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International Forum of Catholic Action

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The event will be held at the end of the Jubilee for Associations and Movements and on the occasion of the initiative One Minute for Peace that IFCA has proposed every 8 June since 2014, the year in which Pope Francis organised a meeting in the Vatican gardens, on 8 June, to invoke peace, with the then President of Israel, Shimon Peres, the President of the Palestinian National Authority, Maḥmūd 'Abbās - Abu Mazen and in the presence of the Patriarch of Constantinople, Bartholomew I.

The conference is organised in four parts: institutional greetings, an introductory session with a speech on the topic 'The Franciscan message "Pax et Bonum" from Italy to the world and its relevance today'; a scientific session on the topic 'International law in global polycrises. The only way for dialogue between nations for the prevention and resolution of conflicts and for the promotion of peace; a session of testimonies from countries in conflict on the formation of consciences of peace and reconciliation.

At the end of the Conference, a torchlight procession was held in Piazza Pia to invoke peace.

Participants in the Conference included members of the Secretariat of the International Forum of Catholic Action representing the 27 Member Countries, members of Italian Catholic Action (in particular CA of Rome and the dioceses of Lazio), young people of different faiths and religions, persons responsible for international associations and movements present in Rome on the occasion of their Jubilee on 7 and 8 June, organisations and associations connected to the Italian CA.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

ROME
and **ONLINE**

SALA SAN PIO X
VIA DELL'OSPEDALE 1

Pax et bonum.
ESTABLISHING PEACE
FOR THE COMMON
GOOD THROUGH
INTERNATIONAL LAW

SUNDAY
8 JUNE 2025
5.30 - 8.00 p.m.

Torchlight
procession
TO PRAY FOR PEACE
ROME, PIAZZA PIA
9 p.m.



THEMATIC FOCUS

To re-establish the pre-eminence of international law as an instrument of dialogue in the current global context of many conflicts is a complex challenge, but an essential GOAL for reducing armed conflicts and the open veins of polycrisis: unregulated migration, growing inequalities, climate change, food insecurity, pandemics and out-of-control artificial intelligence.

To strengthen international courts: to strengthen the authority and jurisdiction of institutions such as the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to hold responsible persons who have committed war crimes and international crimes, regardless of their position or nationality. This requests greater cooperation from states and greater funds for these institutions.

To reform the United Nations Security Council: to address the limitations of the UN Security Council, in particular the veto power of permanent members, which can be an obstacle to effective action in conflict prevention and resolution. This could involve broadening the Council's composition to better reflect the current geopolitical landscape and revisiting the singular veto mechanism, which could be superseded by a qualified majority.

To promote multilateral initiatives: encourage and facilitate dialogue between nations through multilateral platforms such as the UN, regional organisations and international conferences. These platforms can serve as spaces for conflict prevention and resolution, mediation and measures to build trust and factual truth.

To favour second-level diplomacy with informal dialogues and exchanges involving civil society actors, academics and experts from different countries. These can help to promote understanding, build trust and create channels of communication even in the key of conflict.

To promote sustainable development goals and to address issues such as poverty, inequality and climate changes, which can contribute to conflicts and instability.

To support and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all individuals, regardless of their nationality, ethnicity or religion. This can help to prevent conflicts and create a more just and equitable international order.

To promote education on international law: to integrate education on international law and human rights into school programmes and public awareness campaigns to encourage a culture of respect for international norms and principles.

To demand good example from the States: they must demonstrate their commitment to international law by consistently adhering to their legal obligations and respecting international institutions. A system of independent indexes could monitor the dynamics of the effective commitment of the states to the agreed goals and diplomatic pressure, sanctions and legal mechanisms could be planned.

SPEAKERS

in alphabetical order

Vincenzo BUONOMO

Pontifical Delegate at the Pontifical University Urbaniana

Sandro CALVANI

President of the Scientific Committee of the Toniolo Institute

Nicoletta DENTICO

Expert in cooperation and human rights, Society for International Development (SID)

Emanuela GITTO

Vice-president of Italian Catholic Action

Rafael GROSSI

Director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Emilio INZAURRAGA

Responsible for IFCA America, professor

Monica LUGATO

Ordinary Professor of International Law, LUMSA

Cardinal Pierbattista PIZZABALLA

Patriarch of Jerusalem of the Latins

Monsignor Pero SUDAR

former auxiliary bishop of Sarajevo

Isabel TRUJILLO

Ordinary Professor of Philosophy of Law, University of Palermo