

Europe needs prayer!

Invitation and introduction to the prayer path



for all communities and movements in Europe – Europe needs our prayer!

Europe needs our prayer – that's how we have felt for a while, as we follow the evolution of Europe. Europe needs our prayer, because there are forces and powers at work here, which can only be stopped by prayer. And: It is important, right now in this time, to proclaim the full name of Jesus over Europe and bring the whole continent to God in prayer. We want to do this together in the next six weeks: *Together for Europe* and the network "Canopy of Prayer" and all those who want to join this common path!

We start our common prayer path in the week from the 25th of March 2019 and then go on a **shared journey for six weeks**. May our prayer open doors and souls and move Europe!

The “7 Yeses“ of “Together for Europe”

For years we have repeatedly proclaimed the 7 Yeses for Europe: yes to the family, yes to the creation, yes to the poor, etc. And our yeses have had consequences in concrete actions.

The step we are now encouraging all of us to take is like an accompaniment to our activities, a kind of pooling of all 7 yeses. What we mean is: the *prayer* for Europe.

Lord, teach us to pray

The prayer that we present today is not oriented to the 7 policy areas of the Yeses, nor aligned with the politics of the day, but is structured out of its own format, from the different ways in which we approach the Father in heaven in prayer.

Whoever comes before God to pray for Europe immediately falls into all the shortcomings that need prayer and intercession. But stop!! Those who start with the problems in their prayers will soon end up in discouragement and resignation.

That's why we start (1.) with **worship**, with our eyes fixed on the mighty and faithful God. From there, (2.) we will automatically **give thanks** in the next step, for what God has done for our continent through the centuries. After that, we (3.) may boldly confide in Him, as the Father with His children, **our troubles and fears**, "because He takes care of you!" In the light of his throne, however, we (4.) also become aware of our failure as Europe and we **prostrate** ourselves before the Lord in priestly representation and ask for cleansing and forgiveness from the Saviour Jesus. "Being saved gives an understanding of salvation": therefore, in the next step of prayer we (5.) turn to the continent and speak about the different spheres of life of the 7 Yes Words of God. We

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proclaim the truths of God because "heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away," says Jesus. So we grow into the realization of our importance as a prayer to God for the people of Europe and realize how God is commissioning us from Heaven, i.e. from Him (6.) uttering words of blessing over the land and its people "The Lord bless you, Europe and keep you..."

Practical suggestions for organization

The prayer is a suggestion. So if you find a point of view is missing you are welcome to add it to your group.

And last but not least, if possible, give the 9th of May as our European day of prayer the context of a feast. 6 suggestions to go with the prayer: (1) A large political map of Europe; (2) the European flag and melody of the anthem; (3) a new text for singing the anthem as a Christian (in Canopy No 12); (4) linking the flags of Europe and Israel; (5) prepare cards with Bible words for the proclamations of the group; (6) Offer national food, cakes or drinks from the countries of our guests; possibly together with their hymns.

Let us worship God through prayer and change the world.

The team

Ortwin Schweitzer – Sr. Lioba Ruprecht – Sr. Nicole Grochowina