



SECRETARIAT OF STATE

FIRST SECTION - GENERAL AFFAIRS

No. 373.754

From the Vatican, 5 October 2017

Dear Monsignor Follo,

With Report No. 7.883/3.383 of 29 August last, you forwarded to the Secretariat of State a request for a Papal Message for the Symposium of the International Young Catholic Students to be held on 9 October 2017. For your information, the following is the text of the Message which has been sent:

*Mr Francis Apeh
Secretary General
International Young Catholic Students*

His Holiness Pope Francis was pleased to be informed of the Symposium of the International Young Catholic Students on Integral Ecology and Peace Building, to be held in Amman, Jordan, on 9 October 2017; and he sends warm greetings to all gathered for the occasion. As they study the intimate bond between caring for creation, the integral development of humanity and peace among peoples, His Holiness hopes that the young people present will offer their own insights on how society can address this pressing issue. He especially encourages students to be convincing heralds of peace by first seeking peace within themselves. For "inner peace is closely related to care for ecology and for the common good because, lived out authentically, it is reflected in a balanced lifestyle together with a capacity for wonder which takes us to a deeper understanding of life" (Laudato Si', 225). In this way, they can offer a living witness which respects all people and models a just stewardship of the created world, thus promoting the common good within their own communities. Upon all participating in this Symposium, Pope Francis invokes the divine blessings of wisdom, strength and peace.

*Cardinal Pietro Parolin
Secretary of State*

With every good wish, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,

*Rob Follo
Assessor*

Monsignor Francesco Follo
Permanent Observer to the United Nations
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PARIS