

Chapitre du Luxembourg

**REPORT ON THE PARTICIPATION OF THE  
LUXEMBOURG CHAPTER AT THE INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION OF THE CENTESIMUS ANNUS  
PRO PONTIFICE FOUNDATION,  
VATICAN CITY, 20-22 JUNE 2024**

Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice Foundation Luxembourg Chapter

Ecclesiastical advisor : H. Em. Jean-Claude Cardinal Hollerich, Archbishop of Luxembourg.

Coordinator : Christophe Déage

Luxembourg Chapter Members : Thomas Antoine, Christophe Déage, Irini de Saint-Sernin, Timothy Fenwick,  
Monica Meyer, Flavia Micilotta, Alessandro Politi and Bruno Théret.

The Luxembourg Chapter of the CAPPF is pleased to send you the following report.

Five members of the Luxembourg Chapter of the Centesimus Foundation, to whom I extend my warmest thanks, took part in the 2024 Convention:

- Bruno Théret,
- Irini de Saint Sernin,
- Timothy Fenwick,
- Monica Meyer,
- and myself.

...and we were delighted to be joined by Ken Kitatani and Kazunao Sato on the two last days, Guillaume Théret and Sonia Muller as guests on the last day, and another member, Alessandro Politi, towards the end of the Convention.

---



Dr. Diego Elias Arfuch with members at Palazzo Borghese

On the evening of 19 June, at the Palazzo Borghese, at the invitation of Timothy, whom we thank once again, we had dinner with Prof. Maurice Whitehead, Director of Heritage Collections, at Venerable English College, and Dr. Diego Elias Arfuch, priest and professor of ancient Christian history at the Gregorian University in Rome, who shared their experiences of the graces they had received in their services to their students and on other occasions.

The Foundation held its Annual General Meeting on 20 June.

The President of the Foundation, Professor Anna-Maria Tarantola, who was behind the creation of the Luxembourg Chapter, has announced that she wishes to end her mandate this year. We thank her for her leadership, she will be dearly missed, but we hope to see her often.



Prof. Anna-Maria Tarantola and H. Em. Pietro, Cardinal Parolin



Prof. Paolo Garonna greeting the Holy Father

She will be replaced by Prof. Paolo Garonna, Professor of Economic Policy at the Lluís Guido Carli University. He has held positions such as Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Director General of ISTAT (the national statistics institute), Chief Economist of Confindustria (the main Italian business association) and Secretary General of the Italian Banking, Insurance and Finance Federation. He is the author of studies and publications on Catholic social teaching, economics and finance.

Following our meeting with Bruno Théret on 17 June at the Residence of France with His Excellency Mr Jean-Claude Kugener, Ambassador to the Holy See, we were given the opportunity to invite the members of our Chapter to the concert and reception held in Rome to mark the Grand Duke's official birthday, in the presence of His Excellency Paul R. Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States in the Secretariat of State of the Holy See.



L'Ambasciatore del Granducato di Lussemburgo presso la Santa Sede  
Jean Claude Kugener e Consorte

vi chiedono  
di fare loro l'onore di partecipare

alla celebrazione  
dell'Anniversario ufficiale di  
Sua Altezza Reale il Granduca di Lussemburgo

con la presenza

S.E.R. Mgr. Paul Richard Gallagher  
Segretario per le Relazioni con gli Stati e le Organizzazioni internazionali  
della Santa Sede

e di

S.Em. Jean-Claude Cardinale Hollerich  
Arcivescovo di Lussemburgo

al concerto  
del compositore e violoncellista lussemburghese  
Sig. André Mergenthaler

che sarà seguito da un ricevimento

presso la Basilica del Sacro Cuore  
Via Marsala 42, 00185 Roma

Giovedì 20 giugno 2024 alle 18.30



From left to right : H. Exc. M. Jean-Claude Kugener, H. Exc. Paul R. Gallagher et H. Em. Jean-Claude, Cardinal Hollerich.

This gave us the joy of greeting our Ecclesiastical Councillor, H. Em. Jean-Claude, Cardinal Hollerich.

On 21 June, we took part in the international conference on the consequences of artificial intelligence: *How to create human well-being, safeguard nature and a peaceful world in the age of generative artificial intelligence ('Gen AI')*. The aim is to ensure that AI is a providential opportunity to create a good and sustainable world for all, by transcending differences and integrating principles shared by all.

The discussions focused on the following points:

To ensure that it is not humanity that is at the service of the machine, but the opposite, it was said that citizens, legislators, researchers and business leaders must cultivate their hearts and take an interest in the ethical principles with which algorithms are developed and used: is it for the sole profit of a few companies or states, or to please God and promote a sustainable world for all?

In other words, it's a question of 'bringing science and religion together' in what has been called the 'algor-ethics' that underpin the 'behaviour' of machines. In this way, AI will be able to assert itself as a providential tool that will help humankind to tackle climate change, to make medical diagnoses very quickly for all those who need them, or to help disabled people in their daily lives with robots, and so on.

One of the dangers is that human beings remain lazy, and do not make sufficient use of the time that AI and robotics will free up to develop ethically, by seeking to connect with the hearts and expectations of others, to change ourselves by turning to God, and to innovate sufficiently to ensure that technological choices reflect this ethical approach. As far as education is concerned, from now on it will necessarily have to incorporate the know-how to use AI with discernment, which means that education, as well as being a priority for young people, is becoming a priority for all ages of life.



Irimi and Christophe in front of the statue of Jeanne d'Arc at the entrance of the Vatican Palace. (Statue offered to s. Pie X by Ass. artistique de Vaucouleurs on 18 April 1909)



Paolo Benanti, TOR

The most notable speaker was the Franciscan friar Paolo Benanti, professor of moral theology at the Gregorian University in Rome.

He invented the concept of ‘algor-ethics’, which is now widely used around the world. He is also a member of the Advisory Committee on AI to Mr Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations,

which will propose recommendations to the ‘Summit of the Future’ to be held in New York from 20 to 23 September this year, on the occasion of the United Nations General Assembly.

The aim of this Summit is important in that it is intended to ensure that humanity adopts a common ideal to follow, rather than nations continuing to pursue only their own particular interests. On the occasion of this Summit, may the grace of God be united with the cooperation of human beings in mutual listening and harmony.

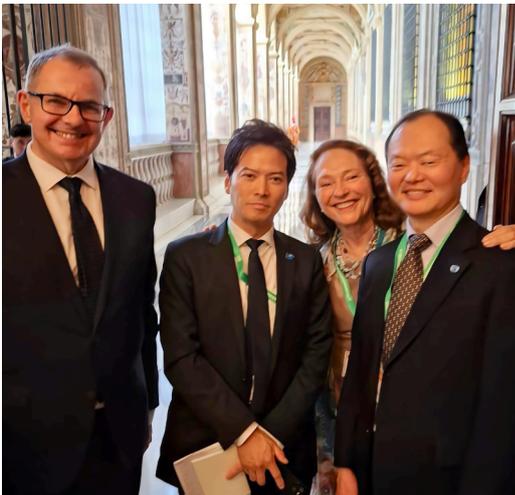


On 22 June: we took part in a private Mass in St Peter's Basilica and a private audience with His Holiness Pope Francis and His Eminence Cardinal Parolin.

In his words, however, Pope Francis wondered whether it was right to use the expression ‘artificial intelligence’, because intelligence can only be authentically enriched and truly

innovative in the search for transcendence, which is an experience that can only be felt by the human soul.

We sensed that the Holy Father places great hope in the Foundation's members and their friendship networks.



Mr. Ken Kitatani and Mr Kazunao Sato with Members at the entrance of Clementine Hall.



Ms Sonia Muller and Mr Guillaume Théret with Members, Clementine Hall, Vatican Palace.

Each participant was then allowed to shake hands with the Holy Father.



Secretary of State H. Em. Pietro, Cardinal Parolin went on to underline what the Pope had said at the G7 Summit on 14 June: it is not algorithms that must make decisions, but human beings, with their conscience seeking to unite with the will of their Creator and reasons that cannot therefore be grasped by simple automatic calculation.



After the audience, thanks to our Member Alessandro Politi, we joined His Excellency Ambassador Alessandro Minuto-Rizzo, former NATO Secretary General and President of the NATO Defence College Foundation, and Guillaume Théret for lunch. Acting Secretary General of NATO and President of the NATO Defence College Foundation, and Guillaume Théret.

Over lunch, Ambassador Rizzo and Alessandro shared their views with us on current international affairs and Luxembourg's role in contributing to peace. Ambassador Rizzo stressed the importance, in international negotiations, of cultivating relations of trust, friendship and even conviviality in order to achieve peace.



Chapitre du Luxembourg



**T**his trip enabled us to strengthen our bonds of friendship in the presence of the Holy Father and His Eminence. It nurtured hope in our souls, filled our hearts with wonderful shared memories and revived us to better contribute to the goals of the Foundation we share.

**WITH GRARITUDE,**

Christophe Déage,  
Coordinator of the Luxembourg CAPPF Chapter  
6th September 2024

---