



## ***Pope Francis challenges global corporations and calls for a universal salary that allows access to "the most basic necessities of life"***

- *He renews his commitment to **Popular Movements** in their yearning for **Land, Housing and Work**; he has joined the dialogue to overcome an "ecocidal and genocidal" system to adjust socio-economic models.*
- *He calls for waiving patent protections for COVID-19 vaccines and for debt relief for poor countries, among other measures targeting economic sectors, corporations, political and religious institutions.*
- *He proposes the parable of the Good Samaritan, or that of the "collective Samaritans," who react against "social, racial or macho injustice" and the "injury of human dignity;" and offers the principles of the Social Doctrine of the Church to help make this "humanistic search for an alternative to capitalist globalisation" a reality.*

In his address to the delegates of the **IV World Meeting of Popular Movements**, **Pope Francis** conveyed a very direct and concrete message, to think together with the popular movements the way to "come out better" from this crisis marked by a throwaway and exclusion culture that the COVID-19 pandemic has deepened. He called for a halt to this unstoppable system that "with its relentless logic of profit, is escaping all human control." He showed his willingness to "dream together" the future that must be built, so as not to turn back and to improve the world" in harmony with all humanity, with all creation." He proposed the principles of solidarity, participation and subsidiarity (cf. CSDC) to help make this "humanistic search for an alternative to capitalist globalisation" a reality.

At this time, when we need to act "with some urgency" due to the growth of inequalities and the hard access to the most basic resources of life for millions of workers, both in the formal and popular economy, he specified two measures that "may allow for significant changes" -a basic income or universal salary so that everyone has access "to the most basic necessities of life"; and for this proposal to be developed, he called on governments to propose new "tax and redistribution schemes." And, as a second measure, shortening the workday, so that there is greater access to jobs. "There must not be so many people overwhelmed by overwork and so many others overwhelmed by lack of work," he said. Finally, he reaffirmed his commitment to "place the economy at the service of the people" to guarantee social justice and care for our Common Home; and to continue "dreaming together" by promoting the **Land, Housing and Work** agenda. "I will be with you," he concluded.

[\[Address of Pope Francis to IV WMPM \(video\)\]](#)

[Transcription of the Pope's message](#)

IV Encuentro Mundial de Movimientos Populares 2021  
IV World Meeting of Popular Movements 2021  
IV Encontro Mundial de Movimentos Populares 2021  
IV Rencontre Mondiale des Mouvements Populaires 2021  
IV Incontro Mondiale dei Movimenti Popolari 2021



### ***Let's Save Humanity and the Planet!***

The **Popular Movements**, on their part, presented Pope Francis with the document *Let's Save Humanity and the Planet*, a synthesis of their dialogues at this meeting. It proposes ways of accessing the rights to **Land, Housing and Work**; it addresses the crisis of humanity "as a consequence of a destructive, toxic and inhuman economic system"; the conscious and supportive response of the peoples of the peripheries; and the commitment to build a new paradigm of integral human development, "that prioritises life over profit, that harmonises human and environmental relations." A [document](#) is still open for people and social and popular organisations to adhere to.

[\[Document "Let's Save Humanity and the Planet" \(video\)\]](#)

[Document text](#)

### ***Presentation of the documentary film "The Power of Us"***

**Pope Francis** was also able to watch the documentary *The Power of Us*, which reflects the commitment of **Popular Movements** around the world in their fight for **Land, Housing and Work**, and in the care of the humble and working people, during this global pandemic.

Later in his message he noted that he is convinced that the world looks clearer from the peripheries, from men and women who have suffered injustice and inequality first hand. "I can see that they understand much better what others are experiencing and are able to help them realistically to open up paths of hope," and he proposed: "How important it is that your voice be heard, represented in all the places where decisions are made."

[\[Documentary video\]](#)

### **COMMS AND MEDIA CONTACTS**

**General.** Carolina Palacio (Spanish and English) Tel. +54 9 11 5026-9019 [encuentro@movpop.org](mailto:encuentro@movpop.org)  
**Prensa.** [prensa@movpop.org](mailto:prensa@movpop.org) Argentina and Latin America. Diego Marqués Tel. +54 9 11 6865-2288 and Valeria Saita Tel. +54 9 11 6703-7421 Spain. Abraham Canales (Spanish) Tel. +34 609 45 98 03 Italy. Tiziano Schiena (Italian) Tel. +49 1575 8878067 South Africa. Rose Molokoane (English) Tel. +27 82 900 3187 USA. Gloria Morales-Palos and Calvin Abbasi [calvin@picocalifornia.org](mailto:calvin@picocalifornia.org) Tel. +1 818-606-2553 Brazil. Lays Furtado Tel. +55 81 9782-4997 [laysccfurtado@gmail.com](mailto:laysccfurtado@gmail.com)