

## General Assembly 2024 Greeting Chairwoman AMT

Dearest friends,

as you know this is the last General Assembly in which I will participate as President. The emotion is great, I was part of the Board of Directors for over nine years, five of which as President, the choice not to stand again was very painful.

This could be the opportunity to pull the strings of my presidency. But I am sure that all of you know well – because you participated – what was done and the results achieved. I therefore do not consider it appropriate to take time away from the GA's work.

All together, even if remotely, we have worked with a spirit of service, passion, collaboration and responsibility, for the realization of our mission, which is particularly relevant in these complex, uncertain times characterized by widespread wars, many crises and important transitions. We have started and/or consolidated many paths: internationalisation, collaboration with universities, the involvement of young people, new forms of communication, the choice of topics of global and local relevance, webinars, Dialogues for fully sustainable finance which have recently received the support of the Holy Father.

All our action is and must be oriented towards spreading the SDC, above all through our daily behaviour. You know that I have insisted a lot on this because our example and our testimony are the main road for its diffusion and we have worked on this. I remember that Saint John XXIII in *Mater et Magistra*, 231, states that "Christian social doctrine is an integral part of the Christian conception of life" and Saint John Paul II in *Centesimus Annus*, 5, says that the SDC is an essential element of the new evangelization and "must be known, spread and witnessed". In *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis proposes an "integral ecology" as a new paradigm of justice and invites us to a conversion, to a change in our lifestyle. This is what we must do and this we must bear witness to.

I thank everyone for what you have done and I am sure you will continue to do. I am also grateful for the closeness that many have shown me in particularly difficult moments for me.

In the Mission Report, which is an integral part of the 2023 Budget, you will find everything that has been done by the various groups and the Vatican Foundation, please read it.

In 2023 we celebrated our thirtieth anniversary and experienced particularly exciting and spiritually intense moments; it was nice to feel all close and part of a single plan for the progress of our Mother Church in constant proximity to the Holy Father.

I am leaving the presidency but not Centesimus, I will continue to give my contribution by participating in the work of the Milan group.

I close with a quote from Psalm 34 (33): "Stay away from evil and do good, seek and pursue peace". This is the hope that I address to myself and to all of Centesimus. Good work and good future development.