



Friends World Committee
for Consultation
EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST SECTION

Europe & Middle East Section
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Registered Charity No: SC036528
Executive Secretary: Michael Eccles

**To all Friends attending the FWCC Section of the Americas Meeting
12-21 March 2021**

9 March 2021

Dear Friends,

We send loving greetings from the FWCC Europe and Middle East Section as you gather for your Section Meeting, which we hope will be a fruitful event for you all.

Like the Americas, Europe and the Middle East has suffered during the Coronavirus pandemic. We join you in grieving all lives lost. We lift up them and their families and friends in love and in prayer.

The pandemic has created a shift in many aspects of our lives as Quakers. How we worship, how we maintain and support each other and our communities and how we welcome and support newcomers to the Quaker way are three such examples of ways that have been affected and require us to learn new ways of working together.

One of the beautiful and unexpected consequences of adaptation has been worshipping across frontiers. Our own partnership to provide meeting for worship online with Woodbrooke (the international Quaker learning and research centre) has flourished and we have regular participants and visitors from all over the world, including the Americas.

People in our meetings and worship groups have also expressed their delight in receiving visitors including many people from your Section and we encourage anyone wishing to join our worship to visit <https://fwccemes.org/calendar/online-meetings-for-worship-around-europe-the-middle-east>.

Our own version of a Section Meeting is an Annual Meeting. This year, we will meet with the theme:

And truth flourishes as the rose, and the lilies do grow among the thorns ... for the seed Christ is over all (George Fox): discerning how we rebuild and grow with hope.

Please hold us in the Light and keep us in your prayers as we prepare for and hold our annual meeting.

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

At our annual meeting in 2020 we appointed a new executive secretary, Michael Eccles, and noted the appointment of Jez Smith as the new assistant secretary. I will join them in worshipping and participating with you in your Section Meeting, strengthening our connections with each other.

In friendship,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ethel Livermore".

Ethel Livermore

Acting Clerk

FWCC-EMES

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