

The Permanent Mission of the Holy See to FAO, IFAD, and WFP together with the Forum Roma of Catholic Inspired NGOs has scheduled this seminar in view of the upcoming celebration of World Food Day 2024, titled: Right to Foods for a Better Life and Future.

Unfortunately, we live in an era rife with contradictions: while there are multiple ongoing food crises in various regions of the planet, we are also witnessing excessive food waste, and the use of food for other purposes. Wars, economic shocks, and extreme weather events have continued to force millions of people to grapple with hunger and malnutrition. The fact that there is enough food for everyone in today's world, yet not everyone can access it, is paradoxical. The data we have available is far from encouraging.

In order to ensure peace and development, in the sense of improving the living conditions for populations suffering from hunger, war, and poverty, we need more than solemn statements, but rather concrete, incisive, and prudent initiatives aimed at improving the efficiency of food production and distribution, and ensuring correct food consumption, in terms of both quantity and quality. Sufficient and healthy nutrition is more than just a right. It also requires an ongoing commitment, and the collective will to eradicate the scourge of hunger once and for all. If hunger persists and increases exponentially each day, it's because people have grown desensitised and indifferent, lacking a sense of solidarity.

The purpose of this meeting, therefore, is to reflect on the importance of adopting a holistic approach that will allow us to produce appropriate solutions to tackle the imbalances present in the current food system.

The organisers of this event aim to support this process through an approach based on integral

ecology, which is crucial for tackling global challenges in a systemic manner: viewing food injustice not only as a problem of food scarcity, but also as an issue of justice. It is extremely important to ensure that food systems are sustainable, resilient, and inclusive. "It is a matter of adopting innovative solutions that can transform the way we produce and consume food for the well-being of our communities and of our planet, thus strengthening the capacity to recover and long-term sustainability" (Pope Francis, Message for World Food Day, 16 October 2020). It's an invitation, therefore, to rethink and renew our food systems with a spirit of solidarity, overcoming the logic of ruthlessly exploiting creation, and better directing our efforts towards cultivating and safeguarding the environment and its resources, in order to ensure food security and guarantee sufficient and healthy nutrition for all.

We will do this starting with a brief theoretical discussion, but above all focusing on a diverse list of practical experiences that highlight the great efforts undertaken by Catholic-inspired NGOs in various parts of the world, with initiatives focusing on humanity, in order to guarantee the right to food. These practical experiences demonstrate the added value of civic organisations, which operate directly on the ground, close to the people, highlighting how their proximity and understanding of local communities are essential for effectively addressing the challenge of ensuring the right to food.

Starting with these concrete cases, we will propose a shared pathway aimed at increasing efficiency and positively influencing policy changes, emphasising the importance of coordinated and inclusive global action.



FORUM ROMA
ONG d'inspiration catholique
Catholic-inspired NGOs



**MISSIONE PERMANENTE DI OSSERVAZIONE
DELLA SANTA SEDE**
PRESSO FAO. - I.F.A.D - W.F.P

**The right to food,
Between Deprivation and Waste.**
IT'S TIME TO ACT

[Click here or scan the QR code
to register by 7 October 2024](#)

10 october 2024
10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
FAO - German Room
ROME

[To participate, click the icon
or scan the QR code](#)



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

PROGRAMME

Moderator:

▶ **Dott.ssa Yasmina Bouziane**

Director Department Communication of the FAO

Introductory remarks:

▶ **Maurizio Martina**

Deputy Director General of the FAO

Speakers:

▶ **Prof. Simona Beretta**

*Professor of Economic Policy with the Faculty of Political and Social Sciences,
Catholic University of the Sacred Heart – Milan, Italy*

“The Rules of International Trade:

what needs to change to ensure that everyone has access to food”

▶ **Card. Peter Kodwo Appiah Turkson**

Chancellor of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences

“World hunger, an endless sad reality”

▶ **Msgr. Robert J. Vitillo**

Senior advisor. Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development

“Food waste, a sad reality with no end in sight”

Practical Experiences:

▶ **Caritas Internationalis**

▶ **New Humanity**

▶ **International Council of Catholic Men Unum - Omnes**

▶ **Fundación Promoción Social**

▶ **Marist International Solidarity Foundation**

▶ **World Union of Catholic Women’s Organisations**

Reading of the Rome Forum Manifesto on the Right to Food:

▶ **Vincenzo Conso**

Coordinator of the ForumRoma of Catholic-inspired NGOs

Closing Remarks:

▶ **Msgr. Fernando Chica Arellano**

Permanent Observer of the Holy See to FAO, IFAD and WFP

Simultaneous interpretation will be available in Italian and English.

