THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE

IN DIALOGUE DURING A TIME OF PANDEMIC

Trieste, September 15-17, 2021

Organized by







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REGIONE AUTONOMA FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA As part of the project Toward T.R.I.E.S.T.E.c. (Trieste Research Institute on Ethics, Science and Theology in Ecumenical context), the Laboratory of Science and Faith of the Diocese of Trieste, in collaboration with the Theological Faculty of Triveneto and the Italian Theological Association, is organizing an international theological conference on the dialogue between faith and science.

This event is open to theologians and scientists who are interested in the subject, and professors and doctoral candidates in theology and in the sciences. The nature of the conference is interdisciplinary, ecumenical and international. Simultaneous translation will be provided.

The event will be held on-site depending on the current epidemiological situation. It will be possible to follow along remotely.



1st DAY - September 15

THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE: CONDITIONS FOR DIALOGUE

The first day will be dedicated to looking at the relationship between theological reflection and the sciences, focusing on the journey that has been made so far. After the opening greetings, the first session will touch on the historical aspect and then open the floor to a scientist and an internationally renowned theologian. The day ends with a reflection on artificial intelligence.

Program

- **15.30** | Official greetings Introduction: His Excellency Giampaolo Crepaldi, bishop of Trieste
- 16.00 | A historical look at the relationship between faith and science prof. Francesco Brancato, S. Paolo Theological Study - Catania
- 16.45 | Faith and science: Dialogue that is possible prof. Alister McGrath, University of Oxford

17.30 | Coffee break

18.00 Post-human? prof. Paolo Benanti tor, Pontificia Università Gregoriana



2nd DAY - September 16

A THEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC LOOK AT THE PANDEMIC

The second day is fully dedicated to a real case study of dialogue between theology and science: the pandemic and its concrete impact on each and every person's life. It will start off with an introduction of a much more existential and philosophical nature offered by an intellectual who experienced COVID-19. The second contribution will come from the field of science, beginning with how science and its messaging experienced this global event and then with hearing from a statistician and a sociologist and their interpretation of the data, looking at the pandemic's impact on society. After this analysis, a philosopher and a theologian will explore what the data says (experiential, statistical, sociological, scientific) in their reflections so as to tap into how they are expressed in such categories as freedom, determinism, causality and chance, theodicy.

Introduction

09.00 | A philosophical and experiential reflection beginning with COVID **His Excellency Calogero Peri,** Bishop of Caltagirone

First part: Reading and interpreting the situation

- 09.45 | Science during COVID Prof. Luca Carra, director of www.scienzainrete.it
- 10.30 | Coffee break
- 11.00 | COVID's impact on society Prof. Gian Carlo Blangiardo, president of ISTAT
- 11.45 Pandemic, freedom and the common good. A sociological analysis of the impact of the pandemic Prof. Massimiliano Padula, Pontifical Lateran University

12.30 | Lunch break

Second part: Philosophy and theology open to questions

- **15.00** Roundtable: Philosophy and theology in dialogue.
- 16.30 Moderate: Michal Oleksowicz, PHD candidate

Prof. Flavia Marcacci, Pontifical Lateran University, **Prof. Nikolaos Loudovikos**, University Ecclesiastical Academy of Thessaloniki and the Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies in Cambridge, **Prof. Massimo Nardello**, Theological Faculty of Emilia Romagna

16.30 | Coffee break

- 17.00 Open discussion
- 18.30
- 18.45 | Tour of the Gulf of Trieste on the Delfino Verde motor ship

3rd DAY - September 17

THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE: WHICH EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS?

The third day of the conference begins with asking whether the current situation as defined by scientific thought has had an impact on the different ways of doing theology and in particular on the theological anthropology debate. It begins, therefore, with thinking about the human person and the post-human in order to gather ideas for some workshops that the research institute, T.R.I.E.S.T.E.c., is sponsoring over the next year 2021-2022. It will also mark the start of a path of research on the educational-didactical side of theology that is very often taught in the context of adult formation, adults being the majority of those who approach the world of theology.

Program

- **09.00** Rethinking the human in the era of science prof. Leonardo Paris, Theological Faculty of Triveneto prof. Fulvio Ferrario, Waldensian Faculty of Theology
- 10.00 Open discussion

10.30 | Coffee break

11.00 Communications:

Presentation of the survey aimed at high school children on the perception of science and religion

Prof. Lluis Oviedo, Pontifical Antonianum University

Identity, culture and conscience in Judaism Michela Ebreo, President of the Jewish Association 361 and rav. Ariel Haddad, Chief Rabbi of Slovenia and Coordinator of the Jewish Museum of Trieste

11.50 Conclusions edited by the Theological Faculty of Triveneto and launch of study seminars for 2021-2022

The conference will be held at Molo IV, Corso Cavour 3, Trieste. Participation is free. For reasons related to the current health situation, please send an email to notify you of participation in presence or remotely.

Please remember that you need the Green Pass to access the conference venue.





FOR INFORMATION

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