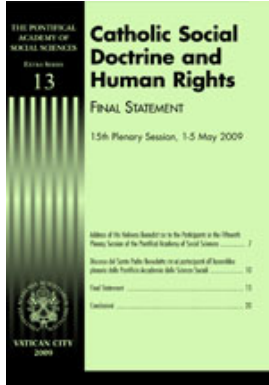




## Final Statement Catholic Social Doctrine & Human Rights



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Human rights risk being ignored either because they are robbed of their transcendent foundation or because personal freedom is not acknowledged. Secularism and fundamentalism exclude the possibility of fruitful dialogue and effective cooperation between reason and religious faith. Reason always stands in need of being purified by faith: this also holds true for political reason, which must not consider itself omnipotent. For its part, religion always needs to be purified by reason in order to show its authentically human face. Any breach in this dialogue comes only at an enormous price to human development.

Pope Benedict XVI, Encyclical Letter *Caritas in Veritate*, § 56, Vatican City, 29 June 2009.