

Meeting - live in Moscow

by Costanza Penna

Even though she did not know the Meeting, Daria trusted some friends of hers from Padua and signed up as a volunteer. Thanks to her this year the Meeting is also in Russia.

As a matter of fact, when Jean-Francois - in charge of the Movement in Moscow - opened the Excel file of the Meeting 2020 volunteers, **he only found one name for Russia: Daria's**. «Nobody knew who she was, but knowing that there was someone who wanted to take part in the Meeting, really provoked me», says Jean-Francois. «I felt good, having collaborated to the organization of two meetings with Russian guests for Rimini's *Special Edition*. Instead, seeing that name on the file reminded me what was on the table in the proposal to the volunteers».

He talks about the Russian community's gratitude and affection to the Meeting. «Yet none of us had pushed to sign up as a volunteer. Thanks to Daria, instead, **we immediately took action to get to know her and bring the Meeting to Moscow together**. Between Russia and Kazakhstan, we formed a group of fifteen volunteers and left for Rimini.»

They translated press releases of the event, some meetings and the exhibit *Vivere il Reale (Living the Real)* into Russian and shared everything on social medias. Then they started to enjoy it: «**We asked ourselves if we could do more and we had a crazy idea: A day at the Rimini Meeting**, six hours live on Facebook to close the week of events together».

Jean-Francois presides over the cultural center in Moscow and he has some experience with this kind of things. He set up a small television studio and imagined four headings: *Meeting 2020*, with pieces on what happened in this edition; *TG Meeting*, led by Daria, who will talk about her first encounter with the Meeting and what impressed her; *In-studio guests*, with friends, who in the last years helped building the Meeting among preparations, exhibits and volunteers; *40 years of Meeting*, to tell its history and its connection with Russia through the recordings of the main meetings held with Russian guests.

In his words we can feel all his **enthusiasm to make Russia discover the Meeting** and for the opportunities to live it, now and the whole year. The big day of the live is Sunday: «It will be fun, and I am so psyched. We edited a theme song video for the headings and Daria will specifically come to Moscow for the live. At the end we will invite everyone to participate to the Meeting conclusive event: a Russian friend will intervene, and we can't miss it».