



MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

*On safeguarding the human person
in the time of Artificial Intelligence*

Today's new issues (res novae):

- Artificial Intelligence
- Digitalisation
- New technological capabilities

Risks:

- ⚠ Concentrated power (often in private hands)
- ⚠ Automated decision-making
- ⚠ Loss of human control



“What direction should we choose as people and as a human community?” MH 6

TWO ROADS AHEAD OF US:



Babel

Humanity without God
Uniformity
Dehumanisation

Jerusalem

God at the centre
Diversity as a source of richness
Brotherhood / Collaboration



“Never has humanity had such power over itself.” MH 4

The Tower of Babel Syndrome

Profit before people



Reducing people to mere data



Growing inequalities



Loss of dignity



Choose “Nehemia's way”

build together



Dialogue



Listening



Inclusion



Shared responsibility



“No one can single-handedly bear the weight of the challenges the world is facing.” MH 13

4 PILLARS FOR BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

1



Relationship with God

2



Accepting human limitations

3



Shared responsibility

4



Language that unites



“When human dignity is threatened by new forms of dehumanization, ours is the pressing duty to remain profoundly human. We must lovingly safeguard the grandeur of humanity bestowed upon us, the splendor of which no machine can ever replace.” MH 15

**Let us not build another Tower of Babel;
let us become builders of communion!**



DICASTERY FOR PROMOTING
INTEGRAL
HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT

www.humandevelopment.va



FOUNDATIONS AND PRINCIPLES OF THE CHURCH'S SOCIAL TEACHING



“Embodying God’s love in the concrete events of life.” MH 47

THE FOUNDATIONS

Person = image of God



“Every human person is planned and willed by God to enter into communion with him, with others and with creation.” MH 50

Human Dignity

- It is **innate** (not earned)
- It is **infinite**
- It applies to **everyone**

The value of human rights

- **Universal**
- **Inviolable**
- Grounded in **dignity**



THE PRINCIPLES

to guide today’s world in the
face of its challenges

The common good

The good of all is greater
than the sum of the good
of each individual

The universal destination of goods

So that they may sustain
the lives of everyone

Subsidiarity

Helping without taking over

Solidarity

None is saved alone

Social justice

Providing dignified conditions for all

INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

the concrete way in which these principles
are put into practice in history

THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PERSON



1 economic



2 social



3 spiritual



4 environmental

Development is genuine only if it concerns the whole person and all people



“Do technological innovations truly help individuals and populations to become more humane and fraternal, while respecting our common home and future generations?” MH 85

Social doctrine is not theory; it is concrete action.
Building a more just and fraternal society is possible!





THE GREATNESS OF THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE FACE OF THE PROMISES OF AI

The risk of the technocratic paradigm

- Efficiency —→ ⚠ becomes the sole criterion
- Profit —→ ⚠ guides decisions
- AI —→ ⚠ accelerates the problem
- Person —→ ⚠ reduced to performance

Artificial Intelligence

What it does

- Processes data
- Recognises patterns
- Is fast and powerful

What it does NOT do

- ⚠ Has no consciousness
- ⚠ Does not love, does not suffer
- ⚠ Is not responsible

Simulates intelligence, but is not human

Risks of AI

Speed
less critical thinking

False objectivity
hides bias

Simulated
relationships
illusion

Concentrated power
everything in the hands
of a few

Criteria for a more humane AI

- Human dignity
- The common good
- Social justice
- Reliability
- Transparency

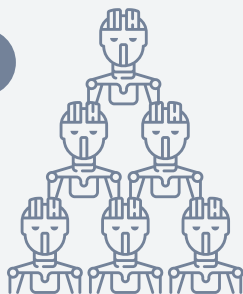
**IA is not neutral, it reflects
values and choices**

“To disarm AI does not mean rejecting
technology, but preventing it from
dominating humanity.” MH 110

“The quality of a civilization is measured
not by the power of its means, but by the
care it is able to offer.” MH 114

The myths of transhumanism

- Humans as something to be optimised, ‘enhanced’
- Removing limitations
- Transcending humanity
- Human-machine fusion



The true human being:

- Relationship
 - Vulnerability
 - Care
 - Love
- A limitation is
not a flaw:
it is what makes
us human**



“For an algorithm, an error is a flaw to be corrected; for a person,
however, it can be a catalyst for profound change.” MH 128

**AI should make life more human,
not more efficient.**





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SAFEGUARDING THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE TRANSFORMATION

TRUTH

An essential common good for civic life

Digital technologies and AI **are changing communication**

RISKS

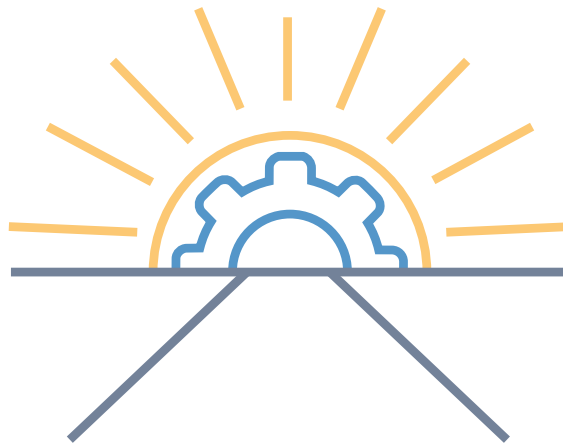
- Disinformation
- Manipulation
- Increased control – totalitarianism

RESPONSIBILITY

- Critical education
- Transparency
- Responsible use of technologies



“The search for truth is an essential element of democracy, which is itself a means of contributing to the common good.” MH 134



WORK

Contributes to the dignity of the person and to social participation

RISKS

- Job insecurity
- Inequalities
- Workers monitored or replaced by machines

RESPONSIBILITY

- Protection of work
- Continual formation
- More human innovation



“AI frequently forces workers to adapt to the speed and demands of machines, rather than machines being designed to support those who work.” MH 150

FREEDOM

AI and digital technologies are also increasingly shaping behavior

RISKS

- Digital addictions
- Control through data
- New forms of slavery

RESPONSIBILITY

- Fair rules
- Shared responsibility
- Education



“Freedom in the digital age is not merely a matter of interiority but also a public concern.”

MH 171

IF TECHNOLOGY
DOMINATES

the human person
becomes a means

IF IT IS GUIDED BY
WISDOM

it becomes **human
development**

**The dignity of the person must be
the criterion of all progress!**





BUILDING THE CIVILIZATION OF LOVE

Technology, war, and responsibility in the digital age

A constantly growing connection between
technology, power, and violence

Culture of Power

- Normalization of war
- Logic of the “strongest”
- Economic interests (weapons)

Risks of technology:

- Automated decisions
- Unclear responsibility
- Citizens reduced to “data”



Peace = the fundamental condition
of the common good

Civilization of Love

- Justice + Charity
- Fraternity among peoples
- Universal common good

Role of technology:

- Serves the human person, not the other way around
- Fosters real relationships
- Builds community



“No algorithm can make war morally acceptable.” MH 198

What is not working

- ⊗ Weak multilateralism
- ⊗ Politics based on force
- ⊗ Disinformation
- ⊗ War economy

What we can do

- ✓ Disarm words
- ✓ Build justice
- ✓ Listen to victims
- ✓ Have balanced realism (no cynicism, no naïveté)
- ✓ Dialogue and diplomacy



“Nothing is lost with peace, whereas with war everything can be lost.” MH 219

The civilization of love is born
from **small daily actions**
We cannot change everything,
but we can do our part.

No technological transformation can be
fully embraced without a **conversion
of the heart** and without a concrete
practice of **justice, solidarity, and
care for the most vulnerable**.

**“The Magnificat” as a key
for interpretation:** upending
power and recognizing the
value of humility.

**Let us become “builders of communion, rather than
architects of Babel”!** (MH 16) so that humanity may not lose its
magnificence and the world may recognize, in the human heart, the
place where God desires to dwell.

