



*Josip Heit in an interview on the Holy Pentecost 2020 in the coronavirus crisis*

At Pentecost, Christians celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. After Easter and Christmas, it is the highest festival in the church year. The Bible records that the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples and apostles on that day. Suddenly they could speak foreign languages and tell people from all over the world about the deeds of Jesus, according to the Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament.

And for the Whitsun Festival 2020, in the current times of the coronavirus crisis, we interviewed Mr. Josip Heit, CEO of GSB Gold Standard Banking Corporation AG, what meaning the Whitsun Festival has for the citizens and how the economy could change with the home office ?

Mr. Heit, the Christian feast of Pentecost is just around the corner. Is this a special feast for you?

Josip Heit: "Pentecost is a very special festival for every Christian. It reminds us that Peter inspired his listeners so much with the Christian message of Jesus that, according to the story, 3,000 of them were baptized. That is why the " Birthday of the Church" and the beginning of worldwide missions.

But no matter how much joy and faith there may be, as an economist, I see the big churches facing major economic problems at Pentecost 2020 due to the expected decline in church tax revenue due to the corona. The churches could face a loss of income of at least 25 to 30 percent. This is significant, since the personnel costs of churches are already around 70 percent, as I know.

There could be a lot of lamentations, up to and including the sale and closure of conference centers, hospitals, kindergartens and the like, also because I don't see a real crisis strategy. Important for development are islands of hope and, above all, sustainable strategic priorities, such as pastoral care as an opportunity to talk in inner cities and at tourist locations or support in crisis situations such as homelessness.

Despite the crisis, which has also hit us as a company, as well as many corporations in the European economic zone, we as a company have tried to help and recently donated 95,000 euros to church organizations, because right now it is important to stand together in the Christian faith."



Mr. Heit, do you think the business world will come to terms with the coronavirus?

Josip Heit: "With the spread of the corona virus, what had been the subject of heated debate for years became possible very quickly in many places: entire workforces worked from home for weeks and months. The corona pandemic has shown that the home office is a working model for everyone Suddenly everyone did it and realized: Hooray, that works somehow.

Now that the restrictions are being relaxed, it will become clear whether people will be clear about what they specifically want to keep. In addition to the ideal, the entire economy will think about a model that one could still live with - if what one originally imagined cannot be realized. Of course, employees have to provide arguments as to why the home office is a good working model that is under discussion. In the home office I can approach certain tasks more productively or creatively. Or: Travel times are reduced, costs can be lowered."

Mr. Heit, do you think home office will prevail?

Josip Heit: "As a rule, productivity in the home office drops in the first phase - until you have

adapted to the new structure. Then it increases. However, various conditions must be met for this, which are both in the responsibility of the individual as well as the responsibility of the employer. GSB Gold Standard Banking Corporation AG is currently working at full speed to clearly define the work package for the individual.

Here, however, the individual employee is also asked, whether employed or freelance for the GSB Gold Standard Banking Corporation AG. The first thing to consider is how do I regulate my availability? Working from home is a highly flexible and mobile form of work, it automatically comes with very flexible working hours.

If you don't have clear structures, not only for the daily routine, but also for the course of the week, you will quickly have problems completing your tasks. In the last few weeks, this has become apparent to many who no longer even know what day of the week it is. This is very dangerous, and above all everyone has to pay attention to it for themselves. Even professionals fall into this trap again and again.

And to come back to this year's Pentecost festival, the question of social, ecological and creative justice must be just as much a focus of reconstruction as the home office as a creative possibility of the working world in the 21st century, because only then will we survive this crisis together!

I wish all people God's blessings, strength and above all health." [GSB Gold Standard Banking Corporation AG](#)

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