



I thank the New York Encounter for organizing this conversation and for giving me the opportunity. I would like immediately to start quoting to Pope Francis' encyclical that I treasure in my heart and move to concrete actions: the Foundation Fratelli Tutti, which has been established in Italy a couple of years ago and it is now about to start its activities in the U.S.

In the footsteps of Fratelli Tutti, the foundation has the purpose of promoting synodality and fostering a spirit of fraternity and dialogue, through a vast array of educational and intercultural initiatives, like the Declaration on Human Fraternity, signed by numerous Nobel Prize recipients, including Mrs. Tawakkol Karman, here with us today.

Therefore, I am grateful to Card. Pierre, to Tawakkol and to Mr. Amets Arzallus for taking their time (and traveling long distances) to discuss the main themes of *Fratelli Tutti*, in whose spirit and content the Foundation I preside finds its inspiration and life.

The rebirth of fraternity between human beings and with creation opens up a horizon in which political, social, economic, cultural and religious tensions can be resolved. It is the regulating principle, in the personal, social and political space, of the tensions between freedom and equality, which, as Bergson wrote, are like 'two sisters quarrelling'.

Fraternity goes beyond cultures and affiliations, borders and diversity. The Pope invites all women and men around the world to 'return to compassion', described in the parable of the Good Samaritan in chapter 10 of Luke's Gospel. It is a provocation for the world: the Samaritan, moved by compassion, stops to help a Jewish man who belongs to a distant and hostile culture, imitating Jesus who "he asks us not to decide who is close enough to be our neighbour, but rather that we ourselves become neighbours to all" (FT, no. 80).

Last year, on June 10, 2023, we invited 30 Nobel Peace Laureates to St. Peter's Square. Their message was clear: the world cannot afford to wait to build the culture of fraternity.

The Declaration on Human Fraternity that they shared and signed together with the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, remains a strong and clear message for the world.

Next May 11, 2024, we will gather in Rome with Pope Francis for the second edition of the World Fraternity Meeting. Be human is the claim and the metaphysical and holistic horizon in which we want to move.

The time to act is now. We have thought of you to illuminate the darkness that seems to cloud the human experience in the third millennium.

Make the words "Peace", "Sisters", and "Brothers" resound with us and the Nobels in the world: this is how hope is regenerated. Many tanks.