

Azul, Salam aleikoum, dear friends and companions,

I must confess that I didn't want to write a summer report at all this year. It just didn't feel right. Not because there was nothing to tell. Quite the opposite.

But I didn't want to write yet another feel-good retrospective, or list projects and achievements once more, or compile figures, whilst something far more fundamental is shifting within myself and within our team.



So this is not a traditional annual report, but a letter from my heart to everyone who supports campus vivant'e, whether in spirit or in practical ways.

The real story of this year doesn't fit into any chronicle. It's hard to capture in photographs and can't be expressed in key figures. It's about questions rather than answers, about inner growth rather than measurable facts, and about the courage to let go of familiar certainties.

For several years now, we have sensed that our work is not just about further growth or greater public visibility, but about depth and stability.

Whilst construction, renovation and new developments took place in various locations last year too, I am becoming increasingly aware that the real work in progress is currently something else:

After sixteen years, the aim is to lay the foundations that will enable this educational institution and its mission to endure beyond us, its founders.

campus vivant'e is coming of age. And it is time to consciously pass on the culture that has grown here and to anchor it in such a way that it will continue to sustain us even when we are no longer here.

Last autumn, a period of profound maturation began

On the surface, this was triggered by delays in salary payments. Financial uncertainties caused a kind of upheaval throughout the team: staff left.

Fundamental questions about our educational approach and mission arose.

The very purpose of the campus was called into question.

It was about our inner attitude and the question of what drives each individual here.

I remember a team meeting in November. After two hours of heated discussion, I found myself seriously wondering for the first time whether we should simply call it a day.

Shut it down and be done.

Old, deep-seated fears welled up inside me, along with some anger and accusations directed at staff members 'who simply refuse to grasp our values, our mission and our educational philosophy...'; at times, I slipped into a sort of victim mentality and inwardly lamented how painful responsibility can sometimes be, how much of a burden the finances are, and how lonely decision-making can be.

And when a long-serving member of staff handed in her notice from one day to the next, it hurt. Not just because of the completely unexpected gap this created, but because I wondered what we'd done wrong in our communication and leadership to bring about such an abrupt end in the first place.

Everyone went through this period in their own way.

The intense winter, with many, many days off school due to the snow in December, offered plenty of time for reflection and quiet introspection.

Through all these lows, amidst all the external ups and downs, between team meetings, criticism, pressure and discussion, a deep, calm sense of being supported always prevailed.

The clear inner knowing that everything is as it should be, and that we now find ourselves at an important turning point, moving towards greater clarity, greater courage and even stronger inner conviction.

I often walked alone across the snow-covered campus and felt a deep sense of gratitude.

Gratitude for everything that has grown here over the years. For all the people who, day in and day out – and in some cases for many years – have made a vital contribution, taken on responsibility, internalized our values, and no longer question our principles but embody them.

Gratitude for partners who accompany and encourage us from afar and offer their kind support. Gratitude for parents who entrust their children to us – and, above all, gratitude for these pupils, who show us every day why our work is important.

And so today I still believe – and indeed believe more strongly than ever – that the world needs places like ours. Places where education is so much more than the mere imparting of knowledge.

Places where children and adults can grow and learn together, and joyfully and enthusiastically discover that they can participate in shaping the world – for themselves, for one another, for our planet and for the generations to come.



For the first sixteen years, campus vivant'e has always been guided by this vision.

The coming years will determine whether this vision becomes a culture that is shared and passed on.

Over the years, I have realized time and again that such a culture cannot simply be established through written house rules. And that values are not conveyed through mission statements on the wall.

Much of what underpins our everyday school life and our work here has hardly been put down in writing, because we were usually far too busy living it out in practice.

Now the time has come to formulate these fundamental attitudes together and to make them visible as a living guide. As a concrete manual for all those who wish to take on responsibility here, both today and in the future.

We are therefore now in a crucial phase of clarification, maturation and perhaps even institutionalization. It is all about stability and consolidation.

For if the campus vivant'e is to continue making its contribution in the coming decades, then please let it not be through beautiful buildings or through graduates with the best grades alone.

My hope is that people will be able to say:

This is a place where an atmosphere of joy and community prevails.

A place where everyone can flourish according to their inner gifts.

A place where it is not perfection that grows, but personal responsibility and, above all, humanity.

And I sense that this theme will accompany us in the months and years to come.

For me, the crux of the matter is this question:

“From what inner attitude do I act?”

We need people who have the courage to question themselves before they seek to change others. People who want to serve – not out of self-sacrifice, but out of a deep joy in contributing to something greater.

People who are willing to learn themselves. Who take responsibility and exercise it with integrity. Who have the courage to make mistakes and to admit them.

Who do not hide behind roles, but act from deeply ingrained values.

Adults who, as teachers, do not simply go through the motions, but live out the deeper meaning of their mission with conviction, creativity and curiosity.

Educators who do not merely follow a rigid curriculum to tick off topics, but who focus on the individual pupil. Within a caring, reliable and honest relationship.

To foster genuine inner freedom, openness and independence.

It is in this process that what truly sustains us becomes apparent. And some things may well fall away in the process.

This can sometimes be uncomfortable and painful. And yet I feel that we are on the right path.

It is now time to describe and live out, together, what campus vivant’e has always stood for, in such a way that it can endure even without us, its founders.

Always serving a higher purpose, for the next generation and beyond.



At the moment, this development reminds me of permaculture, which for us is so much more than just organic gardening:

You start by training a young tree up a stake.

The stake is important; it provides support.

But if it remains in place for decades, it eventually prevents the tree from learning to stand firmly on its own in the wind.

If you remove it too soon, the tree will break.

‘When can I let go? – How can I tell that something is truly self-supporting?’

The trick lies in removing the stake at just the right moment.

That is exactly where we are now.

Nature explains and illustrates many things

The landscape around us offers me inspiration, especially in difficult moments.
And just as nature has endured extreme drought and water shortages over the last seven years, the heavy snowfall this winter has finally brought a wonderful abundance of water:
The rivers and springs are flowing again, and plants and greenery are appearing as they haven't for a long time.

So here, too, I am learning from nature: to continue to trust, to be patient, like a plant.
Supported by something Greater.
Just as we have always trusted.
Because without this trust, the 'campus vivante' would not exist at all.



I don't know today where the path will lead us.
But I know very clearly why I personally want to continue along it, and with what attitude.

And I'm delighted for everyone who wishes to continue on this path with us, whether in our daily lives or from afar. **People who can say 'YES' with complete conviction.**
Yes, to play a part as courageous shapers of a world in which humanity, sovereignty, personal responsibility and solidarity are not merely fine words, but become a reality lived out by us.

Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who has accompanied me and the Campus for many years – in spirit, in heart, and along visible and invisible paths, even through these quieter periods.

With my very best wishes for a blessed, refreshing and clarifying summer.
Looking forward to autumn and all its abundance,

Warm regards,
itto

Stefanie Tapal-Mouzoun
Founder and Visionary

