

**ADDRESS OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS
TO PARTICIPANTS OF THE MEETING
ORGANIZED BY THE PONTIFICAL COUNCIL "COR UNUM"
ON THE IRAQI-SYRIAN HUMANITARIAN CRISIS**
Consistory Hall

17 September 2015

[Link](#)

[...] One of the most overwhelming human tragedies of recent decades are the terrible consequences that the conflicts in Syria and Iraq have on civilian populations as well as on cultural heritage. Millions of people are in distressing state of urgent need. They are forced to leave their native lands. Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey today carry the weight of millions of refugees, which they have generously received. Faced with such a situation and conflicts that are expanding and disturbing in an alarming way the internal and regional equilibrium, the international community seems unable to find adequate solutions while the arms dealers continue to achieve their interests. [...]