



Together to start again

Collaboration with
Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice Foundation



About us

The *Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice Foundation* (FCAPP) is a Foundation of Vatican law, established in 1993 by Motu Proprio of Saint John Paul II. It includes representatives of the business, financial, academic, professional and third sector who are personally committed to implementing, through concrete actions, the principles of the Social Teaching of the Church (STC). The Foundation is established in the Vatican City.

The Foundation counts more than 300 members. It operates through 28 national / local groups present in 12 countries.

A group of young people from various countries is active within the Foundation.

The purpose of *Centesimus* is to order contemporary economic and social situations in accordance with the principles of the STC. We accomplish this through the contribution of members and prominent personalities working to concretely implement STC principles in daily action for the pursuit of the Common Good - a fair, solidarity-based and sustainable world.

Purposes are described in art. 3 of the statute (reported on the Foundation's website).



Institutional Activities

The horizon of Centesimus' activities is international. Its statutory purposes are pursued through various initiatives: International Conferences, Consultations, National Conferences, the "Economy and Society" International Award, publications and two courses in STC addressed to lay and religious man and women respectively.

The most important event is the annual International Conference (IC) held in the Vatican, which traditionally closes with a private audience with the Holy Father.

In 2020 the IC was held remotely because of the pandemic and addressed the theme: *"Education, governance and business models: Three milestones to the Integral Ecology"*.

The speakers included Mrs Mariya Gabriel, European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mr Francois Villeroy de Galhau, Governor of the Bank of France, and Mrs Annamaria Lusardi, Denit Trust Chair of Economics and Accountancy at George Washington University, Business School and Director of the National Committee for Financial Education.

For the 2021 IC, which will be held in mixed form, in person and digitally, the theme has been chosen: *"Solidarity, Cooperation and Responsibility: the antidotes to fight injustices, inequalities and exclusions"*. At the end, as usual, there will be a private audience with the Holy Father.

FCAPP provides the **“International Economy and Society Award”** which, every two years, rewards the best publications on STC-related topics. The jury is chaired by H.E. Card. Reinhard Marx, secretary Prof. Father Michael Konrad. (The list of winners is published on the Foundation’s website).

Starting in 2021, two scholarships will be awarded to young researchers to attend higher specialization courses, in topics related to the study of a new inclusive, supportive and sustainable model of development, at universities or institutions/ schools of higher education in Italy or abroad. In this way we want to give a small but representative contribution to the study of how to achieve the economy with a human face desired by Pope Francis.

The two scholarships for 2021 were granted thanks to the financial contribution by Ubi Banca, Banca Popolare di Sondrio, Arca Fondi and Federazione di Banche di Credito Cooperativo. (Winners on the website).

Some special projects

Sustainability

Meetings, organized by our national/local chapters, which we have called “*one to many*” on the theme of **integral sustainability** during which various personalities from the world of business, politics, professions and the third sector give evidence of the concrete actions taken towards economic, social and environmental sustainability. Among our guests: Mario Monti, Romano Prodi, Giovanni Frosti, Carlo Tamburi, Stefano Merler and Luca dal Fabbro.

Young people for integral ecology

Series of meetings dedicated to undergraduates and graduates under 30, entitled “**Young people for integral ecology: ESG sustainability and new leadership models**”. Over 150 young people have signed up and have participated in the talks. This is our contribution to the Economy of Francis.



ATRIE alliance

A particularly important initiative that will impact the Foundation's activities in the coming months is the alliance entered into in 2020 with SACRU - Strategic Alliance of Catholic Research Universities.

The alliance, called ATRIE - Alliance Team Research in Integral Ecology

- aims to initiate joint research on issues of particular relevance to today's society.

"More women leadership for a better world: Care as a driver for our common home" was chosen as the first theme. Eleven professors of different disciplines from universities in various countries around the world have joined the project: Italy, USA, Australia, Chile, Brazil, Japan, Spain, Portugal, Germany. An ambitious project that aims to make a multi-disciplinary contribution - bearing in mind SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) n. 5 - to the process towards gender equality. In particular, to demonstrate the positive effects of a better use of women's skills and talents in addressing the major crises of the post-pandemic world and in the process towards integral sustainability. This is an issue that is being addressed by companies that have decided to adopt ESG criteria and that must prepare the Report on Non-Financial Activities.

The Foundation with Africa

The African continent has a high rate of poverty and many problems linked to the pandemic, but at the same time has enormous potential that must be explored and helped to become reality in order to recover a path of sustainable development. We believe we can make our contribution to this indispensable process both with our presence, starting with a number of countries, and through alliances with business associations and local initiatives.

Impact

Since its inception, 28 years ago, *Centesimus* has initiated a fruitful dialogue with the business, financial, political, professional and third sector.

The involvement of businesses and banks in our activities has been invaluable, allowing us to better understand the problems and direct our action more effectively.

Dialogue and exchange of views have allowed to increase the knowledge of the phenomena, to frame them in a concrete path of pursuit of a new model of fair, solidarity-based, inclusive and sustainable development, also finding innovative solutions that have been brought to the attention of the Holy Father.

Why to support our activities

In the last three years FCAPP has focused on the study, dissemination and application of the principles contained in the Encyclical **Laudato si'** (LS). We have addressed the issues of the changes needed in finance; in educational models (methods and contents) to form new leaders; in business models and governance; climate change; digital evolution and its impact on the world of work and business and related ethical issues; the process towards the adoption of ESG criteria and the complex issue of integral sustainability with a special focus on evaluation standards; the circular economy, and in recent months the issues raised by the pandemic and how to deal with the resulting health, economic and social crisis.

We have operated with all the social encyclicals in mind, starting with *Rerum Novarum* and **Centesimus annus** (CA), from which we take our name, and whose principles are still surprisingly relevant today. Those principles are particularly useful in the process of post-

pandemic reconstruction: the appeal to the dignity of the worker and of work and its social dimension; the just wage (which must be sufficient to support the worker and his/her family); justice for the poor; the recognition of the role of business and the just profit achieved with regard to the integral development of the human person because business is not only a "corporation of capital" but also a "corporation of persons" both those who provide capital and those who provide labor; the important role of the family; the need for the market and business to be oriented toward the common good; and, last but not least, the importance of education (CA, 33).

In the third millennium the whole world is called to face new challenges and problems, people's expectations for a new world of solidarity, equity, inclusion and sustainability and a different model of globalization are growing. The STC and the encyclical *Laudato si'* in particular provide a universal and interreligious message on how the new model of progress must be, emphasizing the urgency of taking care of our common home, of changing gear from an economy that excludes to one that includes, indicating the way of the "good economy" that takes care of all people, no one excluded, and of nature because everything is interconnected. The LS also raises the issue of justice between the generations, which is often neglected: "*we cannot speak of sustainable development without solidarity between the generations*".

Pope Francis' call for the adoption of behaviors and goals oriented to integral ecology, which is not theory but concrete action, is influencing the orientation of consumers, businesses and markets. It is a must for sustaining humanity and its prosperity and for the sustainable growth of businesses.

Centesimus proposes to be a link between the STC and the concrete workings of the economic, financial and



political world; to help discover new models of economic and social development inspired by integral ecology.

We face not two, separate crises (one environmental and another economic and social) but one, single, planetary and complex economic, social and environmental crisis. To address this, we will promote a dialogue with business, academia, professions, politics and civil society with the goal of implementing an integral human development which places humanity in a position to achieve critical goals:

- **responsible use of technology** for the benefit of the individual and communities,
- **strengthening of the family** as the cornerstone of the civilization of love,
- **creative work** as a participatory and supportive factor,
- **business** as a community of production, innovation, culture and creation of value for shareholders and all who interact with the firm - while respecting and protecting the environment,
- **an economy for the good of all,**
- **communication** as a tool at the service of sustainable growth,
- **politics** as a service to all citizens,
- **fostering mutual respect among peoples, religions and ethnic groups** as the cornerstone of human coexistence.

Such a culture - if supported with the necessary resources - is capable of guiding humanity towards a future marked by both a better and sustainable society and for the benefit of companies themselves.

Financial support for the Foundation will promote broader, faster and more incisive implementation of these goals.

How to support

While we invite any contribution, we wish to highlight three levels of collaboration with FCAPP for which the amounts are suggested:

1. **Becoming a promoter member of the Foundation** by subscribing a fee starting from 10,000.00 euros per year;
2. **Support of institutional activities:** from 20,000.00 euros per year. (Multiyear commitment is possible and encouraged);
3. **Support of specific projects**, the name of the supporter will be highlighted, some examples:
 - International Prize - Scholarship section: 20,000.00 euros per year per scholarship; Publications section award: 20,000.00 euros biennial (it is possible to finance several years or just one year);
 - Support for the Africa Project: entire project approx. 40,000.00 euros (it is possible to support only a part);
 - Youth Talks: 10,000.00 euros;
 - Research "More women leadership for a better world: Care as a driver for our Common Home": entire project 60,000,00 euros (it is possible to support only a part);
 - Course in STC and Course for religious men and women: 10,000.00 euros per year each.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to the women, men and all the organizations that support *Centesimus* from all over the world.

Anyone wishing to financially support the Foundation's projects can do so by **bank transfer**.

Account holder and Beneficiary:

Centesimus Annus Foundation

Account n. 25497001

at IOR Institute for Works of Religion, Vatican City

IBAN VA90001000000025497001

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It's kindly requested to indicate the reason for payment.

THANK YOU!

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