



FONDAZIONE CENTESIMUS ANNUS
PRO PONTIFICE

CENTESIMUS ANNUS – PRO PONTIFICE FOUNDATION

2014 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Rome and The Vatican, 8-10 May 2014

THE GOOD SOCIETY AND THE FUTURE OF JOBS:

Can solidarity and fraternity be part of business decisions?

At a time of 'jobless recoveries', with large numbers of unemployed people, jobs and wages seem to be rising at both ends of the skills spectrum and diminishing at the middle. This suggests a breakdown of the 'social elevator', where education, the conventional answer, is no longer seen as the universal remedy. At world level, within globalization and free trade, will wages tend to converge towards the high or the low end of today's scale?

In this context of new inequalities and social deterioration for many, is there anything we can do to work in the direction indicated to us by Pope Francis in his speech on May 25th 2013: "Hence the need to rethink solidarity no longer as simply assistance for the poorest, but as a global rethinking of the whole system, as a quest for ways to reform it... Solidarity is not an additional attitude, it is not a form of social alms-giving but, rather, a social value; and it asks us for its citizenship"?

Solidarity may be understood as redistribution or compensation of the mechanism of market-generated inequalities. But redistribution seems to have reached its limits. There is a need to construct on essential human relations, perhaps using "fraternity" as a more dynamic concept where economic creativity is not incompatible with a better living for all.

And does all that mean anything practical for business? "Corporate Social Responsibility" is probably not a sufficient answer; the question goes much deeper into business decisions and relationships, where a substantial enlargement of aims and vision is possible. There is need for new thinking and courageous experiments.

The Conference will address these questions thanks to a small number of key-note speakers and discussants from academia and professional practice, who will deliver short and structured introductions. One of the sessions will be devoted to interviews of business leaders. Participants will be able to exchange views in two group sessions of 90 minutes each; their views will be summarized in the final session, from which participants may derive conclusions and practical recommendations.

Thursday, 8 May 2014

- 14:30** **Members' General Meeting** (as per art. 17 of our By-laws)
- 15:45** **Welcome and introduction**
- His Eminence Cardinal Calcagno, President of APSA
- Domingo Sugranyes Bickel, President, Centesimus Annus - Pro Pontifice Foundation
- 16:00** **Session 1: A geo-economic view of the world on growth, inequalities and jobs**
- Session chaired by Prof. Alberto Quadrio-Curzio
with a foreword of Prof. Giovanni Marseguerra
- First key-note speech: Dr. Branko Milanovic, The Graduate Center, City University of New York (USA)
- Two discussants: Prof. Alfredo Pastor, IESE (Barcelona)
 Prof. Francis T. Lui - Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Hong Kong)
- 17:00** **Group work 1st session**
- Group A (English, Italian, Spanish simultaneous translation)**
Chairman: Thomas Rusche
Rapporteur: Attilio Tranquilli
- Group B (English)**
Chairman: Robert A. Nalewajek
Rapporteur: Eleonora Bonacossa
- 18:30** **End of session**
- 20.30** **Prayer** in Basilica Santa Maria in Trastevere
- 21:00** **Dinner** at the premises of Comunità Sant'Egidio

Friday, 9 May 2014

- 9:00** **Session 2: Solidarity and fraternity: Utopia or fundamental social dimensions?**
- Session chaired by Joseph F.X. Zahra

Second key-note speech: Dr. Adrian Pabst, University of Kent (UK)

Two Discussants: Prof. Antonio Maria Costa, past Executive Director,
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – UNODC
(Italy)
P. Alvarez de los Mozos sj, Social Justice and Ecology
Secretary, Society of Jesus (Italy)

10:00 Coffee-break

10:30 Session 3: Solidarity and Gift in Business Decisions

Session chaired by Prof. Andrew Abela (CUA, Washington)

Interviews of five business and organization executives: Renate Pilz (D), Robert Leblanc (F), José Vicente Roca (E), Stephen Young and Sean Fieler (USA)

12:00 Group work 2nd session

13:00 Light lunch

14:30 Group work 3rd session

16:00 Final session: Moving towards a Good Society

Session chaired by Domingo Segranyes Bickel

Group reports: Thomas Rusche, Attilio Tranquilli, Robert A. Nalewajek,
Eleonora Bonacossa

Framework for follow-up: Prof. Fabio Pammolli, IMT Lucca (I)

Final speech by Dr. Lawrence Gonzi, past Prime Minister of Malta

18:00 End of session

Saturday, 10 May 2014

9:00 Reading from the Holy Scripture and Meditation led by H.E. Archbishop Claudio Maria Celli, President of Pontifical Council for Social Communication, International Assistant to the Centesimus Annus – Pro Pontifice Foundation

10:00 Holy Mass presided by His Eminence Domenico Cardinal Calcagno

12:00 Audience with His Holiness Pope Francis