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Newsletter October 2022

Dear members

When I decided in 2011 to found my own October 2022 association for assisted voluntary death (AVD), I had decided to devote all my energy for at least ten years to self-determination at the end of life and to the legalisation of AVD throughout the world. Even then, I had decided to shut down lifecircle when I would reach retirement age, but not to end it. I would now like to put this into practice. This means that **from 1.11.22 we will no longer accept new members**, but we will continue to care for and accompany the members registered until 31.10.22 just as lovingly as we have done for over 10 years. Accompanying people from abroad in particular, is highly complex and involves a lot of work. I too only live once and want to enjoy the rest of my life. If we stop accepting new members, the number of members will naturally decrease. We know that more than two thirds of all people who have received the green light die of natural causes, knowing that the FTB is open to them at any time and thus the fear of unbearable suffering is removed. I would like to reiterate here that I will continue to look after all members registered with us by 31.10.22, for the rest of my life. I will also continue to look for a successor in case that fate should make me die earlier than expected. So you don't have to worry, the work of the lifecircle association will continue, simply without new members.

We would like to call an extraordinary general meeting in December, because with the closing of the association for new members we would like to discuss individual changes with you, also a small change in the statutes should be made. Please keep the date of Thursday 15.12.22 free, an official invitation and agenda is attached here. We would like to point out that the General Assembly can only take place in German, unfortunately we cannot offer a translation into other languages.

We had announced a panel event on 1 September in Münchenstein. We were pleased with the large number of interested people, about 100 people attended the event. Mr. Rügger, Mrs. Birkenstock and I were able to answer many interesting and critical questions. At the aperitif afterwards, many of the auditors stayed and exchanged ideas with each other. It was an absolutely successful event. I thank you for your interest and we will be happy to organise another interesting panel event for you next year.

Our Café Goodbye, which takes place on four Sunday mornings a year, has its next date on 27 November at 10.00 a.m. in the Reinach Museum of Local History. I will talk about my experiences with "Palliative Care". We will discuss the meaning of palliative care, (what is it and what can we expect from it?), as well as the area of tension between palliative care and AVD. We look forward to a lively exchange having coffee and croissants and an interesting chat <https://www.cafegoodbye.ch> .

There is something I am particularly pleased about: in France, President Emanuel Macron has made an inaugural promise that he will legalise AVD in France. A citizen's consultation, "Consultation Citoyenne" has now started in France and I am increasingly invited to France to report on my experiences in the field of AVD. On 17 October I was in Paris and took part in a highly interesting debate which will be broadcasted on the France 27 ARTE channel and on the German ARTE on 20 November at 20:05.

Unfortunately, for my court case we are still waiting for a court date before the Federal Court, it would be such a relief if this would finally take place and then this issue would also be concluded.

Kind regards, and all the best from the bottom of my heart,

Erika Preisig, General Practitioner and  
President of the lifecircle association

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