



## The Academy

### ***8-week online course: "Catholic Social Teaching for Political Leaders"***

#### Course description:

The course offers elected and appointed officials in government and others working in the field of public policy an insight into the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church and **its practicability for secular societies** today. In his presentation of the 2004 *Compendium of Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church*, Cardinal Renato Martino, President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, outlines why the Church has something useful to say in modern-day secular societies when it comes to policymaking: *"Transforming social realities with the power of the Gospel, to which witness is borne by women and men faithful to Jesus Christ, has always been a challenge and its remains so today [...]. The Church is an expert in humanity, and anticipating with trust and with active involvement she continues to look towards the "new heavens" and the "new earth" (2 Pet 3:13), which she indicates to every person, in order to help people to live their lives in the dimension of **authentic meaning**. [...] the human person who **fully lives his or her dignity** gives glory to God, who has given this dignity to men and women."*

The fundamental task of every public official is to serve the cause of justice and peace and especially to do everything possible to **strengthen, uphold and defend the dignity of every human being**, directly expressed in promoting actively the fundamental rights pertaining to life, liberty and the family.

#### Course outline:

- Session 1: The unique nature of the human being
- Session 2: Marriage and family in society
- Session 3: The meaning of human freedom
- Session 4: Human rights vs. human entitlements
- Session 5: The principle of the Common Good
- Session 6: The principles of subsidiarity and solidarity
- Session 7: Human work and economic life
- Session 8: The origins and purpose of political responsibility

#### Course texts (available through Amazon):

- Compendium of Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church, published 2004/2005 by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace
- Catechism of the Catholic Church
- Holy Scripture

Course structure:

Eight weekly *online* sessions of 50 minutes each starting on Thursday 3 December 2020 at 4pm Central European Time and taught in English. **The course will be conducted exclusively online** through real-time video, allowing participants to either attend live *or* by watching the recording at a later time of their own choosing. Once registered, each session's replay link will be sent automatically to all participants. ***Live participation is not required!*** The course includes Q&A through the live chat function or by submitting written questions through e-mail to the instructor.

Instructor:

**Dr. Christiaan Alting von Geusau, J.D., LL.M** holds law degrees from the University of Leiden (Netherlands) and the University of Heidelberg (Germany) whilst also having studied law, philosophy and theology courses at Franciscan University of Steubenville, the University of Notre Dame (USA) and at the Ecole Saint-Jean in Saint Jodard (France). He obtained with distinction his doctorate in philosophy of law from the University of Vienna (Austria). He practiced law at international law firms Houthoff and AKD in Amsterdam and Brussels from 1997 until 2004 where he advised and represented governments, public institutions and multinational firms on issues of civil and international law and conflict resolution. He currently serves as President and Rector of *ITI Catholic University* near Vienna, Austria where he is also a Professor for Philosophy of Law and Christian Education. Von Geusau presides over the *International Catholic Legislators Network (ICLN)*, which he founded in 2010 to provide political and church leaders with intellectual and faith formation, fellowship and networking opportunities. Dr. Geusau works extensively with political and church leaders throughout the world, helping them realize their mission with integrity. You may access some of his lectures, interviews and presentations [here](#).

Registration and payment details:

After payment of the course fee, go here: <https://my.demio.com/ref/7DOfBYW6O8BI8ubl> for one-time registration and access to participate live *or* watch the replay of missed sessions later. **The cost of the course €170, - (advance payment only, non-refundable).** The link deactivates in case of non-payment.

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| <p><b>*By bank transfer:</b><br/>Raiffeisenbank, 2500 Baden, Austria<br/>IBAN: AT16 3204 5000 0042 0356<br/>BIC: RLNWATWWBAD<br/>International Catholic Legislators Network<br/>Schlossgasse 21, 2521 Trumau, Austria<br/>"ICLN Academy September-November 2020"</p> | <p><b>*By PayPal (preferred):</b><br/>Copy this link into your browser:<br/><a href="https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/CAAltingvonGeusau">https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/CAAltingvonGeusau</a><br/>Follow the steps as described. Payment needs to be done in Euros<br/>"ICLN Academy September-November 2020"</p> |
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