

## DECLARATION ON **GOOD GOVERNANCE & HUMAN FLOURISHING**

We, young people from all regions of the world, affirm that each person has the right and responsibility to participate in the building of a free and just society, and that these are rooted in the intrinsic and inviolable dignity of the human person, respecting life from conception to natural death.

The basis of good governance lies in the responsibility of every person to protect the human dignity of all and actively work in solidarity for the common good. It requires the just use of authority to create conditions for unity and trust, including the rule of law, responsiveness to the needs of the people, transparency, accountability, and free expression, as well as active and inclusive participation in the decision-making processes and the carrying out of these decisions.

Respect for the dignity of the person requires all persons to live in truth, integrity, and solidarity. We advocate combating all forms of corruption and impunity and believe that all persons have the responsibility to denounce and eradicate corruption at all levels. The State must strengthen institutions by enforcing law, and exercising and pursuing good will according to the best interests of the people.

We affirm that good governance respects the individual, the family, and communities, including through allowing decisions to be made at the most local level possible. This distribution of authority creates a spirit of solidarity and mutual respect among people for the flourishing of society.

Governance that is person-centered must respect the family as the fundamental unit of society. The family sustains society and has the responsibility of forming free and responsible citizens, thus securing democracy, and sustaining civilization and culture. The family takes on essential tasks in the care of all especially the weakest and most vulnerable. We emphasize the need for social and economic policies that strengthen the family and safeguard the rights and responsibilities of its members.

Good governance also seeks to ensure that the fundamental needs of all, including physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional, are met through integral development and poverty eradication. Only when these needs are met is it possible for all people to flourish. The State should promote policies that provide for people's basic needs and allow integral human development. This should be specifically done through access to high quality healthcare and education, which enable and empower people to flourish as individuals and as active members of their communities. Quality health and education, including education about the human person in its integrity as well as holistic medical care, foster human creativity, facilitating the ability of each person to contribute his or her talents and skills to society in the spirit of healthy collaboration.

We call upon government officials, families and individuals to promote human flourishing through governance that is grounded in respect for human dignity, solidarity, and the common good, and ensures that each person has what he or she needs to thrive.

