

**International Conference on the 3rd Anniversary of *Laudato Si'*:  
SAVING OUR COMMON HOME AND THE FUTURE OF LIFE ON EARTH**  
(5-6 July 2018, Vatican City)

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The starting point of the International Conference on the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of *Laudato Si'* was a sense of deep **urgency** and profound **concern** for the precarious state of our common home. The Conference unfolded along the “See-Judge-Act” trajectory of the encyclical. The event was organized to inspire a “mass movement” for the care of our common home, involving the representatives of the civil society, religions, churches, scientists, politicians, economists, grass root movements, young people and indigenous communities, et al., in short “all people of good will”.

The four main objectives of the Conference were the following:

- i) Raise ambition for **the 1.5°C guardrail** (towards COP24 in Katowice);
- ii) Transition towards a **Circular Economy** and the transfer of investment and finance for the care of our common home;
- iii) Greater Involvement of **Faith Communities** - Season of Creation;
- iv) Create a **People’s Movement** – highlighting the special role Young People and Indigenous communities (the forthcoming Synods).

The strategy of the Conference was one of “**partnership and dialogue**”. The Dicastery organized the event in collaboration with the the *Caritas Internationalis*, the CIDSE, the Global Catholic Climate Movement, and many others.

**The outcomes of the conference can be summarised along 5 LINES OF ACTION:**

**1. Renew the commitment on the *Laudato Si'* request for an urgent radical ecological conversion to materialize in the care for creation.**

- Remind about the URGENCY of the ecological and social crisis: Our “common home” is in danger and we have precious little time to act!
- Engage all actors, including the business sector (those who are part of the problem, make them part of the solution), civil society organisations, faith leaders and groups, governments, sub-State authorities, cities, other non-state actors.
- Make the narrative more “human” by talking about problems that can speak to people, like food insecurity, responsible use of water resources, restoring forests, migrations, etc.

**2. Raise ambition at COP24 for a just transition to achieve the 1.5°C goal and protect the most vulnerable.**

- Motivate political will among Governments and bring together non-State actors with various responsibility, since change is possible: “*Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home*” (LS 13).
- Bring a strong message, using clear language, about the need for more climate ambition: achieving the 1.5°C goal is needed for vulnerable communities to sheerly STAY ALIVE. The 1.5°C goal could be reached only bringing together political and behavioural change. We call for policies that could enhance and enable citizens to move towards a more sustainable way of living.
- Call for a “Rulebook” apt to achieve the Paris Agreement’s overall objectives of combining climate action with sustainable development and poverty eradication. The “Rulebook” will represent the common system whereby all countries will commit; it should thus be based on explicit human rights

considerations and promote the realization of social justice in all climate policies and programs.

- Call for a just transition that requires a systemic approach, considering all aspects together (social, environmental, political etc...) in order to make sure that “nobody is left behind”.

### **3. Deepen action among young and indigenous people during the Synods on Youth (2018) and the Amazon (2019) and beyond, to ensure long-lasting change.**

- Intercultural / Interreligious dialogue;
- Accompaniment, Reconciliation, Creating Awareness,
- Contemplation /Prayer/ Embrace
- Participation – invite youth to the Synod on Youth and indigenous people to the Synod on the Amazon. Beyond the Synods, create more opportunities for participation of youth and indigenous across all levels of society.
- Formation and education – integral ecology should be part of everything the Church does and teaches, integrated across all current areas of formation to enable people to have their own ecological conversion
- Integrity – genuine ecological conversion needs to start within the Church, for example divestment of the Vatican Bank from the fossil fuel industry.
- Intergenerational solidarity – create opportunities, both during and beyond the Synods, to strengthen intergenerational solidarity and dialogue

### **4. Encourage financial institutions to adopt rules towards an integral ecology, by “walking the talk” as a Church, including investments with positive social and environmental impact.**

- Raise awareness on the determining role of international Financial Institutions for the global economy
- Promote a system of sound regulation of financial markets, as well as rules whereby Financial Institutions could be tracked, bound to transparency, efficiency and evaluation in conformity with Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement
- Divest from fossil fuels (refrain from damaging environment) and invest in integral ecology (reforestation, just transition projects)
- Lead by example, by supporting carbon neutral operations

### **5. Engage the faithful in the celebration of the Season of Creation (September 1 - October 4) with other Churches, to motivate radical ecological conversion and transformative action.**

- Deepen ecumenical solidarity through a joint statement by Pope Francis and other high-level Christian leaders, plus a joint Season of Creation resource between the Vatican and World Council of Churches.
- Promote the ecumenical website [SeasonOfCreation.org](http://SeasonOfCreation.org) and encourage prayer by incorporating Season of Creation themes within the liturgies and among the faithful as a way of repentance, discernment, and solidarity.
- Support ecological conversion through formation in parishes, schools, and seminaries, integrating the local context and indigenous wisdom when relevant.
- Promote a conversion of lifestyles to simplicity and sustainability, through a commitment of Church institutions to be carbon neutral by 2040 or earlier.
- Engage in action and advocacy through fossil fuel divestment and other climate advocacy initiatives ahead of key political moments (as COPs).
- Discern Season of Creation’s inclusion into the church’s liturgical calendar, as a way of deepening and embodying the invitation and challenge set forth in *Laudato Si’*.