

# The Church's Response to Covid-19 Global Crisis: Pastoral and Management Challenges

# **A Crisis Management Perspective**

# Dr. Michael F. Keppel

Ph.D in Business Administration and Social Science

Founder & Managing Partner Keppel Managementpartners GmbH, Frankfurt/GER Adjunct Professor of Crisis Management at the Program of Church Management Professor (Lecturer) of Crisis Management at IESE Business School, Barcelona/ESP Currently CRO and co-leader of the task force Covid19 at Eisenmann SE, Böblingen/GER





# The COVID19 outbreak leads to challenges in our present life and also to fundamental questions how we live

# COVID19 is at first a humantarian crisis

#### **Business**

- Significant impact on global economy
- Shut down of industries and public facilities
- Closing of stores and shift of consumption to online business
- Significant damage to supply chain
- Increasing insolvencies expected

#### **Social**

- Obvious weaknesses in the health system
- Social Distancing vs Emotional Closeness
- Uncertainity of the outcome
- Psychological pressure thru isolation and financial uncertainity and poorness

#### **Spiritual**

- Pope Francis: "We cannot expect to stay healthy in an unhealthy system"
- Questions of solidarity, the use of wealth, the division of rich and poor, humility towards human life, nature and our planet

### Focus of today

# Mitigation of severe negative impact on human beings and systems

- Protection of Workforce
- Ensuring financial stability
- Achieving sound judgement in a new and unclear situation

# Recommendation for immediate actions in dioceses and parishs

- Set up a Task Force to coordinate all COVID19 measures
- Implement Teams to manage all relevant challenges adequately
- Clear Guidelines to transform instructions by authorities
- Open communication and transparency to employees, parish members and public



#### **COVID19 Crisis Management**

### Lessons Learnt from economical crisis and Crisis Management Approach

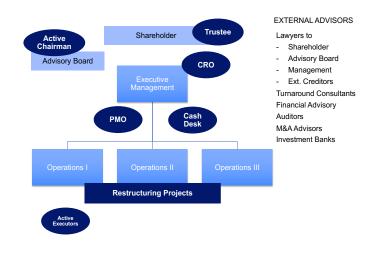
Learning from Crisis Management

**General Flements** 

#### **Process Steps**

- Analyse current situation
- Root causes and scenarios on further developments
- Analysis and management of stakeholder
- Design of immediate and strategic actions
- Implementation of operating model including business plan and cash plan
- Process is key
- Comprehensive response concept

## **Execution, Coordination, Integration**



#### KEPPEL

- **External crisis management experts**
- Separate, overlaying organization with decision competence

Managing the process in a professional and competent way to ensure agile reaction and quick adaequate decision making in situation of uncertainity



#### **COVID19 Crisis Management**

## Task Force as integration and coordination platform is essential

#### **Task Force**

- Gathering, collection and distribution of all information re COVID19, including instruction of authorities
- Decisions on actions and instructions
- Approving proposed decisions from teams
- Determine internal and external communication
- Virtual meetings, high frequency: daily and ad hoc
- Pro active and pragmatic decision making

#### **Task Force** on diocese and parish level **Priest/ Bishop Administration Vicar General** Administration Additional members Head and/or Head **Personell Function** Head of PGB/ PFC1) **Facility Function** Disease/ Workforce/ People Financial Stability Infrastructure **Health Expert** Protection Management Project Manager • IT platforms and cyber • Implement guidelines Short term and mid protection to enable Communiaccording to official term working from home health authorities Liquidity management cation Scenarios and Workplace desinfction Crisis instructions Update on authorities Guidelines on use of Manager, if contingency plans canteen or even closing information needed Online treasury and alternative food Workplace desinfction supplies Action plan for infected/ systems Governmental supports Access to buildings contact persons Seperation of teams/ Dividing critical teams/ individuals departments



Michael F. Keppel

Independent Crisis Manager

Founder & Managing Partner Keppel Managementpartners GmbH, Frankfurt/ Germany

Professor (Lecturer)
IESE Business School,
Barcelona/ Munich

Adjunct Professor in crisis management at the Program School of Church

#### **COVID19 Crisis Management**

Michael F. Keppel is an independent senior restructuring executive and works in crisis management since 1992. Michael studied business administration in Freiburg und in Cologne. He holds a master in business administration (Diplom-Kaufmann) (1991) and a ph.D (Dr. rer.pol) (1996) both from the university of Cologne. He attended the AMP program at IESE Business School in 2011.

He is a professor (lecturer) in crisis management at IESE Business School, Barcelona/ Munich and an adjunct professor in crisis management in the Program School of Church.

In his professional life he takes over executive roles as Chief Restructuring Officer (CRO), Chairman of Supervisory Board, Active Chairman and Trustee in out-of-court-restructuring cases and in insolvencies. He is a founder and Managing Partner of Keppel Managementpartners GmbH, Frankfurt/ Germany. Until 2008 and prior to his self-employment Michael worked as a Partner and Managing Director of AlixPartner and Alvarez & Marsal and as a senior principal with Droege & Comp in the restructuring unit. Prior to this he was a partner of Keppel-Group, his own family business in media retail and wholesale. He started his career with KPMG where he was manager of the corporate recovery unit and member of the center of competence.

Presently, he is CRO of Eisenmann SE, Böblingen/ Germany where he co-leads the COVID19-Task Force. He is also member of the supervisory board of Semper Idem Underberg AG, Rheinberg/ Germany and a managing director of the fund Atlantik S.A., Luxembourg. In the past, he was a chairman of the supervisory board of Kathrein SE, Rosenheim/ Germany and Co-Chairman of Pfleiderer Group S.A., Warsaw/Poland and a chairman of Pfleiderer GmbH & Co.KG, Neumarkt/Germany. His past cases were IVG AG, TEMMELR-Group, PHOENIX Pharmahandel, drugstore chain Ihr Platz GmbH & Co.KG and SecurLog.

He was a member of the Parish Financial Committee of Frankfurt Dom-Gemeinde, Frankfurt, and is a member of the supervisory board of Deutscher Orden, Weyarn/ Germany. He is married for more than 20 years and father of 4 children.

E-mail: mfkeppel@keppel-management.com and mkeppel@iese.edu