



TGS
EUROGROUP
since 1968

NEWS LETTER



Happy Easter from TGS!

by Alessandra Granziero

While we are sending these lines on what is going on at our headquarter in Mogliano Veneto, many of you are probably keeping an eye on the weather forecast to finalise the plans for their Easter Day. Easter Day at TGS marks the beginning of the countdown to our solidarity walk *"Su e Zo per i Ponti di Venezia"* ("Up and Down the Bridges of Venice"): 7 days to go! We have been very busy, as usual. Camilla, supervisor at *Su e Zo* office, has been working hard on the Walk in the last months, meeting deadlines, answering phone calls, checking e-mails, and following up enrollments both online and from authorized ticket points of sale. Her colleague Mariagrazia and some volunteers have been supporting her lately: Vincenzo and Agnese, just to mention some, as longstanding friends to the Walk, along with Giulia, university student on her internship at TGS. They have all gone on well together, so that those getting in touch with the TGS office in the last months, have always found a welcoming atmosphere regardless of the workload.

Volunteering for the Walk probably is a field people taking part to the *Su e Zo* may have no perception of, although it

is such precious help that the Walk would not be the same without. The preliminary backstage gathers people giving their spare time to the Association and doing activities such as folding the official T-shirts and piling them according to their size, cutting neck strings for the tickets, packing tickets, strings and brochures and send them to the enrollees.

On the big day, up to 320 volunteers support the Walk. Many show the participants their way according to the route they are following, some welcome participants at the refreshment points, others sell the Walk tickets at the train station as well as in *Piazza San Marco*, others assist the folk groups, a smaller group takes pictures of the event in different corners of the city, some coordinate the busy crowds of people in *Piazza San Marco* before, during and sometimes even when the Walk is over.

Who are the *Su e Zo* Volunteers? They are people of different age, either independent supporters who are in touch with TGS and help on different levels, or TGS former leaders and students or members of other Associations, as Past Pupils of Don Bosco or Salesian Cooperators, just to name a couple of them. We have recently advertised for volunteers through local volunteer service centers although word of mouth among friends is way more persuasive.





Last Saturday, 1st of April, we held a meeting for the *Su e Zo* volunteers in Mogliano Veneto. It was the right time to pass on them much information regarding the Walk in general, such as points of attention along the route, including the last agreements with the municipality for optimising the cooperation. For instance, volunteers showing the route are to keep participants on a specific side of bridges to interfere as little as possible with locals and tourists crossing the same bridge. In the week to come, the *Su e Zo* office is taking the latest agreements with local cooperators. As an example, food and beverages for the refreshment points are carried by boats which need authorization to dock and people to move food from the boats to the refreshment areas, or the street cleaners that are to help during and after the event. Thanks to the cooperation with the *Servizio Comunicazione Turistica Città di Venezia* – the department in charge of the official tourist information network in Venice – the *Su e Zo* also combines a cultural route focusing on the many historical and artistic beauties of the city, this year more specifically on the Venetian craftsmanship and creativity.

With its only one square, well known in the world as *Piazza San Marco*, Venice is the city of many *calli* (alleys and small streets), *campi* and *campielli* (squares) scattered throughout the *sestieri* (districts, the actual six districts – from the Latin origin of the word – In Venice) which have always been its beating heart. Here children play, craftsmen work in workshops, people meet at the local *bacari* (typical venetian taverns), and market stalls open at first light. For this coming edition of the *Su e Zo*, the Walk brings us both through the best-known places in Venice as well as those far from the classic routes, giving us a chance to meet the craftsmen at work, guardians of ancient knowledge handed down through generations. They are master glassworkers, *remèri* (carpenters making oars), tailors, goldsmiths, mask makers, glass bead artists, engravers and

printers, shoemakers, restorers, confectioners, and milliners. The stages of the itinerary are part of the ten 'Venetian Craft and Creativity Routes', by the City of Venice within the pilot action of the European Project S.LI.DES – Smart strategies for sustainable tourism in Lively cultural DESTinations, supported by the Italy-Croatia Interreg Programme. Each route leads to the discovery of different craft workshops, from glass beads to masks, from artistic engravings to the ancient art of gold leaf. This newsletter is a walk in itself, giving you a sample of the workload the organising committee has to deal with, from time to time. Many activities require common sense, and experience thought the years lights up the best answer. As with the cooperation among the volunteers of TGS Summer programme, good exchanges among volunteers and enthusiasm are the best keys to success. The secret is... how to keep passion and eagerness high. Every year the *Su e Zo* gives us many reasons for keeping doing it!

You probably feel well involved in the event by now. Remember you still have time to join us. If you cannot participate in person, you are welcome to follow the event on 16th April through our social media channels where we will be sharing pictures and comments... follow [@suezoperiponti](#) or simply log on to www.suezo.it/en! Should you wish to e-mail on the above or share your experience, just reach out to us e-mailing blog@tgseurogroup.it. Happy Easter to each of you!



TGS NEWSLETTER no. 38, April 2023 (English edition)
TGS EUROGROUP - Turismo Giovanile Sociale
Via Marconi 22, 31021 Mogliano Veneto (Treviso), Italy
tel. 041 5904717- fax. 041 5906702 - info@tgseurogroup.it

tgseurogroup.it

