

“*Caritas in Veritate*:” Authentic, Integral, Human Development

Pope Benedict’s encyclical, *Caritas in Veritate* (Love in Truth) is an anniversary document marking the 40th anniversary of *Populorum Progressio* issued by Pope Paul VI in 1967. Benedict noted in an address made upon the release of his encyclical, “In a special way, it is linked to what Paul VI wrote now more than 40 years ago in *Populorum Progressio*, the cornerstone of the Church’s social teaching, in which the great Pontiff outlined certain decisive and ever relevant ideas for the integral development of humanity and of the modern world.

Populorum Progressio was an urgent “appeal for concrete action toward humanity’s complete development and the development of all humankind.” (PP#5)

“There can be no progress toward complete development of human beings without the simultaneous development of all humanity in the spirit of solidarity.” (PP #43)

Context:

- In *Populorum Progressio*, written by Pope Paul VI in 1967, the social question confronting humanity was placed in a global context for the first time as inequality, war and poverty became pervasive threats to human flourishing.
- In *Populorum Progressio*, Pope Paul VI is weaving of the connection between faith and economic justice.
- The United Nation’s usage of the term ‘development’ was the current context of the term and had significant economic connotations. Pope Paul VI reinterpreted and redefined the term clarifying the Christian vision of development, placing human beings, not economics, at the center of development.
- Growing global poverty needed to be confronted and economic development alone was not sufficient to address the needs of human flourishing.
- *Populorum Progressio* connected economic development with human development and human solidarity.
- “Authentic development” was not just a matter of economics but a matter of humanity.
- The struggle for economic justice was connected to the pursuit of lasting peace in the world.

In *Populorum Progressio*, Development....

- Development must be open to dialogue with culture
- Development must be particularly focused on addressing the realities and needs of the poor – it must exercise a preferential option for the poor
- Development is rooted in Christian humanism
- Development is a spiritual task
- Development is always personal and communal
- Development requires freedom of individuals and peoples and shared human responsibility
- Development is the new name for peace



Authentic, Integral Human Development:

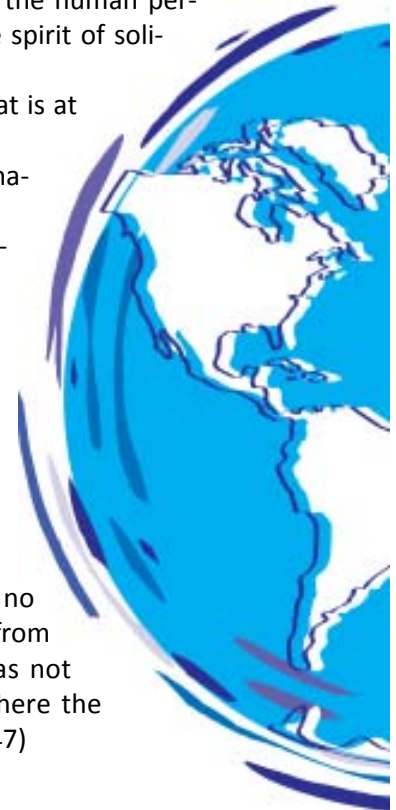
- Development must promote the good of every person and of the whole of humanity. (PP#14)
- Development cannot be limited to economic growth (PP#14)
- Development includes the opportunity for education to direct oneself toward the destiny intended for him/her by the Creator (PP#15)
- Spiritual beings should of their own accord orientate their lives to God, the first truth and the supreme good.
- The highest goal of personal development is union with Christ, the source of life. (PP#16)
- All persons are called to this fullness of development. (PP#17)
- The exclusive pursuit of possessions become an obstacle to individual fulfillment and to humanity's true greatness. Both for nations and for individual persons, avarice is the most evident form of moral underdevelopment. (PP#19)
- Even more necessary [than the work of technicians] is the deep thought and reflection of wise persons in search of a new humanism which will enable modern man to find himself anew by embracing the higher values of love and friendship, of prayer and contemplation. (PP#20)
- True development should: reduce inequalities, fight discriminations, free man from various types of servitude and enable him to be the instrument of his own material betterment, of his moral progress and of his spiritual growth. (PP#34)
- There can be no progress towards the complete development of the human person without the simultaneous development of all humanity in the spirit of solidarity. (PP #43)
- Their [the rich countries'] obligations stem from a brotherhood that is at once human and supernatural, and take on a threefold aspect:
 1. **the duty of human solidarity** --the aid that the rich nations must give to developing countries;
 2. **the duty of social justice** — the rectification of inequitable trade relations between powerful nations and weak nations;
 3. **the duty of universal charity** — the effort to bring about a world that is more human towards all, where all will be able to give and receive, without one group making progress at the expense of the other.

The question is urgent, for on it depends the future of the civilization of the world. (PP#44)

- It is a question, rather, of building a world where every human person, no matter what race, religion or nationality, can live a fully human life, freed from servitude imposed by others or by natural forces over which he/she has not sufficient control; a world where freedom is not an empty word and where the poor man Lazarus can sit down at the same table with the rich man. (PP#47)

“Following Christ, We make bold to ask you earnestly: “ seek and you shall find”, open the paths which lead to mutual assistance among peoples, to a deepening of human knowledge, to an enlargement of heart, to a more loving way of living within a truly universal human society.”

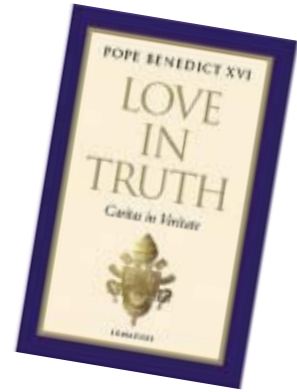
-Pope Paul VI, Populorum Progressio, #85



DEVELOPMENT

New Connection to Development in Caritas in Veritate:

- Development is connected to right to religious freedom (CV#29)
- Development is connected to openness to life (CV #28)
- Development is spiritual and moral
- Development is communal in nature and global in scope– it cannot happen in isolation or only regionally or only nationally
- Development must be governed by a commitment to justice and the common good.
- Development and evangelization are linked
- Development is humanity’s journey towards unity (CV #9)
- Integral human development requires a transcendent vision of the person
- Integral human development is primarily a vocation and therefore requires the free assumption of responsibility in solidarity on the part of everyone. (CV#11)
- Integral human development as a vocation requires not just freedom but demands respect for its truth. (CV#18)
- The gospel is fundamental for development because in the gospel Christ fully reveals humanity to itself.” “...in promoting development, the Christian faith relies on Christ, to whom every authentic vocation to integral human development must be directed.” (CV#18)



● Obstacles to Integral Human Development ...or causes of underdevelopment

Populorum Progressio	Caritas in Veritate
Nationalism: isolates people from their true good. (PP#62)	Globalization: Various aspects of globalization threaten human persons. (CV#33, 42)
Racism: an obstacle to collaboration and a cause of division and hatred within countries. (PP#62)	New ideology of technology- which undervalues human capacity to exercise control (CV #14, 68-70)
Colonialism- Certain types of colonialism surely caused harm and paved the way for further troubles. (PP#7)	Colonialism - new forms of colonialism and dependence on old foreign powers (CV#33)
Education: Lack of access to education. (PP#35)	Education: Lack of access to education and need for the complete formation of the person including moral education.(CV#61)
Laissez-faire economics and unbridled liberalism. (PP#14,26,34)	Global Financial Speculation (CV#65)
Greed: "Greed is the most evident form of moral underdevelopment (PP#19).	Greed (CV#36, 37,43, 51)
Communism and Nuclear Destruction: negative ideologies-danger of utopian and ideological visions that place its ethical and human dimensions in jeopardy. (PP#11,84)	Inequality: Through the systemic increase of social inequality, not only does social cohesion suffer, but so too does the economy.(CV#32)
Lack of solidarity: Misguided will and lack of deep thought which neglects the duties of solidarity.(PP#73,84)	Lack of solidarity –reason itself is not enough to establish community – this is part of a transcendent human vocation. Jesus teaches us how to love in such a way. (CV #43, 49)

