



## THE CRISIS AS A PROPITIOUS MOMENT TO RE-EVANGELISE THE MEANING OF MAN

Audience of the Holy Father to the participants of the Global Compact on Education Conference



There is a "great truth of which we are the bearers and which we have the duty to witness and transmit", to learn to live the current crisis with young people and with them overcome it: this is the warning that Pope Francis gave to the participants of the conference "Lines of Development of the **Global Compact on Education**" - promoted by the Congregation for Catholic Education. Crises must be managed and we must avoid crises turning into conflict. Crises throw you up, they make you grow; conflict shuts you down, it is an alternative; an alternative without a solution. Educate for the crisis. This is very important. The crisis, therefore, must be "an opportune moment that provokes us to take new paths", the Pope observes: "In our time, in which technicism and consumerism tend to make us into users and consumers, the crisis can become a propitious moment to evangelise anew the meaning of man, of life, of the world; to recover the centrality of the person as the creature who in Christ is the image and likeness of the Creator".

The Pontiff applauds the attention paid to the **Global Compact on Education** by many parties and also by universities, "through in-depth studies on various themes, such as the dignity of the person and human rights, fraternity and cooperation, technology and integral ecology, peace and citizenship, cultures and religions". He urges the project to move forward and proposes as an emblematic model for tackling the crisis the mythological figure of Aeneas, who fleeing from the burning city of Troy "carries his old father Anchises on his shoulders and takes his young son Ascanius by the hand, leading them both to safety". He saves, that is, himself 'not alone, but with the father who represents his history and with the son who is his future'. An image to be linked to the mission of educators, 'called to guard the past and to accompany the young steps of the future'.

For Francis, Aeneas' gesture recalls some fundamental principles of the **Global Compact on Education**: the centrality of the person, the creative and responsible investment of one's best energies, and education for service. Concerning the former, the Pontiff emphasises that 'in every educational process one must always put people at the centre and aim at the essential. Aeneas does not bring goods with him, "but only the father and the son. The roots and the future, the promises", underlines the Pope, who secondly highlights the importance of rooting education in the past, enriching it with a long-term projectuality "where the old and the new come together in the composition of a new humanism".

Finally, education for service is 'defending, rejecting the temptation to discard, to marginalise the fragile segments of society'. Francis concludes, 'fragility is synonymous with preciousness: the elderly and the young are like delicate vessels to be guarded with care'.



## Lines of development of the Global Compact on Education

### GLOBAL COMPACT ON EDUCATION Conference

Vatican City - Casina Pio IV - 30-31 May 1 June 2022



On 30-31 May and 1 June 2022, at the Casina Pio IV, the International Conference on the Global Compact on Education was held, attended by the Rectors and Professors of the Universities involved in the research on the five thematic areas of the Global Compact on Education, together with a representation of various associations involved in education.

The meeting began on the afternoon of 30 May with a greeting from H.E. Mgr. Marcelo SÁNCHEZ SORONDO, Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, which was followed by a greeting from H.Em. Card. Giuseppe VERSALDI, Prefect of the Congregation for Catholic Education and the presentation of the participants with an introduction to the programme by H.E. Msgr. Angelo Vincenzo ZANI, Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education (CEC).

The conference was divided into three parts. The first part: I. CHARACTERIZING THE PRESENT CHANGE OF EPOCH AND CULTURAL STRATEGIES, was introduced by Prof. Stefano ZAMAGNI, President of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences.

The speakers' speeches followed, starting with Prof. Rodrigo GUERRA LOPEZ, Secretary of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, who addressed the topic: *Crisis of rationality and prospects for change*.

Online Sr. Helen ALFORD OP, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas, Rome presented the topic: *Socio-economic Scenarios and Educational Strategies*.

Prof. Pasquale FERRARA Director General for Political and Security Affairs of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) continued by speaking on '*Changes in the international political system and future leadership*'.

Prof. Mauro MAGATTI, Full Professor of General Sociology at the Catholic University, Milan, dealt with the theme: *Epistemological Question and Generative Approach*, and finally Prof. Mons. Piero CODA, Professor of Trinitarian Theology and Ontology at the Sophia University Institute in Loppiano closed the reports with the theme *Rethinking Thought for a Humanism of Fraternity*.

The following day, the second part was held, coordinated by Bishop Vincenzo Zani and Prof. Maria Cinque: II. PRESENTATION OF THE AREAS OF INTERVENTION FOR THE GLOBAL COMPACT ON EDUCATION. The representatives of the 10 universities leading the research on the themes of the Global Compact on Education spoke, in order: DIGNITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS: University of Notre Dame (USA) and Universidad Católica Silva Henríquez (Chile); FRATERNITY AND COOPERATION: Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Italy) and Ethiopian Catholic University (Ethiopia); TECHNOLOGY AND INTEGRAL ECOLOGY: Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Colombia) and Australian Catholic University (Australia); PEACE AND CITIZENSHIP: Pontifical Lateran University (Italy) and Boston College (USA); and finally CULTURES AND RELIGIONS: Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomas (Philippines) and Sophia University Institute (Italy).

After a dialogue on the proposed presentations, we moved on to the third and final part coordinated by Prof. Francesco BONINI, Rector of the LUMSA University, Rome and H.E. Msgr. Angelo Vincenzo ZANI, Secretary of the CEC: III. STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025: ORIENTATIONS AND PROGRAMME LINES. From the dialogue that followed, various proposals emerged that will serve as guidelines for the work to be carried out in the coming years, especially in view of the two stages of WYD 2023 (World Youth Day) and the Jubilee 2025.

The conference concluded the following day with a private audience with the Holy Father, who addressed an important speech on education to all participants.



## THE POPE: WORKING TOGETHER TO REBUILD THE EDUCATIONAL PACT

Meeting with the capitulars of the Brothers of the Christian Schools



Fraternity and care for the common home. Two challenges in an educational emergency that the world is experiencing, made more acute by the consequences of the pandemic. Francis pointed them out to the Brothers of the Christian Schools received on the occasion of the 46th General Chapter on the theme "Building new roads to transform new lives".

A building site to build new roads that lead to the brothers, especially to the poorest: paths of education in schools, colleges, universities of the hundred or so countries where the Brothers of the Christian Schools are present. This is how Pope Francis defines, in his speech, the 46th General Chapter lived in these days by the lay Congregation founded in 1682 in Reims by Saint John Baptist de La Salle.

"Educational work," he reminds Lasallians, "is a great gift first and foremost for those who do it: it is work that asks a lot, but gives a lot.

The Pontiff's gaze focuses on the educational emergency experienced today on a global level and made more acute by the consequences of the pandemic. He then pointed out two challenges to the hundred or so participants in the audience: "fraternity" and "care for the common home".

Evangelising by educating, educating by evangelising.

The invitation is to go forward with joy: to evangelise by educating and to educate by evangelising. To build new roads, with the awareness that the truly new road, the "Way", is Jesus Christ. Only by following Him, Francis adds, is life transformed and "we become in our turn leaven, salt and light".

By educating to creativity, to coexistence, to justice, to peace, to the interior life, open to the transcendent, to a sense of wonder and contemplation before the mystery of life and creation, Pope Francis finally reminds us, the Brothers of the Christian Schools, strong in their rich pedagogical tradition, live and interpret their mission in Christ, translating it into the fullness of humanity because as St. John Paul II said, "Man is the way of the Church".

It is your apostolate, your specific contribution to evangelisation: to make the human grow according to Christ.

Taken from: <https://www.vaticannews.va/it/vaticano/news/2022-05/papa-fratelli-scuole-cristiane-lasalliani-21-maggio-2022.html>

## THE 'GLOBAL VILLAGE OF CARE' FOR THE PROTECTION OF CREATION

International Conference 'Nature in Mind. A new culture of nature for the protection of biodiversity'.



Speaking to participants at the International Conference on the Protection of Biodiversity, received in audience in the Clementine Hall of the Apostolic Palace, the Pope urged the protection of nature by encouraging an education that highlights the link between man and the environment. We must not delude ourselves that we can replace one unrepeatable and unrecoverable beauty with another created by us

It is necessary to grow the 'culture of care', which is a 'culture of harmony' - preserving harmony - by fostering 'dialogue between knowledge' and promoting 'inclusive education'. The latter must be based "on the pillars of integral ecology" and be "aimed at emphasising the interrelationships between man and the environment. This is the thought that Francis shared with the participants of the International Conference "Nature in Mind. A new culture of nature for the protection of biodiversity", organised in Rome on 19 and 20 May, on the occasion of the 22nd World Biodiversity Day, by the Carabinieri Corps Command. To them the Pontiff offers the direction to follow to protect the 'common home'.

In order to promote a truly sustainable development, it is necessary to be creatively open to new, more integrated, shared itineraries, directly connected to people and their contexts. In this way, everyone feels involved in contributing to the **educational pact**, which tends to form mature people, capable of overcoming fragmentations and oppositions.

For the Pope, any measure will be ineffective 'if it is not aided and abetted by an educational process that favours the care and protection of our common home'.

Also presented was the 'Charter for Biodiversity Education' desired by the Presidency of the Republic and supported by the Ministries of Ecological Transition and Education and the Forest, Environmental and Agri-food Units of the Carabinieri, which have joined Pope Francis' **Global Compact on Education**.

Taken from: <https://www.vaticannews.va/it/papa/news/2022-05/papa-francesco-biodiversita-carabinieri-cura-ambiente-educazione.html>

## THE EDUCATIONAL PACT TAKES ITS FIRST STEPS IN NAPLES

Minister Bianchi and the Archbishop of Naples together for the Educational Pact



From a small open-air stage, silhouetted against the blue of the islet of Nisida, Education Minister Patrizio Bianchi, together with Interior Minister Luciana Lamorgese and Prefect Palomba, launched the **Education Pact** with Bishop Mimmo Battaglia, Mayor Manfredi, Regional Councillor Fortini and the Third Sector Forum and representatives of the social enterprise 'Con i Bambini'.

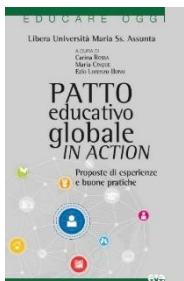
For the head of the Neapolitan Curia, Monsignor Mimmo Battaglia, today's is 'a beautiful day not only for the Island of Nisida but for the resilient city that does not give in to evil. Today we are combining 'us', a community process at the service of the most fragile, and for this I thank the government in the persons of Ministers Lamorgese and Bianchi, the prefect, the mayor, Councillor Fortini, and the Juvenile Justice Centre. Educating is a priority, not a possibility'.

Battaglia then emphasises: 'This is an opportunity to safeguard a stolen childhood. The **Educational Pact** that is taking its first steps today must therefore involve the entire city by bringing together different experiences, roles and languages', to establish 'an alternative system to the camorra's logic of death and despair'.

From: [https://napoli.repubblica.it/cronaca/2022/05/13/news/patto\\_educativo\\_il\\_ministro\\_bianchi\\_41\\_milioni\\_per\\_oltre\\_200\\_scuole\\_nel\\_napoletano-349402183/](https://napoli.repubblica.it/cronaca/2022/05/13/news/patto_educativo_il_ministro_bianchi_41_milioni_per_oltre_200_scuole_nel_napoletano-349402183/)

## GLOBAL EDUCATIONAL PACT IN ACTION

Proposals for experiences and good practices



Published at the end of May 2022 by Edizioni AVE, the book 'Global Compact on Education in Action. Proposals for experiences and good practices', edited by Carina Rossa, Maria Cinque and Ezio Lorenzo Bono.

Through an extensive network of international contacts, the School of Higher Education EIS (Educare all'Incontro e alla Solidarietà) of the Lumsa University of Rome has collected in this book information and testimonies on solidarity activities that fall within the axes of the **Global Compact on Education** promoted by Pope Francis, in order to derive future pedagogical guidelines, generative of further solidarity activities.

## TEENAGERS OF THE THIRD MILLENNIUM

The Global Compact on Education and inter-generational *with* and *for* teenagers



Over five hundred participants took part in the international meeting "Adolescents of the Third Millennium - The **Global** and Intergenerational **Educational Pact** with and for Adolescents" proposed by the School Office for Abruzzo and the Diocese of Teramo-Atri on the two days of 6 and 7 May 2022.

The conference was attended by almost all of the city's school leaders, Education Minister Patrizio Bianchi and the Secretary of the Holy See's Congregation for Catholic Education, Monsignor Vincenzo Zani, who spoke, declaring that 'confrontation and dialogue with the new generations is a subject very dear to the Church and especially to the Pope. Let no one remain closed in their own positions: let there be dialogue between generations as there should be between peoples'.

In the afternoon, the Secretary of the Holy See's Congregation for Catholic Education presided over the fifth International Marian Youth Vigil at the Sanctuary of San Gabriele. It was the concluding act of a journey on Pope Francis' **Global Compact on Education** launched two years ago by the Bishop of Teramo-Atri Lorenzo Leuzzi.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

- On 3 May 2022, H.E. Msgr. Vincenzo Zani participated in an online meeting organised by the Pontifical Lateran University on the Unesco Chair, during which he spoke about the **Global Compact on Education**.

- On 17-5-22, the Secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education H.E. Monsignor Vincenzo Zani met with the Ambassador of Italy to the Holy See H.E. Francesco Di Nitto to whom he explained the **Global Compact on Education**. H.E. Ambassador showed his enthusiasm and desire to collaborate in this educational project.

- The chapter members of the Congregation of the Brothers of the Christian Schools invited H.E. Bishop Msgr Vincenzo Zani on 11 May 2022 to give a talk on the **Global Compact on Education**. The Chapter of that Congregation decided to fully embrace the cause of the **Global Compact on Education** in their educational apostolate.