



## DICASTERY FOR PROMOTING INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

### THE PONTIFICAL ACADEMY FOR LIFE LAUNCHES 'SCIENTISTS FOR PEACE': A GLOBAL APPEAL TO SCIENTISTS AROUND THE WORLD FOR CONCRETE ACTIONS FOR PEACE

#### A GLOBAL APPEAL TO SCIENTISTS WORLDWIDE FOR CONCRETE ACTIONS TOWARDS PEACE

In accordance with its mandate, the Pontifical Academy for Life undertakes interdisciplinary study on matters concerning the promotion and protection of human life.

Can scientific research—through its methods and fields of inquiry—contribute meaningfully to the pursuit of peace?

Guided by the search for truth, scientific research is founded on rigorous methodologies and is advanced through the sharing of knowledge and a continuous willingness to question itself. Although competition and debate are inherent within today's scientific community, these can be approached through transparent communication, the setting aside of personal interests, and a commitment to enriching the common heritage of knowledge, extending across national boundaries.

**At this critical moment in history—when the language of weapons and war, and the eruption of violence, have assumed a tragic global significance that also constrains scientific research—scientists and academics throughout the world are called to take a clear stand for peace. They are invited to engage actively in seeking paths towards reconciliation and conflict resolution, beginning within the daily practice of their research.**

Scientists for Peace is a call to action promoted by the **Pontifical Academy for Life** and supported by the **Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development**. Participation is open to scientists, researchers, and academics across all disciplines, irrespective of nationality, cultural background, political views, or religious belief.

***'Peace exists, it wants to dwell in us, it has the gentle power to enlighten and broaden our intelligence, it resists violence and overcomes it.'***

(Message of Pope Leo XIV for the 59th World Day of Peace 2026)

To enable scientific research to offer its distinctive, decisive, and indispensable contribution to the building of peace, the Pontifical Academy for Life, together with the other promoters of this Appeal, invites all scientists, researchers, and academics to:

- recognise scientific research itself as a meaningful practice of peace;
- assess the impact of their research on fostering a culture of peace;
- cultivate the spirit of universal fraternity that is intrinsic to scientific inquiry;
- value international scientific communities and organisations as settings for scientific diplomacy, particularly through large-scale international and collaborative projects;

- promote research initiatives involving scientists and institutions from diverse peoples and cultures;
- contribute to critical reflection on monopolistic systems and misalignments within intellectual property frameworks that risk generating injustice and conflict;
- monitor the potential dual use of research results originally developed for peaceful civilian purposes, but which may be diverted to improper, including military, applications;
- place discoveries and inventions at the service of peace, contributing thoughtfully to discussions on the development and use of weapons for legitimate defence;
- advance research aimed at non-violent conflict resolution and the removal of its underlying causes.

**The form to sign the Appeal is available on the website of the Pontifical Academy for Life – Scientists for Peace.**

<https://www.academyforlife.va>