PRESS RELEASE

4TH EDITION OF THE “ECONOMY AND SOCIETY” INTERNATIONAL AWARD
ANNOUNCEMENT AND PRESENTATION OF THE WINNER

Save the Date
Rome, Wednesday, May 29th, 2019 - Palazzo della Cancelleria, 11.00 am

Mary L. Hirschfeld’s book “Aquinas and the Market. Toward a humane Economy” (Harvard University Press, 2018) won the 4th edition of the International “Economy and Society” Award, sponsored by the Centesimus Annus – Pro Pontifice Foundation, for the section “Social Doctrine Publications”. The €30,000 prize is awarded every other year to a work that stands out for its original contribution to in depth study and implementation of the Social Doctrine of the Church, is of proven doctrinal soundness and exceptional quality and accessible to the general public. This year the Prize will be awarded on Wednesday, May 29th in the presence of the Vatican Secretary of State Pietro Cardinal Parolin and of the Chairman of the jury Reinhard Cardinal Marx, Archbishop of Munich and Frisinga.

Mary L. Hirschfeld teaches Economics and Theology at Villanova University (USA). Her book offers a fascinating dialogue between the world of economics and the world of faith. Without contesting the value of some intuitions of contemporary economists, she incorporates them into a larger vision of human life drawing in particular from the anthropology of Tomas Aquinas. Economics should not govern our society but pursue man’s happiness. Material wellbeing is in fact an instrumental good that acquires meaning through its potential of contributing to the flowering of human spirit.

Having awarded prizes in the past to a Spanish book (J.L. Martinez, Ciudadania, migraciones y religion), an Italian one (S. Zamagni, L’economia del bene commune) a French one (P. De Lauzun, Finance, un regard chrétien) and a German one (M. Vogt, Prinzip Nachhaltigkeit) this time the Foundation is pleased to award its prize to an English publication. Work is underway on Portuguese and Italian translations of Hirschfeld’s text. This year the prize “Journalism and social media” will not be awarded.

Journalists and media operators who wish to participate must apply, no less than 24 hours before the event, through the Holy See Press Office online accreditation System available at: press.vatican.va/accreditamenti

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