



INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

From Maximum illud to Evangelii gaudium

ON THE URGENCY OF THE MISSIONARY TRANSFORMATION OF THE CHURCH



Pontifical Urbaniana University 27-29 NOVEMBER 2019



The International Congress is promoted and supported by the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples and conceived as a celebration of the Centenary of the Apostolic Letter *Maximum illud* by Benedict XV (November 30, 1919) which represents, as is widely recognized, a formidable manifestation of the awareness of the whole Church of having to "evangelically renew" its mission in the world at that time. In fact, in invoking missionary ecclesial renewal, Benedict XV also paid particular attention to the supporting role played by the Pontifical Mission Societies.

As envisioned and started at the beginning of the XX Century, vigorously relaunched by the Second Vatican Council and the post-conciliar Magisterium, the missionary conscience in and of the Church today finds itself facing an epochal turning point.

In the Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii gaudium*, Pope Francis has underscored the need to start "from the heart of the Gospel", to carry out a "missionary conversion" of all its structures, and to implement "an ecclesial renewal which cannot be deferred". In addition, he encourages a revitalization of the community's commitment with new impulses to witness and to announce *ad intra* and *ad gentes*, and to create the formative conditions for "a new protagonism of each of the baptized".

Therefore, the specific purpose of the International Congress is to reflect on the urgency to advance along the path of missionary transformation of the Church in light of the changing perception of the *missio ad gentes* itself, and in the context of the global and regional transformations underway. We wish to reflect on the biblical, theological and pastoral foundations of missionary action, while seeking to understand the continental/regional mission contexts because of the concreteness of the challenges they face, as well as the perspectives they open up.

WEDNESDAY > 27Th NOVEMBER 2019

9:00 AM · FIRST SESSION

Greetings and Introduction: Prof. Leonardo SILEO, Rector

Chair: Fr. Fabrizio MERONI, General Secretary of the Pontifical Missionary Union

Criteria of Discernment for the Missionary Transformation of the Church H. Em. Card. Fernando FILONI

Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples Grand Chancellor of the Pontifical Urbaniana University

Coffee break (10:00-10:30 am)

Foundations of the Ongoing Validity of the Missio ad Gentes

H. Em. Card. Kurt KOCH

President of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity

The Pontifical Mission Societies

in the Light the of Benedict XVI's and Francis's Call to "Evangelical Upgrading" of the Missionary Activity Ad Gentes

H. Exc. Mons. Giovanni Pietro DAL TOSO

Adjunct Secretary of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples President of the Pontifical Missionary Societies

3:00 PM · SECOND SESSION

Chair: Prof. Pietro Angelo MURONI, Dean of the Faculty of Theology

Rediscovering the "Key Words" of Evangelization. Towards an Effective Interdisciplinary Approach

Prof. Romano PENNA, Pontificia Università Lateranense

Debate

Coffee break (4:00-4:30 pm)

Communications

Contexts of Mission in Europe and America: Challenges and Hopes

Prof. Elov BUENO, Facultad de Teologia del Norte de España

Fr. Yoland OUELLET, National Director PP.OO.MM., Canada (francophonie)

Prof. Klaus VELLGUTH, Missio Aachen, Germany

Fr. Karl WALLNER, National Director PP.OO.MM., Austria

THURSDAY > 28Th NOVEMBER 2019

8:30 AM · THIRD SESSION

Chair: Prof. Carmelo DOTOLO, Dean of the Faculty of Missiology

New Horizons.

Shared Destiny and Planetary Humanism

Prof. Mauro CERUTI, Università IULM, Milano

Baptized and Sent Forth.

The Evangelizing Vocation of the Laity and of Ecclesial Movements.

Fr. Alexandre AWI MELLO

Secretary of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life

Coffee break (10:30-11:00 am)

Mission in Crisis?

Local Churches. Religious Congregations. Missionary Institutes

Prof. Mi Jung Agnes KIM

Centre Sèvres, Facultés Jésuites de Paris

Debate

3:00 PM · FOURTH SESSION

Chair: Prof. Giacomo INCITTI, Dean of the Faculty of Canon Law

The Strategic Role of Ecclesiastical Studies

for a Church "Out on Mission." From the Seminaries of Maximum illud to the Affiliated Institutes of the Pontifical Urbaniana University

Prof. Antoine de Padou POODA, Pontificia Università Urbaniana

Debate

Coffee break (4:00-4:30 pm)

Communications

Contexts of Mission in Africa: Challenges and Hopes

Prof. Pierre DIARRA, Institut Catholique de Paris, Secretary PP.OO.MM., France

Prof. Paul Ennin, Institut Catholique Missionnaire d'Abidjan, Ivory Coast

Fr. Pontian KAWEESA, National Director PP.OO.MM., Uganda

Prof. Florence Oso, Department of Theology, Major Seminary, Bodija, Ibadan, Nigeria

FRIDAY > 29Th NOVEMBER 2019

8:30 AM · FIFTH SESSION

Chair: **Prof. Aldo VENDEMIATI**, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy

Communications

Contexts of Mission in Asia-Oceania: Challenges and Hopes

Prof. Clarence Sandanaraj DAVEDASSAN, Catholic Research Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mrs. Baby LOU and Mr. Jose TALE, Couples for Christ Global Mission Foundation, Philippines

Prof. Evelyn Monteiro, Pontifical Athenaeum of Philosophy and Religion, Pune, India **Dr. Manoj Sunny**, International Director for Formation-Jesus Youth, Former Coordinator of the Fraternity of the Movements in Asia (FEMA), India

Coffee break (10:30-11:00 am)

11:00 AM · FINAL SESSION

Chair: Prof. Luca PANDOLFI, Director ISCSM

Panel discussion

Contributions from the Professors of the Pontifical Urbaniana University

Prof. Benedict Kanakappally (Vice Rector)

Prof. Lorella CONGIUNTI (Faculty of Philosophy)

Prof. Armando Genovese (Faculty of Theology)

Prof. Yawovi Jean ATTILA (Faculty of Canon Law)

Prof. Sandra MAZZOLINI (Faculty of Missiology)

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66 I dream of a "missionary option", that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules. language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today's world rather than for her self-preservation. The renewal of structures demanded by pastoral conversion can only be understood in this light: as part of an effort to make them more mission-oriented. to make ordinary pastoral activity on every level more inclusive and open, to inspire in pastoral workers a constant desire to go forth and in this way to elicit a positive response from all those whom Jesus summons to friendship with himself. 99

> Francis Evangelii gaudium, 27

Congress Secretariat

Pontificia Università Urbaniana Via Urbano VIII, 16 00120 Città del Vaticano tel. 06 69889611 fax 06 69881871 r.cherubini@urbaniana.edu www.urbaniana.edu

Place of the Congress

Aula Magna Pontificia Università Urbaniana Via Urbano VIII, 16 00120 Città del Vaticano

The Congress will be conducted in Italian and English with simultaneous translation