

## V.F.F. Institute Mare Nostrum e.V. NPO - Austria

**The V.F.F. Institute Mare Nostrum e.V. NPO – Austria is an independent non-profit foundation that is committed to the research and development of public welfare projects. Their scientific studies related to various volcanic regions. V.F.F. Mare Nostrum Films Production, a division of the V.F.F. Institute, established since 1951, works on experimental short films focused on the extraordinary aspects of nature. Amongst their many projects is a documentary project titled ‘World of volcanoes’ ongoing since 2013 to produce video films of active volcano sites where current research is taking place. The project’s aim is to share information about these volcanoes and their histories of the Earth and mankind through the medium of film. Their other projects include ‘Stromboli Island’ about the beauty and power of nature of the island of Stromboli in Italy and upcoming is a documentary on the ‘Hibaku Jumoku in Austria’.**

**The following interview was conducted with founders and staff of the Institute.**

**1. How did you learn about GLH and what motivated you to receive A-bomb survivor plants?**

The events of WWII, which led to the criminal use of nuclear technologies against innocent peoples, had indelibly marked the consciences of us. Therefore, we wanted to concretely “sow” in our land, and make it grow, a tangible sign that to date is represented by the Japanese “Hibaku Jumoko” trees. These are the reasons that led us to travel the digital roads of the Internet network, all the way to your GLH Institute’s doorstep!

**2. What are your thoughts about GLH and its mission to spread the message of peace and of nature’s generous beauty, through plants?**

The living beings of the animal and plant world, are not respected worthily by man, who is solely responsible for the irreversible disruption of the balance of nature. Teaching respect for other living beings, not only of humankind, is a moral obligation for which it is necessary to educate every single person from the earliest years of life. Families have this first obligation and moral commitment, then public institutions and societal circles must allow that these fundamental teachings of the family, can be put into practice every day, without contradiction or compromise of any kind.



**3. What impact do you think these survivor plants have on current society as well as the scientific community?**

The international scientific community, now lives immersed in a world that is dull, mediocre and conditioned by “scientific single thought.” Those who oppose this modus operandi are called “conspiracists” and are marginalized. Millions of people now live in an artificial bubble, made up of customs conditioned by the will and interests of third parties, in compliance with the only rule of profit “Pecunia non olet”. To raise awareness, it is necessary to remove the blindfold and turn off the cell phones of millions of people who no longer use common sense and reason with their brains. At present, change is impossible. Those who continue to spread propagandistic speeches related to percentages, graphs and mathematical models of statistics are lying to their fellow man, knowing that they are lying first to themselves. We live in a historical era in which daily illusions represent the mirage that people relentlessly reconceive. The real change can only take place at the level of the individual human being, with will, behavioral consistency and determination. If we reflect on this consideration, we understand the reasons why demagoguery is rampant on the lips of so many modern magic piper, political hucksters and influencers.

**4. Austria is one of the leading forces for nuclear disarmament, do you believe initiatives like GLH could help change current mindsets of war and consumption, and create awareness about life’s sacredness? What more can be done in order to achieve this?**

Austria is the perfect country for retirees, who account for the largest part of the country’s population. They always receive annual pension increases and therefore are the first to not allow any radical changes at the political level. For decades nothing has changed regarding established habits and the proclamations of politicians are now words in the wind. Awareness and knowledge of the medium-term problems related to the new worldwide nuclear rearmament, is a topic of little interest to people.

*Feature edited by Saeeda Razick of GLH*



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