

Centesimus Annus Pro-Pontifice Foundation General Assembly and International Conference 2026

28th – 29th and 30th May 2026

DRAFT PROGRAMS (23-3-2026)

**FCAPP General Assembly,
Rome Thursday 28th May**

Catholic Social Thought Facing the Challenges to Freedom and Pluralism in a Disordered Economy and Society Renewing the Vision of *Centesimus Annus*

9.00 – 10.00: Holy Mass

10.00 - 10.05 Welcome and Introduction: Paolo Garonna, President FCAPP. “A General Assembly structured as a corporate and spiritual retreat, inspired by the Synodal method and aiming at renewing the vision of *Centesimus Annus*”.

10.05 - 10.25 Meditation H.E. Msgr. Claudio Maria Celli, FCAPP International Ecclesiastical Counsellor

10.25 - 10.45 Key-note Address: H.E. Msgr. Giordano Piccinotti, President of APSA
“How to strengthen the cohesion and motivation of the FCAPP members and their stakeholders? How to provide leadership and build consensus in diverse and pluralistic economies and societies? How to enhance freedom tolerance and peer dialogue facing the challenges of despotic illiberal and confrontational trends?”

10.45 - 12.15 The Encyclical Centesimus Annus by St. John Paul II: its historical importance for the SDC and its relevance for today’s threats and aspirations

- **H.E. Card. George Jacob Koovakad**, Prefect of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue: “Progress in Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogue in the time of the geopolitical crisis”
- **Flavio Felice**, Professor, University of Molise: “How to respond to the persecution of Christians and other Faith communities in the context of the

“democratic recession”, secularization and the attack on religious freedom and pluralism”

- **Sr. Nathalie Becquart**, xmcj, Undersecretary to the General Secretariat for the Synod: “Post-conflict reconciliation and peacebuilding: synodal processes and spiritual conversations”

12.15 - 12.25. “2025 Report on the State of the Centesimus Annus Foundation”, Oliver Galea (Secretary General FCAPP) – Main results and prospects for the Foundation and its missions, at the central level and at the level of the different Chapters.

12.25 – 12.40 “The themes of the Parallel Sessions”, Giovanni Marseguerra (Coordinator of the FCAPP Scientific Committee).

12.40 – 13.40 Parallel Sessions (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H):

Session A: Le origini della Centesimus Annus e della FCAPP: lezioni dalla storia

Organizers: **Fabio Fedi** (Past FCAPP Board Member), **Robert Nalewajek** (FCAPP USA).

Speakers: **Massimo Gattamelata** (ex-Secretary General of FCAPP), **Alberto Bombassei** (President of Brembo, President of the Italy – China Association), **Stefano Baietti** (Historian and writer), **Roberto Mazzotta** (Past President FCAPP), **Lorenzo Rossi di Montelera** (Past President FCAPP), **Anna Maria Tarantola** (Past President FCAPP), **Flavio Felice** (Professor, University of Molise).

Session B: Research and Training on Catholic Social Doctrine: New Topics, Gaps and Opportunities for FCAPP.

Organizers: **Danielle Morin** (FCAPP Canada Chapter), **John Dalla Costa** (Ethics and trust consultant, writer).

Speakers: **Giovanni Ferri** (Professor at LUMSA, and Rome FCAPP Chapter leader), **Mary Glen M. Tupas** (International Justice Mission, Philippines and Australia), **Paola Albrito** (Director, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction – UNDRR), **Stephen B.Young** (Global Executive Director, Caux Round Table for Moral Capitalism, FCAPP Advisory Board Member).

Session C: How to Expand and Spread FCAPP Membership among Young People.

Organizers: **Gert-Jan Boon** (FCAPP Young Members group), **Cristina Mahne Finocchi** (Catholic University of Milan, FCAPP Scientific Committee Member).

Speakers: **Sebastian Panreck** (PhD student and FCAPP scholarship award winner), **Giovanni Ferri** (FCAPP Rome Chapter), **Rita Carisano** (Director General, Luiss University).

Session D: Fund Raising: How to Channel Resources towards FCAPP and Support the Holy Father's Charitable Activities.

Organizer: **Joseph Bonnici** (Professor in Economics, former Governor of Central Bank Malta).

Speakers: **Stephanie zu Loewenstein** (FCAPP Germany Chapter), **Francesco Vanni d'Archirafi** (FCAPP Board of Directors Member), **Simone Scettri** (FCAPP Board of Directors), **Patrick Brennan** (Private and alternatives finance expert, London), **Mario Rusack van Rossum** (FCAPP Germany Chapter).

Session E: How to Expand and Spread FCAPP Membership in Vulnerable Countries and Communities

Organizer: **Lawrence Gonzi** (former Prime Minister of Malta).

Speakers: **Fr. Manuel Barrios** (SG of COMECE), **Fr. Albert Alejo** (Pontifical University Gregoriana), **Thomas Rusche** (FCAPP Advisory Board Member), **Fr. Oleh Zymak** (Ukrainian Orthodox Church)

Session F: Integrity and Effectiveness of Communication and Evangelization in the Age of AI, Social Media and Fake News

Organizers: **Giacomo Mazzone** (FCAPP Advisory Board Member).

Speakers: **Fr. Nazario Costante** (Ecclesiastical Counsellor FCAPP Milan), **Costantino Coros** (FCAPP Press Officer), **Alessandro Di Maio** (Communication Officer, COMECE).

Session G: Post conflict Reconciliation and Peacebuilding: Practical experience in different contexts and implications for the integration of migrants and interreligious dialogue

Organizers: **Sr. Nathalie Becquart xmcj** (Under-Secretary to the General Secretariat for the Synod), **Christophe Deage** (Chapter Leader, FCAPP Luxembourg)

Speakers: **Cesare Trevisani** (President JIACC - Joint Italian Arab Chamber of Commerce, FCAPP Advisory Board Member), **Michele Coduri** (ex Swiss Diplomat), **Viola Menghini** (Luiss).

Session H: Synodality among Catholics in theory and practice: how can Fcapp contribute to avoiding and/or overcoming polarizations among Catholics

Organizer: **Giovanni Marseguerra** (Coordinator of the FCAPP Scientific Committee).

Speakers: **Maurizio Gallo** (FCAPP Board Member), **Silke Schmitt** (Director, Hans Seidel Foundation), **Luigi Paganetto** (Professor Emeritus of Political Economy, University of Rome Tor Vergata), **Alessandro Rizzo** (FCAPP Rome), **Frederick Fakharzadeh** (FCAPP USA), **Paolo Alli** (Fondazione De Gasperi).

13.40 - 14.40 Working Lunch

14.40 – 16.30 Parallel Sessions (continuation)

16.30 – 16.45: Coffee Break

16.45 - 18.15: Plenary Session: Presentation of the outcome of the group discussions by the Rapporteurs and general discussion.

18.15 - 18.35 Conclusions: H.E. Msgr. Andrea Migliavacca (FCAPP Ecclesiastical Counsellor for Italy): “What does it take to promote freedom, responsible leadership and constructive dialogue in fragmented and conflictual communities? How can Spirituality help?”

18.35 – 18.45 Sum up and follow up

FCAPP 2026 International Conference

Vatican City, Friday 29th May 2026

A Fragmented World in Search of Spirituality: Freedom and Pluralism from Within the Social Doctrine of the Church

Ore 8.00: Holy Mass

9.00 – 9.05. **Welcome: Paolo Garonna**, President FCAPP

9.05 – 9.10. **Presentation of the Conference topics: Giovanni Marseguerra**,
Coordinator of the FCAPP Scientific Committee

9.10 – 9.30. **Introductory Address: H.E. Card. Pietro Parolin**, State Secretary of the Holy See

9.30 – 11.40: First Plenary Session: **The Dramatic Challenges to Freedom and Pluralism in Today's Fractured and Disoriented Societies; how Spirituality Enlightens Personal Development and Community Engagement.**

Moderator: Barbara Carfagna, RAI, Italian Public Services Braodcaster

Keynote Addresses:

- **Sr. Alessandra Smerilli**, Secretary of the Dicastery of Integral Human Development: "The historical importance of the Encyclical Centesimus Annus and its continuing relevance for today's challenges"
- **Giuseppe De Rita**, President of CENSIS: "The Spirituality Foundations of Integral Human Development from L. J. Debret to the Fratelli Tutti"
- **Sofia Goggia**: "Youth, Competition and Spirituality: lessons from the world of Sport"
- **Pupi Avati**, Film Director: "Art, Music, Cinema in Search of Spirituality"

Panel discussion:

- **Isabel Capelo Gil**, President of SACRU and Rector of the Catholic Portuguese University: "Knowledge and Education to Promote Spirituality Freedom and Pluralism"
- **Roland Dubertrand**, Chair of the Mediterranean, Religions and Society at PISAI
- **Etienne de Rocquigny**, Expert in AI and Business Leader, Marseille

- **Philip Jennings**, Secretary General of UNI Global Union, “New forms of integration, valorization, alienation and exploitation at the workplace”
- **Francesco Valeriani**, President of the Italian Society of Training in Psychiatry
- **Fr. Peter Klasvogt**, Rector of Campo Santo Teutonico, Vatican
- **Ezequiel del Corral**, Film Director, Aldeas Scholas Films

11.45 – 13.30: Parallel Sessions (PS)

PS 1. Artificial intelligence, freedom and spirituality: *can AI Enhance Freedom and Pluralism? And the Search for Spirituality? Under what conditions?*

Organizers: **Augustin Destremau** (Rerum Novarium, Marseille), **Paul Twomey** (Co-Chair, Global Initiative for Digital Empowerment).

Speakers: **Anna Maria Tarantola** (past President FCAPP), **Fr. Fabio Pasqualetti** (Professor of digital media, Università Pontificia Salesiana), **Oliver Roethig** (*Regional Secretary UNI Europa - The European Services Workers Union - FCAPP Member*), **Alberto Oddenino** (FCAPP Chapter Leader Turin, Professor University of Turin), **Andras Toth** (President, Stanley Jaki Society, Budapest).

PS 2. Peacebuilding in Europe: *Political Integration as a Way to Peace*

Keynote Speaker: **H.E. Mons. Mariano Crociata** (President COMECE)

Organizers: **Christophe Deage** (FCAPP Luxemburg Chapter Leader), **Alessandro Politi** (FCAPP Luxembourg Chapter), **Sergio Arzeni** (INSME, European League for Economic Cooperation).

Speakers: **Fr. Oleh Zymak** (Ukrainian Orthodox Church), **Robert Leblanc** (FCAPP Paris Chapter), **Umberto Triulzi** (University of Rome, La Sapienza), **Alessandro Manzato** (Luiss), **Silke Schmitt** (Director, Hans Seidel Foundation, Rome), **Paolo Alli** (Secretary General, Fondazione De Gasperi), **Paolo Cancelli** (Professor, Antonianum Pontifical University), **Jean-Pierre Darnis** (Professor, Université Cote d’Azur), **Michele Coduri** (ex Swiss Diplomat).

PS 3: Liberty and Liberation: *the experience of popular movements in Latin America. The double challenge of development from below and populism.*

Keynote Speaker: **HE Card. Jaime Spengler** (President of CELAM, the Latin American and Caribbean Episcopal Council). Organizers: **Fr. Peter Lah** (Dean of the Faculty of Social Science, Gregorian University), **Diego Meza** (Pontifical Gregorian University).

Speakers: **Emilce Cuda** (Secretary of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America PCAL), **Julio Fernandez** (Rector of the Catholic University of Montevideo, Uruguay), **Alice Lucarelli** (Luiss).

PS 4. The Asian Way to the SDC: *religious pluralism, good governance and responsible leadership*

Keynote Speaker: **Ki-Chan Kim** (Professor, The Catholic University of Korea and President, Korea Indonesia Management Association).

Organizers: **Vittorio Alberti** (Gregorian University), **Lawrence Chong** (CONSULUS, Singapore).

Speakers: **Fr. Albert Alejo** (Pontifical Gregorian University), **Benjamin Lee** (FCAPP Hong-Kong Chapter), **Sergio Lugaresi** (CESPI, former Asian Development Bank).

PS 5. Abrahamic and interreligious dialogue from the Mediterranean: moving on from the 2023 Manifesto towards common approaches to social issues”

Keynote Speaker: **Fr. Alexis Leproux** (Catholic Institute of the Mediterranean).

Organizer: **Massimo Gargiulo** (Card. Bea Centre for Judaic Studies) and **Giovanni Ferri** (Professor at Lumsa University and FCAPP Rome Chapter leader).

Speakers: **Recep Senturk** (Dean of Islamic Studies, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar), **Br. Francesco Zecca** (Oikos and Antonianum Pontifical University), **Roland Dubertrand** (Chair of Mediterranean, religions and society, PISAI).

PS 6. Growing Catholic Communities and Development Opportunities in Africa: *lessons from Pope Leo’s Travels and Vision.*

Keynote Speakers: **H.E. Msg. Joseph Marie Ndi Okalla** (Bishop of Mbalmayo, Cameroon), **Nosipho Jezile** (South African Ambassador to Italy).

Organizers: **Pietro Sebastiani** (LUMSA University), **Alessandro Simoneschi** (FCAPP Lugano Chapter).

Speakers: **Fabio Petroni** (Catholic University of Milan, E4Impact Foundation), **Rym Ayadi** (President Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association), **Fr. Marcel Uwineza** (Principal, Hekima University College, Nairobi Kenya), **Andrea De Marco** (UNIDO), **David Chaboriot** (FCAPP Kenia Chapter), **Hippolyt A.S. Pul** (CEO, Institute for Peace and Development CPD, Ghana), **Arsène Brice Bado** (Director, CERAP Centre de Recherche et d’Action pour la Paix), **Nancy Njiraini** (Strathmore University Business School, Nairobi Kenya), **Pietro Piccinetti** (Infratel Italia, Ceo).

13.30 – 14.30: Lunch

14.30 – 15.30: Plenary Session: Reports from the Parallel Sessions and General Discussion

15.30: Second Plenary Session: How to Mobilize Conscience and Action to Build New Frameworks for Multilateralism and International Law

15.30 – 17. 00: Keynote Addresses:

- **H.E. Card. Silvano Tomasi**, Cardinal Deacon of *San Nicola in Carcere*, and **H.E. Mons. Ettore Ballestrero**, Permanent Representative of the Holy See at the UN and Specialized Agencies in Geneva
- **Paschal Donohoe**, Managing Director and Chief Knowledge Officer, World Bank Group
- **Rebeca Grynspan**, Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- **Mia Mottley**, Prime Minister of Barbados, and Chair of V20, the Group of most vulnerable countries at the UN
- **Bernard Snoy**, President, Robert Triffin International Foundation, Brussel

17.00 – 18.30: Panel Discussion:

- **Paola Albrito**, Director, United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction Office, Geneva
- **Javier Arias**, President, European League for Economic Cooperation, Brussel
- **Michael Driessen**, Professor of Political Science at John Cabot University, and Ansari Institute for Global Engagement with Religion, University of Notre Dame
- **Hubert de Vauplane**, International Law expert, FCAPP Paris
- **Jan Figel**, former Prime Minister, Slovakia
- **Lawrence Gonzi**, former Prime Minister, Malta
- **Federico Ottavio Reho**, Research Director, Martens Centre, Brussel
- **Luigi Paganetto**, Professor of Economics, University of Rome Tor Vergata
- **Silke Schmitt**, Director, Hans Seidel Foundation, Rome Office
- **Olivier Vedrine**, Director, Jean Monnet Association, Paris

18.30 – 19.00: Plenary Session: Conclusions

- **Sum-up and follow up. Paolo Garonna**, FCAPP President
- **Concluding Meditation. H.E. Card. Jaime Spengler**, President of the Episcopal Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean CELAM

Saturday 30th May

Holy Mass. Basilica of St. Peter, Altare della Cattedra

Private Audience with the Holy Father Leo XIV, Palazzo Apostolico