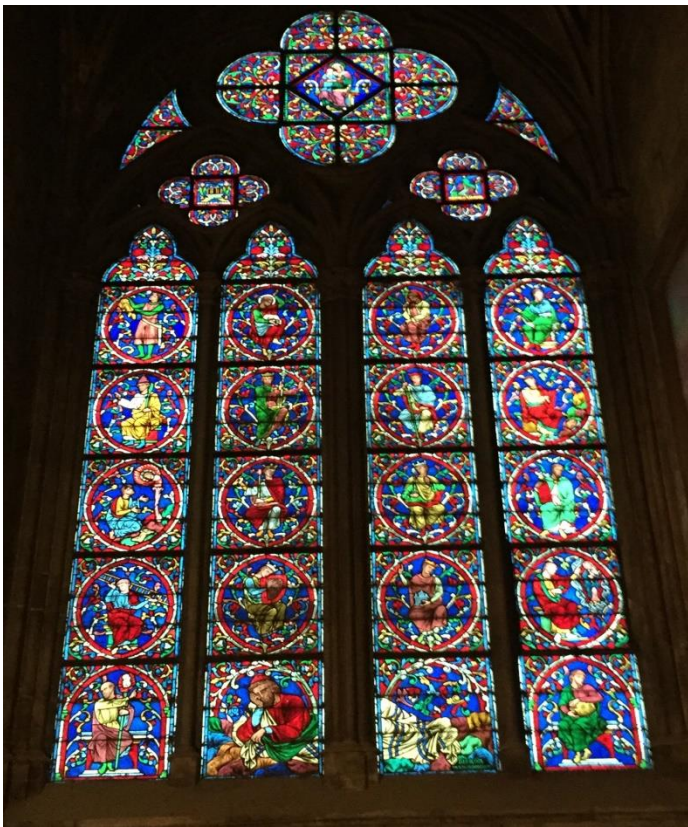


Catholic Social Teaching, Human Rights & the UN



Dignity of the Human Person



- Every man and women is created out of love and made in the image and likeness of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ... worthy of respect as a member of the human family, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, economic status...

Respect for Human Life

- From the moment of conception to natural death

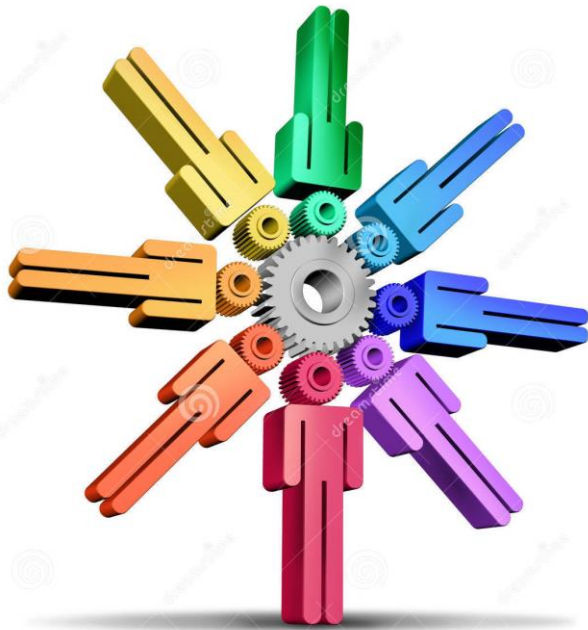


Principle of Association

- * A person is not only sacred, but also social. How we organize our society in economics and politics, in law and policy, affects the dignity and capacity of individuals to grow in community.



Principle of Participation




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- Every person has a right and duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.
- * Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation.

Preferential Option for the Poor

- * We will be judged by what we choose to do or not to do in regard to the hungry, the thirsty, the sick, the homeless, the prisoner (Mt. 25.31) what we call today – preferential option for the poor.



- 
- Preferential option demands an appreciation of the **immense dignity of the poor.**
 - **Calls for an integrated approach to combat poverty and restore dignity to the excluded and include them at the table when decisions are made about them and the systemic reality. “Charity gives, justice changes.”**

Principle of Solidarity



We belong to **ONE HUMAN FAMILY**; obligations to promote the rights and development of all people – irrespective of national boundaries. **We live in an interdependent world**, need one another to promote and protect the **common good**.

- In the present condition of global society, where injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable, the principle of the common good immediately becomes, logically and inevitably, a summons to solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters.
- This option entails recognizing the implications of the universal destination of the world's goods. #158
Lauda to Si

Solidarity

- In the context of **Sustainable Development**, there is a **need for intergenerational solidarity** – the world we have received also belongs to those who will follow us.
- Solidarity is a concept for three levels of engagement with people living in poverty -**charity, justice and advocacy**

Principle of Stewardship



- We are called to be stewards of God's creation - a **moral responsibility for the protection of the environment.**

Stewardship

- - Pope Francis calls everyone to consider “**integral ecology**” which respects its human social dimensions.
- Nature not separate from us, **we are part of nature** – in constant interaction with it.
- Protection of environment “**an integral part of the development process..**”
- **Our option is then for humanity and mother earth** as we care for our common home.

Subsidiarity

- **Principle of Subsidiarity** – the responsibilities and limits of government, and the essential roles of voluntary associations. Every organization/group/people have a place and role to play. This principle should be applied in our own communities.
- Citizens are **rights holders** and the governments are the **duty bearers**.

Principle of Human Equality

- **Fairness and justice**
- Equality comes from their **essential dignity**: Political-legal, Social-Economic and Environmental.
- Social and economic disadvantages and **gender discrimination result in oppression, powerlessness and exclusion.**

Principle of Common Good


- Sum total of the conditions of social living – economic, political, cultural, environmental - that **allow people to reach their full human potential, social well-being and development of the group.**
- The underlying principle of common good is **respect for the human person and the overall welfare of society.**

ON MORALITY, THE COMMON GOOD AND THE ENVIRONMENT: **"We must regain the conviction that we need one another that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world, and that being good and decent are worth it. We have had enough of immorality and the mockery of ethics, goodness, faith and honesty. It is time to acknowledge that light-hearted superficiality has done us no good. When the foundations of social life are corroded, what ensues are battles over conflicting interests, new forms of violence and brutality, and obstacles to the growth of a genuine culture of care for the environment."** # 229 Laudato Si



➤ **Common good calls for:**

- Social Peace
- Stability
- Security
- Distributive and
- Restorative Justice.



➤ **Peace is the fruit of justice**, dependent upon right order among humans and among nations. Without peace and security no human development happens.

(Ten foundational Principles in the Social Teaching of the Church, Robert Maloney CM & Laudato Si)

Latest Focus of the Church...

- Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the global Catholic peace network Pax Christi International hosted a Conference on “ Non-violence and Just Peace” in April 2016 to:
- Evaluate the ‘**just war**’ theory
- Develop a **vision of non-violence** and **just peace for the Church**

Why the change?

- Modern wars made just war theory obsolete
- The rise of a Christology “from below”
- Clearer understanding of how New Testament relates to contemporary problems
- Renewed appreciation of the way early church practiced Jesus’ teachings on peace
- The impact of non-violent movements over the past 70 years

United Nations Charter

We the Peoples of the United Nations are Determined:

- ✓ To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war...
- ✓ To reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small...

UN Charter...

- ✓ To promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom...
- ✓ To practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors...
- ✓ To unite our strength to maintain international peace and security...

UN Charter...

- ✓ That armed force shall not be used, save in the common interest...
- ✓ To employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples
- ✓ **Have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims.**


Human Rights



Human Rights

What led the UN to work on Human Rights?

- World War II and the Holocaust
- Non-governmental organizations urged the UN to include the protection of human rights in the Charter
- A Human Rights Commission was established by ECOSOC in 1946 to work on the Universal Declaration on Human Rights

- 
- Elements for the Human Rights were drawn from outlines presented by Chile, Cuba, Panama, UK and USA; from 55 national constitutions; recommendations from NGOs and private citizens.
 - **The Declaration was adopted on December 10, 1948**

Impact of UDHR

- Universal nature of **rights** and **freedoms** to which every human being is equally and inalienably entitled.
- Emphasized **relationship** between fundamental **freedoms** and **social justice**
- Promoted **peace and justice**
- Led to the adoption of many **legally binding international human rights treaties**
- Gave human rights international **legal status**

Catholic Social Teaching and Human Rights

Church asserts that:

- Every human person is endowed with **an inherent and inalienable dignity which entails basic rights.**
- **Respect for human rights is the requisite for peace.**
- **We are mandated to protect human rights** and to **educate** about **dignity, liberty** and **equality** of all humans
- **“Peace and rights** are two benefits directly related to each other as cause and effect. There can be no peace where there is no respect for, **defense and promotion of human rights.**” Pope Paul II


The Earth Charter

Values and Principles for a Sustainable Future



Ethical Vision of Earth Charter:

- **Environmental protection**
- **Human Rights**
- **Equitable human development**
- **Peace**
- **One Earth**
- **One Human Family**
- **Sharing Responsibility**

- 
- **Respect and care for the Community of Life**
 - **Ecological Integrity**
 - **Social and Economic Justice**
 - **Democracy, Non-violence and Peace**

Why Earth Charter

- **Challenges to examine our values and choose a better way**
- **Calls for a common ground**
- **Embrace a new ethical vision**

Sources for Earth Charter Values

- Contemporary Science
- International Law
- Teachings of Indigenous Peoples
- Wisdom of world's great Religions and Philosophical traditions
- Declarations/reports of UN summits/conferences held in the 1990s
- Launched on June 29, 2000 at the Peace Palace in the Hague



What shall we do?

- Promote the dissemination, endorsement and implementation by civil society, business and government



- Thousands of NGOs, international organizations, educational institutions, cities, towns have endorsed it.
- Use it as an educational tool
- Invite everyone for a reflection on fundamental attitudes and ethical values governing our behavior

- Aid for multi-sectoral, cross-cultural, and interfaith dialogue on ethics and the direction of globalization



- Guide to a sustainable way of life – to inspire commitment, cooperation and change
- A soft law instrument to provide ethical foundation for ongoing development of environmental and sustainable development law.

How does your ministry intersect with Catholic Social Teaching Principles?

- * Dignity of the human person
- * Call to family/community association & participation
- * Preferential option for the poor
- * Solidarity
- * Subsidiarity
- * Care for Earth
- * Human equality
- * Rights & responsibilities
- * Common good