



Invitation to the launching of the "VIRTUAL CARAVAN: HOPES AND TERRITORIAL RESISTANCES AGAINST MINING DISPOSSESSION".

Dear friends of the Churches and Mining Network:

Pope Francis in the most recent encyclical, Fratelli Tutti, invites us to fraternity and social friendship. The Bishop of Rome reminds us that "goodness, love, justice and solidarity are not achieved once and for all; they must be conquered every day" (cf. FT 11), as well as being an effort for "co-responsibility capable of initiating and generating new processes and transformations" (cf. FT 77). Motivated by the communities that are being martyred by the violence of mining and other forms of abusive extractivism, by the pain of Mother Earth, both suffering the injustice fed "by reductive anthropological visions and by an economic model based on profit, which does not hesitate to exploit, discard and even kill" (cf. FT22), the Churches and Mining Network addresses this letter of invitation to carry out together the Virtual Caravan: Hopes and Territorial Resistances against Mining Dispossession.

From the Churches and Mining Network, with the Divest in Mining Campaign and the Eco-spirituality Community, we have been taking up the road traveled in Europe in April of this year with 5 realities affected by mining in Latin America. We want to continue this caravan through the territories, listening to the struggles, resistances and denunciations. For this reason, we are getting ready to start the "Virtual Caravan: hopes and territorial resistances against mining dispossession". This initiative aims to give continuity to the caravan held in April and May 2022 and proposes a monthly itinerary, through virtual meetings (webinars in Spanish, with translation into Portuguese and English) that allow us to listen and get in tune with the feelings and resistances of the protagonists in the territories, as well as to consider technical analysis based on the reports on the violations of human and environmental rights by extractive economies.

The Virtual Caravan is an opportunity to listen, contemplate and sensitize our faith communities on the challenges to achieve a true integral ecology. Therefore, we would like to invite your organization to join this great Caravan, **joining us as co-organizers, speakers and participants**. For this, we ask you to take a look at the thematic proposals (ATTACHED) and the territories that we will be visiting



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We are attentive to your response, to continue this construction, that it may be a journey that adds more and more sensitive hearts, in solidarity and resistance.

A fraternal embrace,

Churches and Mining Network Operative Team

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Fecha	Territorios	Tema
August	El Melón (Chile) Veladero (Argentina)	Right of access to water; investments by European banks
September	Marlin Mine and other mining projects (Guatemala) Energy projects and concessions (Colombia)	Employment and local economy and the challenges of the mining discourse (before, during and after)



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October	Espinar y Tía María (Perú) CONFENIAE - CONAIE - RENAPE (Ecuador)	Criminalization, social conflict, native communities and land grabbing
November	Energy Transition, the implication of Lithium mining Climate Change and Iron ore mining in Brazil	Mining and climate change, energy transition
December	Spirituality of resistance (Venezuela, Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador, Perú, Colombia)	