

Justice Coalition of Religious

16 June 2026

Religious Working for Global Transformation
at the United Nations *and* Around the World

www.JCoR2030.org



JCoR: Justice Coalition of Religious

A coalition of 24 Roman Catholic Religious organizations that are:

- accredited by the United Nations (UN)
- have representatives at UN headquarters in New York
- collectively represent over 200 congregations with a presence in more than 130 countries
- are committed to improving well-being of people living in poverty and of the natural environment



Governing Member Organizations

Company of the Daughters of Charity
Congregation of the Mission
Congregation of Notre Dame de Montreal
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
Congregations of St. Joseph
Dominican Leadership Conference
Edmund Rice International
Fondazione Proclade Internazionale-Onlus
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary-Loreto Generalate
International Presentation Association
Loretto Community
Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers

Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic
Medical Mission Sisters
Oblates of Mary Immaculate
Passionists International
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary
Salesian Missions
School Sisters of Notre Dame
Sisters of Charity Federation
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur
Society of the Sacred Heart
UNANIMA International
VIVAT International



Our Shared Mission

To facilitate **collaboration** among members and partners of Catholic Religious **congregations** working **at the grassroots and at the United Nations** in order to:

(1) **strengthen** one another's **capacity for advocacy** and

(2) **advocate collectively**

for social, economic, and environmental justice and peace in international, regional, and national fora.

What do we mean when we say **ADVOCACY?**

Public *and/or* private **actions that promote movement toward justice in our society's social, economic, and environmental systems and structures**

(e.g. speaking to/informing a community or their political leaders, writing letters/statements, joining or organizing rallies/demonstrations to address an injustice)



Why We Have
Come Together
at this Moment
in History



Signs of the Times

- **Trend of smaller numbers of vocations to Religious Life, inviting us to address challenging questions:**
 - How can we bring our congregations' unique charisms into practical collaboration for our common mission?
 - How will the dignity of those we serve be upheld on the day we can no longer provide a particular charitable ministry in a particular local community?
- **Spread of misinformation, manifesting as a growing gap between reality and political narratives**
- **Shift toward authoritarianism across many countries, appearing in the form of:**
 - suppression of free speech in public spaces
 - restriction of civil society's access to political spaces, especially voices from the most marginalised groups
 - blaming marginalised groups for national problems
 - political coopting of the press/media
- **Unanimous adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, presenting an unprecedented opportunity...**

Require us to:

- **share information and resources across congregations**
- **capacitate ourselves as:**
 - clear-eyed witnesses of our social, economic, and environmental reality
 - evidence-based storytellers
 - a mutually supportive web of communicators
- **bring the truth of lived experience from the margins of society into fora where policy decisions are being made and structures are being shaped**
- **speak with an informed, organized, and unified voice to hold governments accountable for their commitments**

Sustainable Development Goals

An opportunity for “glocal” action



In 2015, governments of the United Nations unanimously adopted the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, a 15-year agenda for the alleviation of human and environmental suffering.

Sustainable Development Goals

An opportunity for “glocal” action



In order for the SDGs to be achieved in a just manner (one that includes everyone and prioritises the poorest among us), all sectors of society must actively participate in:

- implementing them and
- monitoring progress toward their achievement

within every nation as well as at the UN.

Sustainable Development Goals

An opportunity for “glocal” action



Religious have been working toward the SDGs for centuries and are well positioned to guide global and local leaders in fulfilling the promises of this agenda.

Why Religious
Congregations Engage
with the UN System



Catholic Social Teaching



The United Nations Charter

WE, THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, DETERMINED,

- to **save succeeding generations from the scourge of war**, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and
- 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, and
- to **establish** conditions under which **justice** and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and
- to promote **social progress and better standards of life** in larger freedom,

UNITED
NATIONS
CHARTER



ESTABLISHED
JUNE 26, 1945

The United Nations Charter

AND FOR THESE ENDS

- to practice tolerance and **live together in peace with one another as good neighbours**, and
- to unite our strength to **maintain international peace and security**, and
- to **ensure**, by the acceptance of principles and the institution of methods, **that armed force shall not be used**, save in the common interest, and
- to employ international machinery for the **promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples...**

UNITED
NATIONS
CHARTER



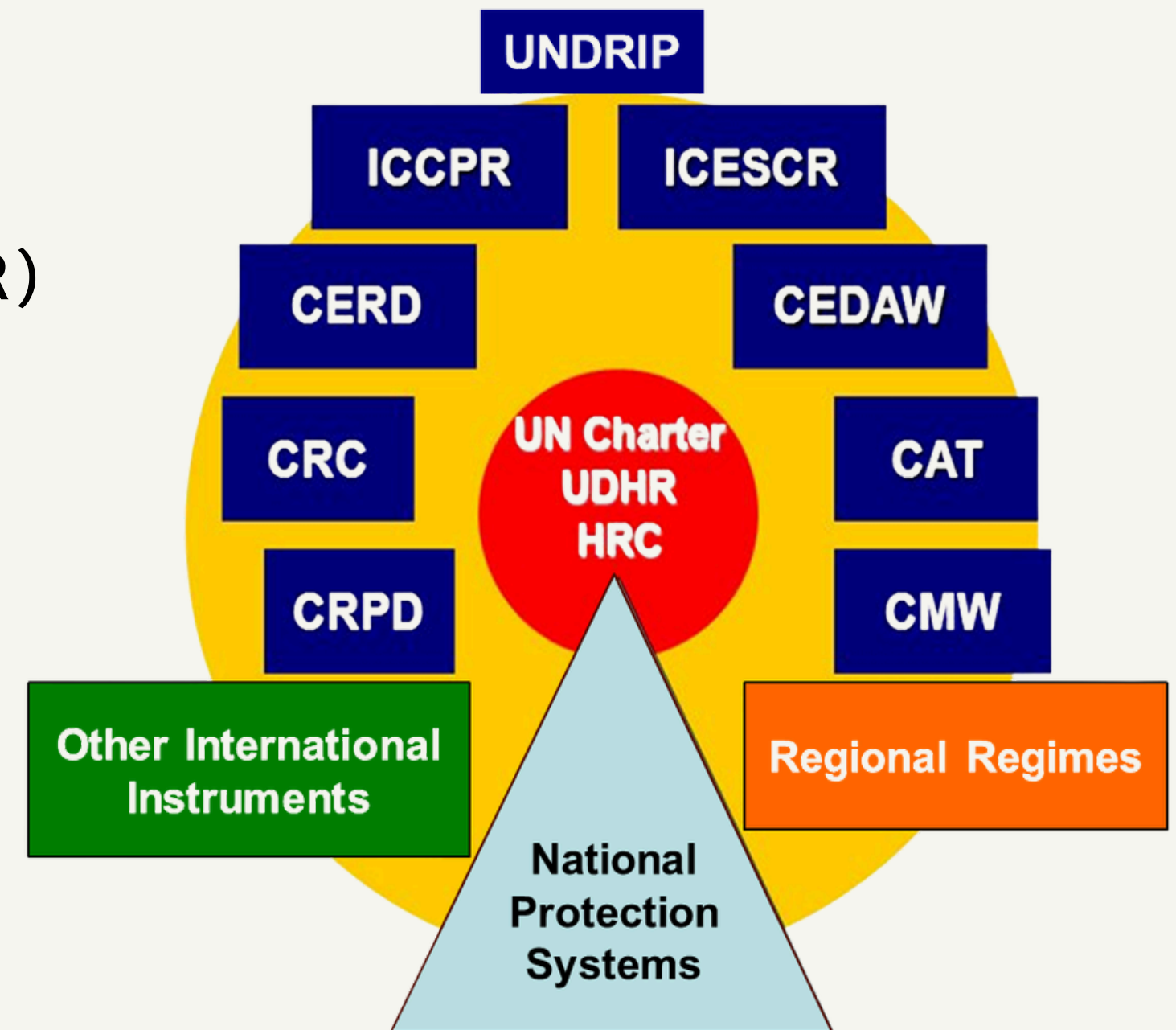
ESTABLISHED
JUNE 26, 1945

Human Rights Framework

Aims to establish global consensus & accountability toward realization of:

- Universal human rights (UDHR)
- Civil & political rights (ICCPR)
- Economic, social, and cultural rights (ICESCR)
- Rights of migrant workers & their families (CMW)
- Rights of persons with disabilities (CRPD)
- Rights of children (CRC)
- Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
- Elimination of discrimination against women (CEDAW)
- Elimination of torture (CAT)
- Elimination of racial discrimination (CERD)

...principles of Catholic Social Teaching in secular language



SDGs the UN's AGENDA for 2015-2030:



SECULAR ROAD MAP to the REIGN or CITY of GOD

The POLITICAL is SPIRITUAL

“ —

In today's world we don't need more hatred, we don't need more fear. We need more hope and realization that we live together. The most important word in today's world is, in fact, 'together... That is the most basic message that translates itself into how we, in the future, deal with migration and refugees, how we deal with development, how we deal with root causes to end conflicts earlier...

"I would hope to have revived Dag Hammarskjöld's tradition of pointing to culture, and music in this case, and the spiritual dimension of the work at the UN, and to realize that there is an element of spirituality needed in what we do.

– H.E. Jan Eliasson
former UN Deputy Secretary General

The POLITICAL is SPIRITUAL

“

The spiritual dimensions of the work of the United Nations tend to be overlooked and underappreciated. Yet, the tenets set out in the Charter – peace, justice, equality, the dignity and worth of the human person – echo the teachings of the world’s religious traditions and summon us all to reduce human suffering

*...As we reflect on [Laudato Si’] in 2021, the state of our common home is broken...This is an epic policy test. But ultimately this is a **moral test.***

– H.E. António Guterres

UN Secretary General

in foreword for the [Laudato Si’ Reader](#)

The SPIRITUAL is POLITICAL

“ —

[The Church] cannot and must not replace the State. Yet at the same time she cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice. She has to play her part through rational argument and she has to reawaken the spiritual energy without which justice, which always demands sacrifice, cannot prevail and prosper. A just society must be the achievement of politics, not of the Church. Yet the promotion of justice through efforts to bring about openness of mind and will to the demands of the common good is something which concerns the Church deeply.

– Pope Benedict XVI

Deus Caritas Est, 2005

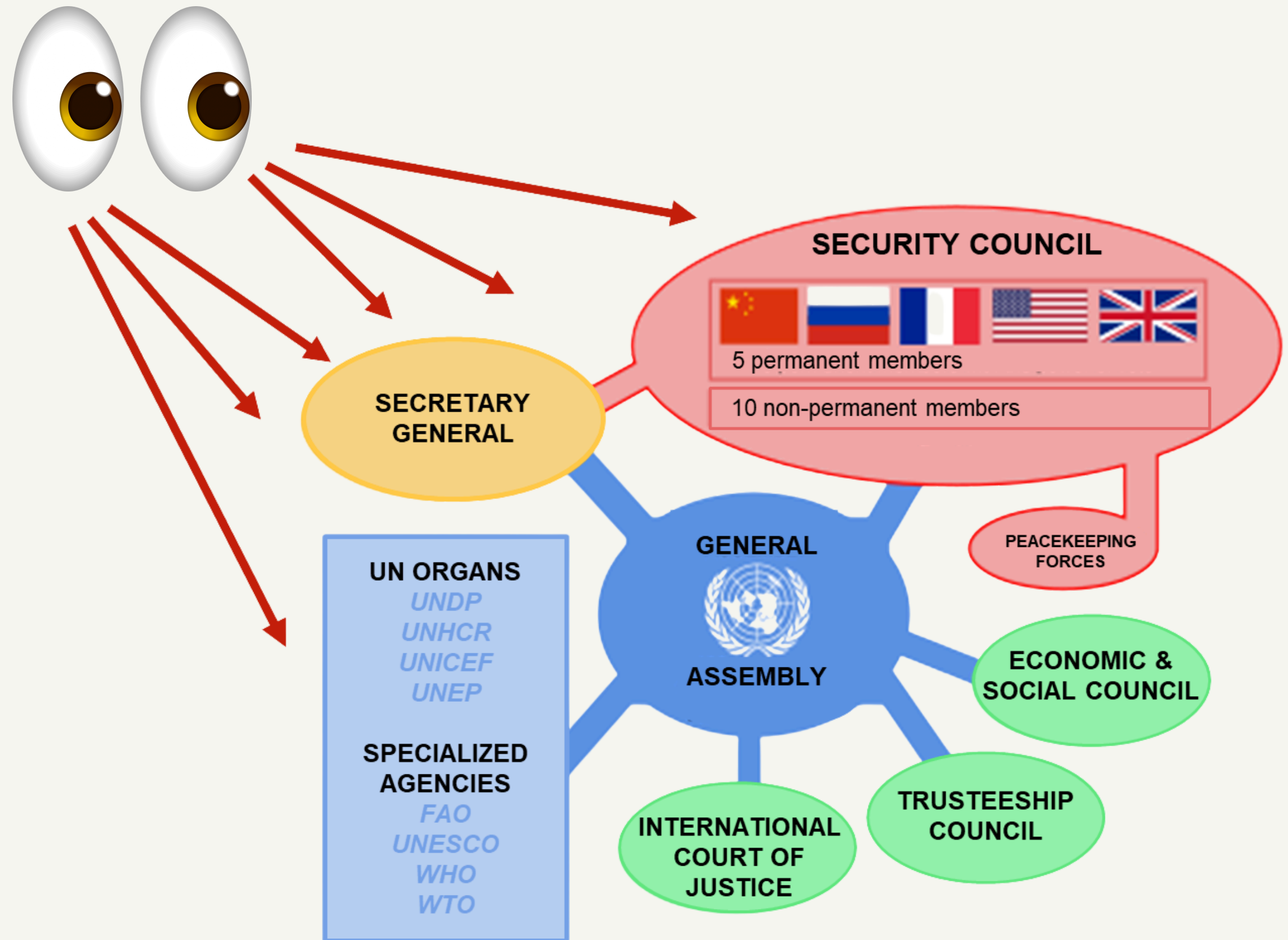
How Religious
Congregations
Engage with the UN
System



Catholic Religious Presence at the UN

- From the perspective of the UN system, we are considered “**NGOs**” (non-governmental organizations)

- Approximately 30 NGOs accredited to engage with the UN on behalf of over 200 Catholic Religious congregations



Religious Voice at the UN

- **Expert:** provide insights from members' work ministering to most vulnerable and excluded populations
- **Impartial:** represent communities that span many nations and have no national identity
- **Credible:** known to practice values of care for human dignity of all and for the natural environment through lives of intentionality and dedicated service
- **Consistent:** maintain positions based on constitutions and principles older than UN and many nations; bring continuity and stability to global conversation that governments with frequently changing leaders/politics cannot
- **Collaborative:** speak and work through coalitions and committees that model for governments how to prioritise common goals and common good ahead of individual glory, achievement, or control

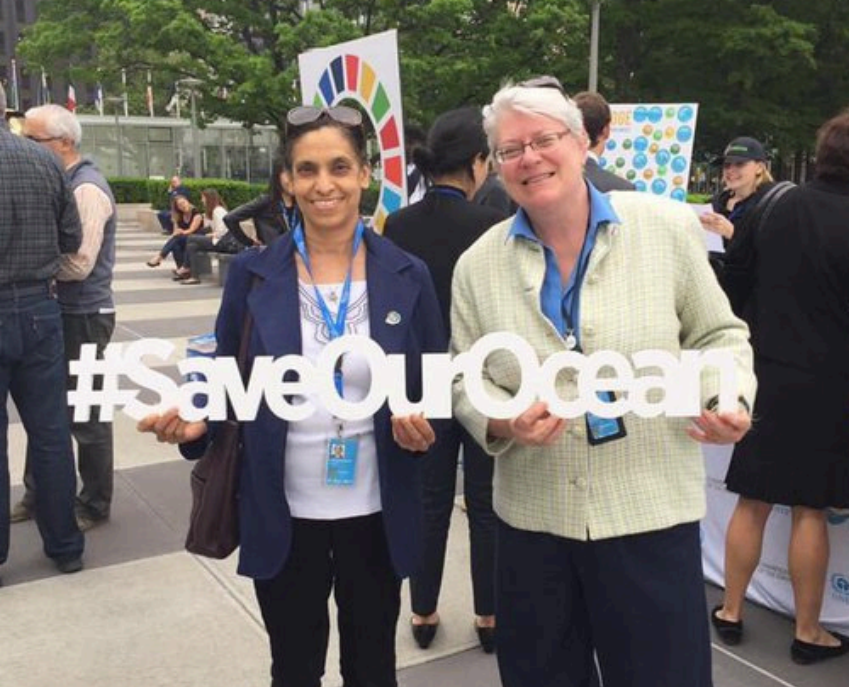
Working Collaboratively



What Advocacy Looks Like in Practice

Accreditation allows our NGOs to participate in UN proceedings by:

- Delivering oral statements
- Submitting written statements
- Meeting with diplomats
- Participating in UN conferences
- Sponsoring events inside and near UN Headquarters
- Making formal or informal recommendations on new UN agreements as they are being negotiated
- Submitting reports and comments on nations' progress on human rights (or lack thereof)



*How JCoR Cultivates
& Engages Our
Global Community in
Advocacy*



Coordinate efforts of Religious and their ministry partners to allow us to make a stronger, more unified call for a justice, equity, sustainability, and respect for rights on the local, national, and global levels.

We have begun our efforts in:

- Latin America and the Caribbean
- East & Southern Africa
- India
- United Nations Headquarters (New York City, USA)

Regional Networks



Regional Workshops

JCoR offers regional workshops and training throughout East & Southern Africa, India, and Latin America to **enhance essential advocacy skills and knowledge** among Religious who are working at the grassroots.

We then build upon the workshops by supporting our regional networks in ongoing collaboration to **design and realise advocacy initiatives** that respond to the need for systemic change, specific to each region.

Participation is **open to all Catholic Religious** (from any congregation or diocese) **and their ministry partners** in the selected region.



JCoR's Regional Workshops

Regional Advocacy Actions



Bringing Delegates to the UN

In collaboration with our member NGOs, we facilitate the **in-person participation** of representatives from around the world in UN conferences and fora.

In addition, for the annual High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, we provide additional support through a comprehensive online training program to facilitate meaningful engagement in the UN's annual forum reviewing SDG progress.



Accessible Guides to UN Conferences

Published in **English**, **Spanish**, **French**, and **Portuguese**, to support broad grassroots awareness & engagement in UN conferences on:

- social inequalities
- gender equality
- rights of Indigenous Peoples
- climate change
- SDG progress review



Let's talk mental health
Tending to our mental health as advocacy practitioners

Speaker
Bekah Sears
Canadian Mental Health Association

Monday, 19 February 2024
12:00PM-1:30PM (New York Time)

Register to join via Zoom: bit.ly/3SoRFqY

JCoR2030.org @JCoR2030

YouTube Tech Tutorial

Join JCoR for a basic introduction to the YouTube platform, including how to create your own channel, upload videos, perform simple edits, and add this video content to your website.

30 April 2024, 10am (New York time)

REGISTER

Religious at the UN EDUCATION SESSION

Speaker
Alfonso Apicella

5 February 2025
10:10am (ET)

Turn Debt into Hope: Join the Caritas Campaign

LEARN WITH US

Religious at the UN EDUCATION SESSION

Mission Visit Training
Step-by-Step Guidance and Good Practices

2 JUNE 2026 | 10:45AM-11:30 AM

LEARN WITH US

Facilitated by Kimbery Happich Moloche and Charlotte Vogel of the Congregation of our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd at the United Nations

Education Sessions

for the UN community

JCoR organizes education sessions to enhance network members' understanding of **emerging topics**, opportunities for collaboration, and technological tools that **support effective advocacy**.

How *YOU*
Can Engage
with JCoR



Helpful Forms of Support from Congregational Leadership



- **Promote** congregation-wide understanding of advocacy as an essential component of ministry that is integral to addressing the root cause of any suffering we see at the community level
- **Include** basic training in social/environmental (“root-cause”) analysis, human rights, and advocacy into initial and ongoing formation curricula for your congregation
- **Integrate** updates from your UN office across all your congregation’s communication platforms
- **Champion** continued fund allocation to maintain the presence of a congregational representative at the UN
- **Allow** each new UN representative to receive multiple weeks of in-person training with the outgoing representative (circumstances permitting)
- **Visit** your UN office & create opportunities for members of your congregation to participate in UN conferences
- **Encourage** engagement of your members (especially JPIC persons) with your UN office and with JCoR...

Contact

Your Congregation's Office at the United Nations



Find links to many of their websites here:
<https://jcor2030.org/about-us/members/>

Contact JCoR's United Nations Office



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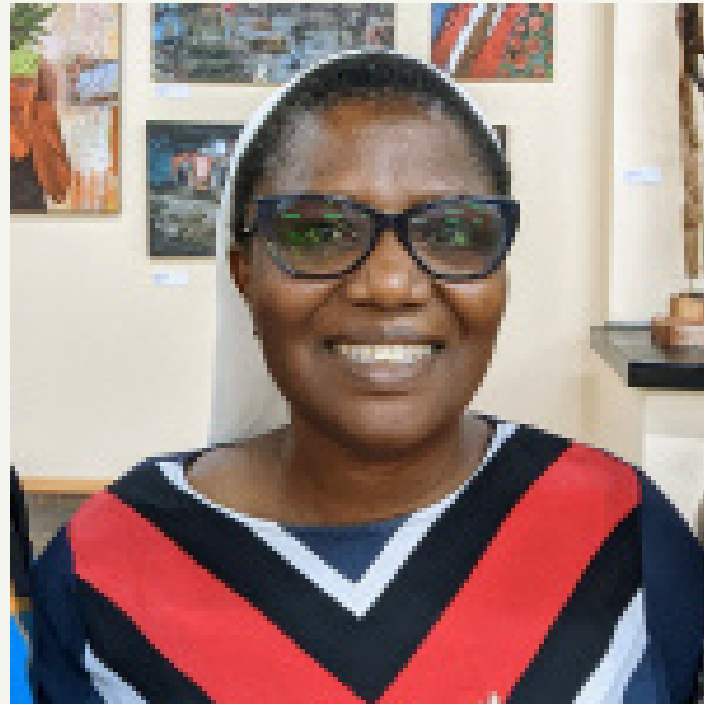
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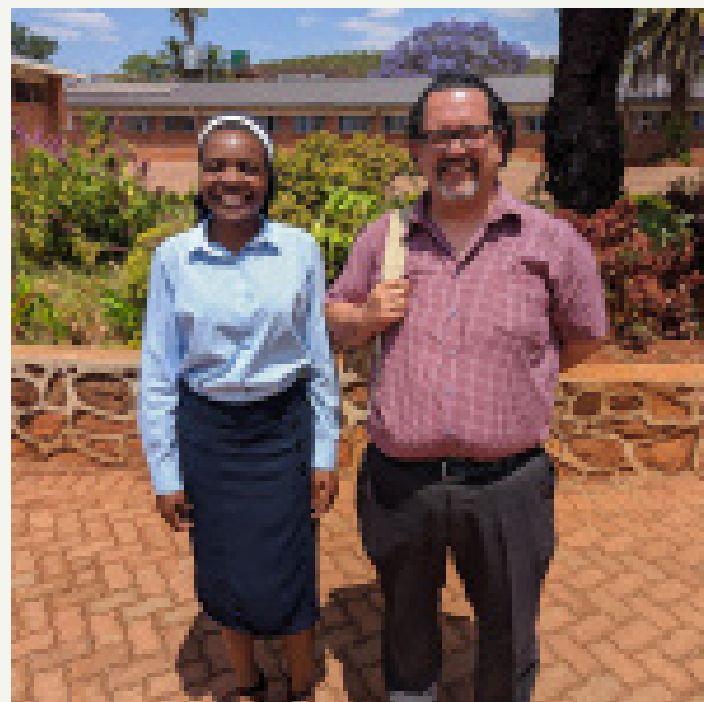


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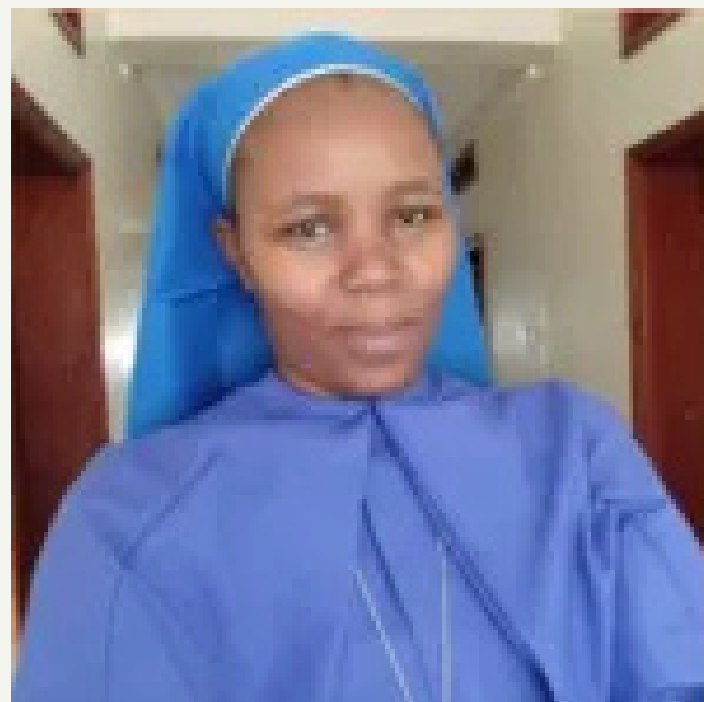


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Comuníquese con su equipo JCoR-ALC



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Visit JCoR's Website

www.jcor2030.org

...and [subscribe](#) to our **monthly Bulletin!**



Welcome to JCoR's monthly bulletin! Continue reading to learn more about our recent activities and opportunities to join us in acting for justice.

GLOBAL UPDATES

United Nations



From 11-22 November 2024, United Nations Member States, civil society, and other stakeholders will gather in Baku, Azerbaijan for the 29th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations

Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29), also referred to as the UN conference on climate change. At this annual conference, governments' representatives come together to negotiate and agree upon actions to address climate change, such as limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, helping vulnerable countries adapt to the effects of climate change, and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. In addition to delegates from UN Member States, climate-concerned leaders from civil society, indigenous groups, academia, younger generations, and the private sector will also assemble to discuss how to accelerate a collective response to the climate crisis. At COP29, all of these actors will discuss the key priority of establishing a new goal on climate finance, ensuring every country has the means to take strong climate action, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and build resilient communities.

JCoR created a **guide to COP29**, including information about the conference and how you can participate. Visit the [JCoR website](#) to access this guide in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish. We encourage you to use this resource and share it with your networks to add your voice to these important conversations. Join us in holding our governments accountable to transitioning to renewable energy, phasing out fossil fuels, strengthening climate resilience, and providing the financial resources to put climate solutions into action **NOW**.

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Welcome to JCoR's "Member of the Month" column, a space designed to facilitate relationship building



REGIONAL UPDATES

East & Southern Africa



The JCoR Network of Zimbabwe submitted reports from different congregations to the UNFCCC – COP29. These reports addressed matters of social protection, human rights, and employment, in order to create a comprehensive statement about the reality of Zimbabwe that can be used for the meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan, from November 11-22, 2024.

In commemoration of **Zimbabwe's National Tree-Planting Day** (second Saturday in December), the national JCoR Network is also preparing to conduct a tree-planting in areas of Bulawayo with enough water. The effort will be made possible by donations and volunteers. In tandem with the planting, the group will provide sensitization on the need for trees in our rural areas, the danger of cutting trees without replanting, and which trees are best suited to the water conditions in that region. They emphasize in all their planting campaigns that their purpose is not only to beautify but also to support the survival of plants and animals alike in their local environment.

India



JCoR Network - India will facilitate an upcoming workshop in Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh on "Constitution, Social Justice, and Minority Rights," from 7-10 November 2024. In addition, JCoR's West India Coordinator is also planning a **workshop on rights-based advocacy** which

will be held in **Vadodara, Gujarat** from 28 to 30 November. It will include an introduction to JCoR, to the work of Religious congregations in the UN system, to the Sustainable Development Goals, and to engagement in advocacy for systemic change in India. To register for this workshop, please complete this [registration form](#).

Latin America and the Caribbean



From 21 October to 1 November 2024, representatives of UN Member States, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, and other stakeholders gathered in Cali, Colombia, for the 16th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16), also known as the **UN Biodiversity Conference**.

Subscribe to Our Monthly Bulletin

Subscribe to receive:

- updates on our coalition's activities at the UN and around the globe
- guides for virtual participation in UN conferences
- invitations to submit your observations, insights, and good practices to future JCoR statements and events



Join a JCoR WhatsApp Group

India:

- Karnataka & Kerala
- Tamil Nadu
- Maharashtra
- Goa
- Madhya Pradesh:
 - Indore region
 - Jabhua region
- Odisha
- Deli/UP/Punjab/Haryana
- Gujarat

East & Southern Africa:

- Zambia
- Zimbabwe:
 - Bulawayo region
 - Harare region
- Uganda
- Tanzania

Latin America & Caribbean:

- Latin America (Spanish)
- Caribbean (English)
- Brazil (Portugues)



Interact with Us via Social Media

facebook

www.facebook.com/JCoR2030

YouTube

www.youtube.com/@JCoR2030

LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/company/jcor2030

Instagram

www.instagram.com/jcor2030



Read & Share

JCoR's Guides to Major UN Conferences

Published in English, Spanish, French, and Portuguese, to support broad grassroots awareness & engagement in UN conferences on:

- social inequalities
- gender equality
- rights of Indigenous Peoples
- climate change
- SDG progress review



Participate in JCoR's Global Community Hour

- One-hour virtual gathering
- Second Friday of each month
(13:00-14:00 Universal Coordinated Time)
- Prayer on a justice-related theme
- Updates from JCoR at the UN and regional networks
- Sharing of concerns, good practices, and news from individual network members



When spider webs unite,
they can tie up a lion.

-Ethiopian proverb