

## CONCEPT PAPER

### “Face and Voice Are Sacred: Protecting What Makes Us Human”

**(FCAPP Webinar: 11/02/2026)**

Pope Leo: *Technology must serve the human person, not replace it . Face and voice are unique traits of every person and form the foundation of human identity and relationships.*

Reflecting on this evidence, Pope Leo XIV introduces his Message for the 60th World Day of Social Communications, which will be celebrated on 17 May 2026, with a focus on digital communication and artificial intelligence, highlighting the need to protect human dignity in an age increasingly shaped by technological innovation

These considerations will be the point of departure of the webinar that CAPP Foundation is organizing in cooperation with the Dicastery for Communication of the Vatican, to contribute to the reflections of the 60<sup>th</sup> world day of social.

The risk that Technology could replace the human person is a reality since the arrival of A.I. and its banalization through apps that allow everybody to access powerful tools that could perfectly reproduce the voices, the faces, the bodies of every single citizen of the world, using the traces that each one of us leave everyday on Internet and in the new digital services that surround us, has made.

Most of the attention is now focalized on the new app of Grock (the A.I. tool of X) launched end of 2025 that allow -against payment- to produce deepfake nudes of every person starting from ordinary pictures. An app that is raising many concerns everywhere and on which the EU institutions have opened an investigation. But the first concerns on this matter were raised already a couple of years ago, by the creative workers, such as the actors that are required by production companies to sell forever their voices and their face and body images, in order to be reproduced in future even after their death. A decision that only the famous ones could resist and oppose, while many of the young actors have been forced to accept, in order not to be excluded from the labour market.

The words of Pope Leo on episodes like this are very clear: *“The face and voice are sacred. They were given to us by God, who created us in his image and likeness, calling us to life with the word that he himself addressed to us; a word that first resounded through the centuries in the voices of the prophets and then in the fullness of time became flesh. “*

But the business imperatives of some Big Tech companies apparently are not aware of (or don't want to take in account) these principles. What has to be the reaction of institutions and of all those that believe in Catholic Social Doctrine in front of cases like these that infringes some basic ethical principles, some regulations (at least in Europe) and even the Catholic doctrine ?