

**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS  
FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH WORLD DAY OF PEACE 2017**  
*Nonviolence: a Style of Politics for Peace*

8 December 2016

[Link](#)

[...] *A broken world* [...]

In any case, we know that this “piecemeal” violence, of different kinds and levels, causes great suffering: wars in different countries and continents; terrorism, organized crime and unforeseen acts of violence; the abuses suffered by migrants and victims of human trafficking; and the devastation of the environment. Where does this lead? Can violence achieve any goal of lasting value? Or does it merely lead to retaliation and a cycle of deadly conflicts that benefit only a few “warlords”? [...]

*My invitation* [...]

I pledge the assistance of the Church in every effort to build peace through active and creative nonviolence. On 1 January 2017, the new Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development will begin its work. It will help the Church to promote in an ever more effective way “the inestimable goods of justice, peace, and the care of creation” and concern for “migrants, those in need, the sick, the excluded and marginalized, the imprisoned and the unemployed, as well as victims of armed conflict, natural disasters, and all forms of slavery and torture”.<sup>[23]</sup> Every such response, however modest, helps to build a world free of violence, the first step towards justice and peace. [...]