



DECLARATION FOR PEACE

Against Indifference, for Dignity

From Jesuitas Social, we welcome Pope Leo XIV's visit to Spain as an invitation to make real, here and now, the very words he has spoken before the world: "Peace is not built through mutual threats or weapons, but through dialogue and diplomacy." We receive his presence with gratitude, and we wish to respond with more than words of welcome: with the witness of a Church that does not look away.

We live in a world marked by wars that are not new, although they often only move us when they affect us closely. While international attention shifts elsewhere, forgotten conflicts and silenced suffering persist. This selectivity fuels indifference and weakens our collective capacity to respond to injustice.

In this context, we cannot fail to name the violence currently devastating Gaza and Lebanon, alongside the ongoing violence in Ukraine, Sudan, Syria, Yemen, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and so many other places where civilians endure the consequences of prolonged conflicts, forced displacement, occupation, and unbearable living conditions. These are not isolated events, but structural dynamics that violate rights and perpetuate suffering.

As Pope Leo XIV reminded us during his visit to Africa, the roots of conflict are deeply embedded in concrete human and social realities: exclusion, inequality, the lack of opportunities for young people, corruption, and the weakening of dialogue. But the Pope has also strongly emphasized that "peace is not a slogan," but rather a task built through justice, inclusion, and the recognition of every person's dignity.

From Jesuitas Social, we denounce an international logic that places geopolitical interests above human life, and we also denounce the fact that not all victims receive the same attention, nor do all injustices provoke the same response. This moral inequality is unacceptable and constitutes, in itself, a form of violence.

¹ León XIV. (2026, 1 de marzo). Ángelus [Oración]. Santa Sede. <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/es/angelus/2026/documents/20260301-angelus.html>

² León XIV. (2026, 15 de abril). Encuentro con las autoridades, con la sociedad civil y con el cuerpo diplomático [Discurso]. Santa Sede. <https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/es/speeches/2026/april/documents/20260415-camerun-autorita.html>

Our Ignatian identity urges us to look at reality from the perspective of those who suffer the most. We profess a faith that becomes justice and calls us to denounce the causes of suffering and commit ourselves to transforming them. We cannot remain indifferent in the face of the systematic violation of human rights in so many parts of the world.

Therefore, at this moment in which Pope Leo XIV visits and challenges us, we call upon society, institutions, and the international community to condemn violence, to refuse to grow accustomed to it, to reject the normalization of injustice, and to continue seeking paths toward a just and lasting peace. The Pope's invitation to build an active and inclusive peace, grounded in dignity and in the participation of those who suffer most, is not a utopia: it is a daily task that can begin today.

In this work for human dignity and justice as pathways to peace, we seek to promote encounter and collaboration with other religious traditions and with people of different convictions, in order to strengthen an alliance for harmony among peoples.

And we embrace this invitation with the conviction that, in times of darkness, the shared word — the one that names reality truthfully, denounces responsibly, and sustains hope — is a radical form of resistance.

Against the logic of force, we choose fraternity.

Against indifference, commitment.

Against silence, the word.