

Salutation by CAPP Chairman Mr. Domingo Sugranyes Bickel

Your Holiness:

Once again, on behalf of the Board and members of the Foundation “Centesimus Annus- Pro Pontifice”, I have the honour of expressing our feelings of devoted filial affection and our heartfelt thanks for the elevated teachings which guide us and inspire us.

Over the past year, despite the terrible tensions and uncertainties we confront as businessmen or professionals, we remained faithful to our commitment of focusing on basic questions rather than conjunctural ones. The theme of our international Conference was in fact “*Family, business: overcoming the crisis with new forms of solidarity*”. It started us on a path of reflection that each one of us will continue to follow in his or her work and family life.

This is our contribution to the “*new evangelization which the modern world urgently needs*”, as the Blessed John Paul II writes at the beginning of the Encyclical from which our Foundation is named. We wanted to involve economics experts and academics, not just businessmen and executives: we reach out to all people in a responsible position, for in becoming members of our Foundation they will pledge commitment to the formative message of the social teachings of the Church.

Our activity continues to spread to new countries. Membership has increased and new chapters are being formed in Germany, the United States (New York), Spain (Valencia and Malaga), France, Slovakia and Switzerland (Lugano). In Italy we have tried to stimulate activity in some regions, particularly in Basilicata, Sardinia, Veneto and Lombardy (the annual Italian meeting was in fact held at the Paul VI Foundation in Brescia). We have established new contacts in the U.K., where interest in our educational work has intensified after Your Holiness’s visit.

In order to reach an ever larger audience we are preparing to launch an online course in the Social Doctrine of the Church. This initiative is built on and amplifies the experience acquired through the courses we have been holding here in Rome in cooperation with the Pontifical Lateran University.

At the same time we are continuing our efforts to raise funds in support of the activity of the Apostolic See and we are happy to place in Your Holiness’ hands the result, however modest, of our work.

I wish to express heartfelt gratitude to His Eminence Cardinal Nicora, former President of APSA, a precious source of inspiration that has often oriented our action. Our thanks go also to the new President of APSA, Archbishop Calcagno, to our faithful international assistant Archbishop Celli, and to all our ecclesiastical assistants wherever they operate. Without their support our work would not endure.

If Your Holiness will allow, representatives of the diverse national groups will now say a few words in their respective language. Then we humbly beg your Holiness to impart His blessing on all of us, our families and our collaborators.

Domingo Sugranyes
Chairman
Foundation Centesimus Annus – Pro Pontifice