



## Dates and venues

### Thursday 27 April 2017

II International Congress on CA  
Synod Hall – Vatican  
with the participation of Pope Francis

### Friday 28 and Saturday 29 April 2017

IFCA's VII Ordinary Assembly  
Rome, Casa Tra Noi - Via Monte del Gallo 113

### Sunday morning 30 April 2017

Italian Catholic Action,  
with CA from all parts of the world,  
will meet Pope Francis  
on the occasion of 150th anniversary  
of its founding

[congress2017.catholicactionforum.org](http://congress2017.catholicactionforum.org)

[congress2017@catholicactionforum.org](mailto:congress2017@catholicactionforum.org)



## Promoters



**International Forum of Catholic Action (IFCA)**  
[www.catholicactionforum.org](http://www.catholicactionforum.org)



**Azione Cattolica Italiana (ACI)**  
[www.azionecattolica.it](http://www.azionecattolica.it)

in collaboration with  
**Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life**  
[www.laityfamilylife.org](http://www.laityfamilylife.org)

International Forum of Catholic Action (IFCA)  
with Azione Cattolica Italiana (ACI)

## II INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS on Catholic Action



**Catholic  
Action  
is mission**  
with everyone and for everyone

**Rome | Vatican City**  
**27 - 30 April 2017**

# Catholic Action who we are today

## Lay people

We are the vast majority of the people of God (EG 102) and carry out the Church's mission in the world. We are the missionary disciples of Jesus, amidst the people with all their worries and hopes (GS 1, EG 177-258), and where we live our calling to sanctity.

## with a vocation

"People's lives, is particularly suitable for Catholic Action, made up of diocesan lay people which acts in close corresponsibility with their Pastors. The popularity of your Association as an intraecclesial venture is of great help to you in this regard as it knows how to bring together all that which contributes towards the transformation of society in order to orientate it towards the common good". (Pope Francis, 03.05.2014)

This lay identity materializes as a specific vocation in CA, as a gift, as a distinctive way of lay ministry, when it is undertaken freely, in an organic and stable way, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit (CL 31).

This belonging to the local Church (this diocesan characteristic), which renders the universal Church visible, means being part of the Church's life and of its ecclesial structures to help in the growth of the Christian community (AG 15, EN 73, CL 31).

**In communion** with pastors, participating in pastoral plans (CL 31) together with the other ecclesial movements working in full cooperation (AA 20) and corresponsibility.

**En salida** "outgoing", with a missionary spirit, assuming all the Church's missionary aspect so that the Gospel may transform reality (CL31, EG 34-39).

**With everyone and for everyone** to foster a culture in favour of encounter, the common good, peace and solidarity with an ecumenical and interreligious dimension and with non-believers (EG 111-134, EG 238-258).

**In all places** especially towards the prevalent world wounds so as to be merciful "misericordiar": poverty, lack of work, housing, exploitation of the planet, wars, human trafficking, immigration, dependencies (EG 52-109 and 177-258).

**In all life's circumstances** starting from the family whose welfare is decisive for the future of the world and that of the Church (AL 31), in social/political, cultural, economical, environmental care, political spheres, etc, in order to prompt a new way of life (LS 202-246).

Catholic Action found different ways of expression in different cultures (AA 20), to suit the different realities in order to serve, develop mature and committed lay people and to be a concrete experience of being a community (EG 77) covering different stages in life and all social conditions.

Thus, with its associative criterion and with its specific method (CL 31) – see, judge, act, it offers a holistic formation itinerary and a lay spirituality, embodied in everydaylife for the carrying out of the mission.

## II Congress on CA the goal which inspires us

For our times we propose a CA as an effective instrument for the Church's mission, People of God, which forms mature lay people, missionary disciples, corresponsable in the Church, mystery of communion and in society.

## Objectives

**Propose a lively, attractive, relevant CA for our times.**

**Show that Catholic Action can function in all parts of the world.**

**Show from experience the itinerary which Catholic Action proposes to individuals and groups to live their own faith with a missionary spirit.**

**Motivate people of all ages to make the associative option as a stimulus for participation and responsibility.**

**Enrich with dialogue and exchange the life of CA groups in all realities.**

