



VATICAN YOUTH SYMPOSIUM 2019

Intergenerational Leadership: Laudato Si' and the Sustainable Development Goals

Wednesday, 16 October | Casina Pio IV, Vatican City



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ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM



Youth leaders have an important role to play in instilling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Climate Agreement, and Pope Francis's Laudato Si' among the new generation worldwide. The Vatican Youth Symposium serves as an innovation brainstorming hub - a forum where groundbreaking solutions and ideas are cultivated and partnerships are fostered to further implementation on sustainable development focused work on national, regional, and international scales. Attendees come together to learn from both experts and each other in sessions covering topics including innovation and technology, education, entrepreneurship, sustainable cities and communities, and moral engagement to fortify global youth movements for the betterment of humanity.

Young people are not only the future guardians of our planet but also talented, passionate agents for transformative change in our economies and communities, as well as the way we protect natural ecosystems. Sadly, many are unable to reach their full potential due to a lack of resources. This especially hinders the ability of innovative young people to support the SDGs and their respective targets.

The Vatican Youth Symposium addresses this challenge by training youth leaders in global development, specifically, young innovators, entrepreneurs, and activists who will become champions for their causes and catalyze social movements around the biggest issues of our time. With the support of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences (PAS) and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network - Youth (SDSN Youth), leaders from civil society, faith communities,

businesses, governments, and academia, will facilitate sessions offering guidance and partnership to build a strong global network of intergenerational changemakers working to advance the 2030 Agenda.

The Vatican Youth Symposium 2019 was made possible by the generosity and support of Dr Betsee Parker.

'A better world can be built also as a result of your efforts, your desire to change and your generosity. Do not be afraid to listen to the Spirit who proposes bold choices; do not delay when your conscience asks you to take risks in following the Master. The Church also wishes to listen to your voice, your sensitivities and your faith; even your doubts and your criticism. Make your voice heard, let it resonate in communities and let it be heard by your shepherds of souls. St. Benedict urged the abbots to consult, even the young, before any important decision, because "the Lord often reveals to the younger what is best." (Rule of St. Benedict, III, 3).'

— Letter of Pope Francis to Young People on the occasion of the presentation of the Preparatory Document of the Synod of Bishops, 13 January 2017.



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ABOUT THE SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

PONTIFICAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (PAS)



Founded in Rome on 17 August 1603, the Pontifical Academy of Sciences' mission is to honour pure science, ensure its freedom and encourage research. It is the only supranational academy of sciences in the world. Its headquarters are in the Casina Pio IV, within the Vatican Gardens.

The aims and objectives of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences include: promoting the progress of the mathematical, physical and natural sciences, as well as its epistemological studies; recognizing excellence in science; stimulating an interdisciplinary approach to scientific knowledge; encouraging international interaction; furthering participation in the benefits of science and technology by the greatest number of people and peoples; promoting education and the public's understanding of science; ensuring that science works to advance of the human and moral dimension of man; achieving a role for science which involves the promotion of justice, development, solidarity, peace and fostering the interaction between faith and reason, encouraging the dialogue between science and spiritual, cultural, philosophical and religious values; providing authoritative advice on scientific and technological matters; cooperating with members of other Academies in a friendly spirit to promote such objectives.

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS NETWORK (SDSN)



In 2012, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) to mobilize global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical problem solving for sustainable development, including the design and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at local, national and global scales. In 2015, the SDSN launched its official youth division (SDSN Youth) to empower youth globally to create sustainable development solutions.

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ABOUT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. These 17 Goals build on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities. The goals are interconnected – often the key to success on one will involve tackling issues more commonly associated with another. The SDGs work in the spirit of partnership and pragmatism to make the right choices now to improve life, in a sustainable way, for future generations. They provide clear guidelines and targets for all countries to adopt in accordance with their own priorities and the environmental challenges of the world at large. The SDGs are an inclusive agenda. They tackle the root causes of poverty and unite us to make a positive change for both people and the planet.



PLANET "We are determined to protect the planet from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future generations."

PEOPLE "We are determined to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment."

PROSPERITY "We are determined to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature."

PEACE "We are determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development."

PARTNERSHIPS "We are determined to mobilize the means required to implement this Agenda through a revitalised Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focused in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable, with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people."

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER

GLOBAL VILLAGE DINNER

7 - 9pm

The night before the official symposium, all stakeholders and participants will be invited to the Pontifical Academy of Sciences (PAS) for a dinner and drinks. All participants will be invited to dress in their traditional national attire and showcase the truly global and diverse nature of the symposium and the SDGs.



WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER

VATICAN YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

8.30 - 9.50am

SESSION I - Welcome

The opening session of the Vatican Youth Symposium will look at the role of youth leadership in instilling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Climate Agreement, and Laudato Si' around the world.

Monsignor Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo (12 minutes)
Chancellor, Pontifical Academy of Sciences

Professor Jeffrey Sachs (12 minutes)
Director, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network
Director, Centre for Sustainable Development, Columbia University

Professor Lorenzo Fioramonti (12 minutes)
Minister for Education, Universities and Research

Ambassador Dho Young-shim (12 minutes)
Chair, ISTO for Peace and Prosperity

José María del Corral (12 minutes)
President, Scholas Occurrentes

Siamak Sam Loni (12 minutes)
Chair, Vatican Youth Symposium
Director, SDSN Youth, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network

VATICAN YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

9.50 - 11am

SESSION II – Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development

This session will discuss the role of entrepreneurship and innovation for the SDGs and will present several case studies. Key topics will include youth-led innovation, sustainable business practices, and the role of technology in advancing the SDGs.

Dario Piselli (7 minutes)
Youth Solutions Program

Kate Roll (7 minutes)
University College London

Molly Burhans (7 minutes)
GoodLands

Mariana Ruenes (7 minutes)
SinTrata

Ben Christensen (7 minutes)
SAP Next-Gen

Ilija Gudnitz Weber (7 minutes)
UNLEASH

After all speakers have concluded their respective presentations, the participants will be encouraged to ask questions, make comments and have an open discussion for the remainder of the session.

11.00 - 11.30am

Coffee Break

11.30am - 12.30pm

SESSION III - Education for Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship, and 21st Century Skills

This session will discuss ways to embed the concepts of sustainable development in school curricula, present strong cases of why ESD is important to various stakeholders, and the benefits of teaching global citizenship to young leaders.

Amanda Bennett (7 minutes)
Earth Charter

Julia Guillemot (7 minutes)
Global Schools Program

Chief Nat Nsarko (7 minutes)
Millennium Promise

Nouzha Alaoui (7 minutes)
Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection

Mustafa Öztürk (7 minutes)
Hacettepe University

Comments and discussion for the remainder of the session.

VATICAN YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

12.30 - 1.30pm

SESSION IV - Sustainable Cities and Communities

This session will discuss recent movements pushing to address sustainable development from an urban perspective. Key topics will include a holistic look at the innovations in technology and infrastructure that are making cities and their surrounding communities more livable, equitable, and sustainable.

Aude-Line Dulière (7 minutes)
Architect

Sakshi Bhatia Chopra (7 minutes)
RoundGlass Foundation

Avianka Aventurin (7 minutes)
Youth Mayor of Amsterdam

Flavio Coppola (7 minutes)
C40

Ana Ynestrillas (7 minutes)
Local Pathways Program

Comments and discussion for the remainder of the session.

1.30 - 3.00pm

Lunch at the Casina Pio IV

3.00 - 3.40pm

SESSION V - Laudato Si' and Human Dignity

This session will discuss community based efforts to end modern slavery and human trafficking.

Nicolás Del Mastro (7 minutes)
La Alameda Foundation

Ixchel Yglesias (7 minutes)
Anthropologist, Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Mexico

Alejandra Acosta (7 minutes)
Break the Silence

Comments and discussion for the remainder of the session.

VATICAN YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

3.40 - 4.40pm

SESSION VI - The Role of Universities and Academia in Sustainable Development

This session will discuss the role of universities in advancing the SDGs both on campus and in their wider communities. Key topics will include universities as hubs for innovation and the need for higher education institutions to lead by example to increase future leaders motivation and ability to act ethically.

Congressman James Bacchus (7 minutes)
Center for Global Economic and Environmental Opportunity, UCF

Nikhil Seth (7 minutes)
UNITAR

Yi Jun Mock (7 minutes)
SDG Students Program

Monika Froehler (7 minutes)
Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens

Comments and discussion for the remainder of the session.

4.40 - 5.10pm

Coffee Break

5.10 - 6.00pm

SESSION VII - Financing for Sustainable Development

This session will discuss financing as a necessary tool to achieve the SDGs. Topics will include finance mobilization practices from various sectors and how youth can build systems to achieve funding for their projects.

Blaec von Kalweit (7 minutes)
Global Citizen

Djaffar Schalchi (7 minutes)
Human Act Foundation

Thomas Preiss (7 minutes)
Common Goal

Sam Quigley (7 minutes)
Patriotic Millionaires

Comments and discussion for the remainder of the session.



VATICAN YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

5.50 - 6.50pm

SESSION VIII - Networks, Partnerships and Social Movements for Sustainable Development

This session will discuss the vital importance of building strong networks and partnerships for the SDGs. Key topics will include effective relationship building and cross-sectoral collaboration to scale impact and using innovative ways to create social movements.

Alexandria Villaseñor (7 minutes)

Earth Uprising

Martha Jeffries (7 minutes)

Filmmaker

Jillian Sakovits (7 minutes)

Major League Soccer: Beyond the Stands

Hazami Barmada (7 minutes)

Global People's Summit

Carolina Ramirez representing Virgilio Viana (7 minutes)

SDSN Amazon

Comments and discussion for the remainder of the session.

6.50 - 7.30pm

Closing Remarks

Speakers will come together to summarize the main takeaways of each session and discuss the synergies between each of the thematic areas. Participants will be asked to share on their experiences from the day and explain how they will adapt the lessons from this symposium into their respective projects and solutions.

7.30 - 9pm

Dinner at the Casina Pio IV



PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE FOR
PARTICIPANTS' BIOGRAPHIES





MEDIA ENQUIRIES



I giornalisti e gli operatori media che intendono partecipare devono inviare richiesta, entro 48 ore dall'evento, attraverso il Sistema di accreditamento online della Sala Stampa della Santa Sede, all'indirizzo: press.vatican.va/accreditamenti



Journalists and media operators who wish to participate must apply, no less than 48 hours before the event, through the Holy See Press Office online accreditation System available at: press.vatican.va/accreditamenti



Los periodistas y gráficos que deseen participar deben enviar una solicitud, al menos 48 horas antes del evento, a través del Sistema de acreditación online de la Oficina de Prensa de la Santa Sede, a esta dirección: press.vatican.va/accreditamenti

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A VALID I.D.

As you know, security is strict therefore we will be distributing name badges at dinner on 15 October. You will be requested to wear yours at all times when walking inside the Vatican City, especially when you are not accompanied by a member of staff.

At the entry gate marked above as "Perugino", and if requested, you should show your passport and badge to the Vatican Gendarmes and the Swiss Guards. Please note that exit will be through the "Sant'Anna" Gate.

In case of EMERGENCY you may contact the office number below, or **Gabriella (+39 335 8301 763)** via iMessage, Facetime, Whatsapp or normal phone call.

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