

Pope Francis



I desire a Catholic Action present among people,

in the parish, in the diocese, in towns and in neighbourhoods, in the family, in offices and workplaces, in the countryside, in all spheres of life. These are the new areopagi where decisions are made and culture is created.

27 April 2017 - *II Congress of IFC*

Engage readily in dialogue with your neighbours,

even those who may have other ideas than your own, yet long, like you, for peace, justice and fraternity. It is in dialogue that we can shape a shared future. Through dialogue, we build peace, caring for all and entering into dialogue with all.

30 April 2017 - *Address to Italian Catholic Action*

Listen to the real men, women, elderly, young people and children

in their contexts, in the silent cries expressed in their gazes and in their profound lamentations. Have an attentive ear so as not to give answers to questions no one asks, nor say things that do not interest or help anyone. Listen with open ears to newness with a Samaritan heart.

Listen to the beats of the signs of the time.

The Church must not be on the margins of history, embroiled in her own affairs, staying in her own bubble... We need a vitally prophetic Church, starting from signs and gestures that show that there is another possibility for coexistence, human relations, work, love, power and service.

And lastly, to make this possible, we need to listen to the voice of the Spirit.

22 November 2022 - *Message to IFCA*



Where we are

AFRICA

Member Countries: Burundi, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda and 17 Observer countries

AMERICA

Member Countries: Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela and 11 Observer countries

EUROPE-MEDITERRANEAN

Member countries: Albania, Austria, Italy, Malta, Poland, Romania, Spain, Switzerland (Italian Lugano), Hungary and 11 Observer countries

ASIA

Member countries: Philippines, Myanmar and 5 Observer countries

HOLY LAND

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IFCA

INTERNATIONAL FORUM CATHOLIC ACTION

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IFCA is a place where the world's CA meet and together experience a fruitful balance between the universal Church and the local Church.



Stages

1987 First meeting of the founding countries (Argentina, Austria, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Paraguay, Romania, Spain) during the Bishops' Synod on "The vocation and mission of the laity in the Church and in society".

Constitutional Assembly

1991 Rome

Ordinary Assemblies

1994 Vienna - Austria

1997 Buenos Aires - Argentina

2000 Rome - Italy

2004 Rome/Loreto - Italy

2008 Rome - Italy

2012 Iasi - Romania

2017 Rome - Italy

2022 Rome - Italy

International Congresses/Conferences

2004 Rome-Loreto

2017 Vatican City

2022 Rome



Blessed Cardinal Eduardo F. Pironio, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity from 1984 to 1996 encouraged and supported the birth and the first steps of IFCA.

"The Forum is called to express, at universal level, the renewed vitality of a tradition that makes it an associative and apostolic proposal for all the local Churches".

Our way of working

Secretariat 2023-2026

Argentina, Burundi, Philippines, Italy, Mexico, Senegal, Spain.

Coordinator of the Secretariat

Eva FERNÁNDEZ MATEO
National President of
Acción Católica General Spain

Ecclesiastical Assistant

H.E. Msgr. Eduardo GARCIA
Bishop of San Justo (Argentina)

Coordinations

for continents and regions

- Africa • America • Europe-Mediterranean
- Terra Santa e Medio Oriente • Asia

for age-groups

- Adult •Youth •Children

for priest assistants

NETWORK PARTICIPATION

- in favour of the environment
- against human trafficking
- for justice and peace

RELATIONS with Catholic international bodies

IN COOPERATION WITH

- the Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life
- continental bodies of the Church



IFCA Days



8th JUNE
ONE MINUTE
FOR PEACE



Every day and especially **on 8 June** at 1pm, in every country, stop, bow your head and pray for peace, each according to their own tradition.

One Minute for Peace was launched for the first time on June 6, 2014 at 1 p.m., in support of the "Invocation for Peace" meeting, promoted by Pope Francis on June 8 in the Vatican Gardens together with the President of Israel (Simon Peres), the President of the Palestinian Authority (Maḥmūd 'Abbās - Abu Mazen), and the Patriarch of Constantinople (Bartholomew I).

1st November

All Saints' Day

in collaboration with
Foundation Catholic
Action School of
Sanctity Pius XI



Good Friday

Universal collection for Holy Land

8 February

Against Human Trafficking

1 September - 4 October

Season for the Creation

7 October

World Day for Decent Work