is valid for all the areas of ethics applied to science and technology.

In 2003, during the 32nd General Conference has been approved the creation of programs for the teaching of ethics in all the fields of scientific and professional education; such programs started in 2004 at different levels. Immediately was clear that ethical values have to be at the base of each action, in each field: in the law, in the sports, in the environment respect as well as in the relations among individuals, assuming Ethics, as UNESCO requests, a universal value.

Ethics is not only a dress for celebration days, but has to become a dress for every day, for every dimension of life.

This the reason of our international meeting, due the time we necessarily limit our work, choosing two “master fields” where ethics rooted in the reality of centuries of history: Arts, as we can see in this Florentine day, and the Music, as we saw in the days spent in Lucca.

That why, in this Florentine day, we wanted make arise the ethical values in daily life through the reflections and debates within the workshops, after the introduction on this issue done by distinguished speakers that will bring us directly in the heart of the ethical problem: the superintendent of the Florentine Museums, Mrs Cristina Acidini; professor Givone we’ll lead us toward a dimension of global ethics; the RAI intervention on the communication as an instrument for the realization of an ethical dimension. The launch of our proposal will close the morning work with trough the intervention of Mr Hattori that wanted this day due to his expertise at UNESCO and due to his experiences lived during the tragic tsunami of 2011 in Japan and the consequent disaster of nuclear power plant of Fukushima.

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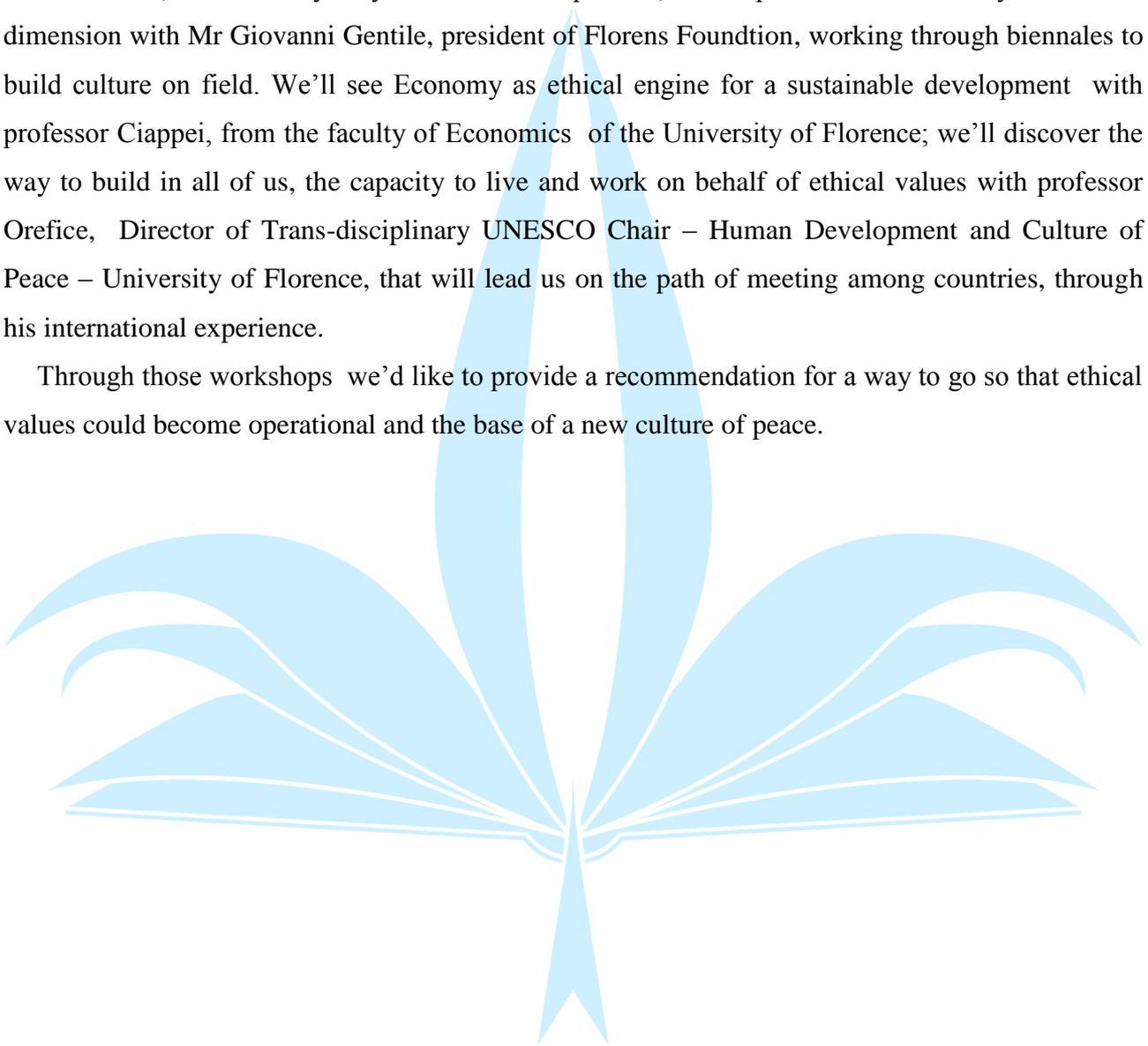
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At the workshops we entrusted an operational message: global ethics is not a value to keep hide, but it is an exciting operational commitment: in the arts we define “ minors”, touching the creativity aspect whit a call for youth, in the reality of a tourism that cannot understand or enjoy the ethical values of arts, as Mons. Tymoty Verdon will explan us; we’ll speak about the reality of cultural dimension with Mr Giovanni Gentile, president of Florens Foundtion, working through biennales to build culture on field. We’ll see Economy as ethical engine for a sustainable development with professor Ciappei, from the faculty of Economics of the University of Florence; we’ll discover the way to build in all of us, the capacity to live and work on behalf of ethical values with professor Orefice, Director of Trans-disciplinary UNESCO Chair – Human Development and Culture of Peace – University of Florence, that will lead us on the path of meeting among countries, through his international experience.

Through those workshops we’d like to provide a recommendation for a way to go so that ethical values could become operational and the base of a new culture of peace.



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