

International Conference--Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice Foundation

## Rethinking Key Features of Economic and Social Life

Monday, 25 May and Tuesday, 26 May, 2015

GROUP DISCUSSIONS (Italian-speakers)

**Chairman:** Dr. Francesco Sansone (FCAPP Milano)

**Rapporteur** Dr. Ondrej Socuvka (FCAPP Slovakia)

### 2nd Session

#### **An urgent message for today's world: can Catholic Social Teaching be spread even without the Christian faith?**

We shall speak about different levels of understanding and reflecting CST in the society. The first level is level of very general moral and common values, recognized and acknowledged by our contemporary society. At second stage, we shall consider individual testimony of one person's Christian values in his professional life. In the third level, we shall speak about individual's confession of Christ and Christian values being shared with the rest of the society, forming hierarchy of universally recognized moral principles.

Some aspects of CST can be recognized also by non-believers. Managers shall serve as first examples and testimonies of Christian principles in their professional environment, therefore formation of next generation of managers with integrity and sharing Christian values is crucial. Catholic managers shall benefit from both moral values and professional managerial skills, sustained by Prayer and personal relationship with Christ. Managers shall motivate their employees - both by personal example and by creating studying opportunities - to learn management best practices, combining studies of managements practices with Catholic Encyclicas teachings.

Diffusion of CST remains at heart of CAPP activities and a passage from theory to real life recommendations shall remain our priority. Challenges remain answering not only WHAT? (CST values are clearly defined as solidarity and subsidiarity), but HOW? - how not only declare these principles, but also live these principles in daily life. We all need courage to make personal testimony of living CST values and principles, even in the companies that do not share the same principles. Finding ways how to discuss about these principles, serving with our own testimony, remains to be discussed (roundtables, workshops, management seminars etc.).

Dialogue between Church and corporation officials is enriching for both sides, and we are living in constant interdependency.

German entrepreneurs have provided temporary employment for young people, enriching both their personal life and work experience - concrete working experience provides sense of dignity for workers.

Problems of immigration will not be resolved by European measures, but by focusing on improving living and human conditions in the home countries and regions of the immigrants. This will be done not only by providing financial support, but also by creating opportunities of work.

We are called to become testimonies of our ideas and values, including the perspective of responsibility in our choices. This includes not closing our eyes in situations of grave injustice. Responsible actions will result in positive impact on our society and on the nature as well.

Our objective shall be to promote creation of new cultural and professional situations where we can become testimonies of our values and CST teaching. These occasions shall result in formulation of concrete and practical proposals. Consolidation of CAPP's activities from the last years, sharing best practices and concrete recommendations are welcome also by Catholic Church leaders.

We are called to be people of action, in the topics that are recognized not only by Catholics, but also by secular society, such as humanitarian aid or immigration policies. By providing relevant input in these discussions, making sure values of CST are properly reflected, CAPP members will gain credibility and build bridges with other stakeholders in our contemporary society.