

Speech from MS ELISABETH RAZESBERGER

President of the Chapel - 22.09.2021

The Chapel for Europe is an international non-profit organisation. As an organisation, we embrace and invite the diversity of Brussels. Brussels is host to people from more than 180 countries.

Whatever happens in the world has an impact on the work and life of the people who live here.

At the Chapel, people find space for prayer, meditation and silence. There is also space for encounter and thinking together. We reflect on questions which can help us manage the challenges we are facing and inspire us in the search for a common future, together.

The Austrian monk and mystic David Steindl-Rast says that religion is a source of light. Over time, religious founders created candlesticks and lamps to carry this light. These lamps can look very different.

They also vary according to the place and the time when they were made. They were influenced by tradition, the course of history and the personality of their founders. We have the grace to admire these various lamps and be warmed and filled by the light. They remind us that we all carry the same light.

For me this illustrates the understanding 'united in diversity' which the Chapel for Europe aims to promote.

We all carry the same light.

My wish is for the Chapel for Europe to be carried into the next 20 years by this very light.