## Covid. Senior Italia FederAnziani, on 9 March garrison in front of Palazzo Chigi to remember the victims

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Messina: "We hope that the Prime Minister, the Presidents of the Senate and of the Chamber, the Ministers and other institutional offices can join us for a minute of meditation in honor of our one hundred thousand dead".

o4 MAR — "In a few days we will exceed the threshold of one hundred thousand deaths from Coronavirus in Italy since the beginning of the pandemic. Mostly it is about the elderly of this country, the most fragile people, parents and grandparents, and we are stunned and worried by the general indifference in the face of this silent carnage that takes place every day". To declare it is **Roberto Messina**, National President of Senior Italia FederAnziani who also announced that "for this reason at 12:00 on Tuesday 9 March, the date on which that fateful threshold will unfortunately be exceeded according to projections, we will be in Rome in Piazza Colonna in front of Palazzo Chigi, with a symbolic garrison, in compliance with anti-Covid regulations, in order to remember the victims and testify to their closeness to their families. We hope that the Prime Minister Draghi, the Presidents of the Chamber and Senate, the Ministers and other institutional offices will join us for a minute of meditation in honor of our one hundred thousand dead. From what we see, the situation is unfortunately not destined to improve, given the rapidity of the diffusion of the variants and the slowness with which vaccinations for the elderly proceed".

"To date – Messina remembers – vaccinated people are just 2.44% of the total. At this rate, it will take more than a year and ten months to cover 70% of the population, that is, we should arrive at January 2023. But how has the face of this country changed until then? How many more tens of thousands of lives have we had to lose? What will happen to our economy? Of the jobs, businesses, small businesses of children and grandchildren? Nobody seems to want to lift their heads from everyday life and project themselves forward to answer these questions. We hear all the political forces saying that we have to change pace, but here the only step that changes is that of the number of dead, which continues to grow. There were 9,183 deaths in February. In the first three days of March alone, another 936 deaths are added, with a trend that is growing again. Added to the 14,357 in January, we arrive at 24,476 since the beginning of 2021, with an average of 394 deaths per day, and we have reached 98,635 since the beginning of the pandemic. These are mainly elderly people. In fact, according to the latest ISS update, the average age of patients who died and positive for SARS-CoV-2 has risen to 81. First of all, it was necessary to protect the 4 million and 400 thousand over 80, we would have had to vaccinate them all by March to significantly reduce mortality. We knew that the finish line would be difficult to reach, but we cannot continue to see it moving forward over time".

"There are Regions – he specifies – in which the reservations for vaccination of the over 80s have only started now, which means that elderly and frail people, with various diseases, for which the lethality of the virus exceeds 20%, will be forced to wait weeks, months, to receive both doses of the vaccine and finally be able to breathe a sigh of relief. And finally we think of all the sick and immunocompromised people who cannot get the vaccine, sometimes more fragile even than the over 80 themselves. We attend without batting an eyelid the bulletin of daily deaths in the late afternoon of every day. Nowadays only a few shrink their hearts thinking of the sufferings of families, of the losses of our human libraries that are going away. Let's think about what a father wouldn't do to save his son. But what must and can a child do to save his loved one? By now Italian families are anesthetized by all this and it is lived as if it were part of normality. In order not to give in to this logic of indifference, to overcome this tragic threshold that is not just a number, we have chosen to stop for a moment of greeting and reflection, which is meant to be at the same time an incentive not to give up and to make quick decisions, in the good of the country ".

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