



# EVENT GUIDE



## SPORT FOR ALL

cohesive, accessible and  
tailored to each person

VATICAN • SEPTEMBER 29 - 30 • 2022







Dear friends,

It is with joy that we welcome you to the Vatican, and to this International Summit *“Sport for All. Cohesive, Accessible and Tailored to each person”*. Since the birth of modern sports, the Church has willingly accompanied and promoted the practice of sports. Using the words of His Holiness Pius XII, sport is not “a vain agitation of limbs,” but an “activity with high educational and social potential, capable of promoting the person.”

Along with support and continuous encouragement, the Church also assumes the responsibility of elucidating the challenges to the honest practice of sport. The Church always maintains, with full awareness, that sport is a precious good that must be nurtured.

Pope Francis reminds us that we live in a complex age of transition, and calls for stronger educational and social alliances. This International Summit, and the Declaration that accompanies it, is a further sign of friendship between faith and sport. It is a sign of friendship capable of delivering gestures of hope and visionary planning, giving continued momentum, and unleashing the potential for inclusion and social cohesion in sport.



HIS EMINENCE

**CARDINAL KEVIN JOSEPH FARRELL**

Prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life



Sport is a living and dynamic expression of a fundamental dimension of the human person; in play, we have a gratuitous manifestation of our creativity and potential, both physical and spiritual. True sport weaves together in harmony the body and the spirit, force and beauty, physical exercise and intelligence, passion and will, quick intuition and long-acquired habit.

We can consider sport – like art and music – as a universal language shared by peoples, which unites diversities in harmony, that passes over ethnic and national identities, and generates a true culture of encounter and dialogue.

Such a precious good for humanity must be made accessible to each person, no matter the age, sex, physical or mental condition. Every girl and boy, every woman and man should have the opportunity to experience at least once in life the pure joy of play, the reward of physical effort, the pleasure of victory and the humility of defeat.

In pure and creative sport we can see a reflection of God whose creative cosmic wisdom is portrayed in the Bible (Proverbs 8:30-31) as a young woman playing, dancing and exercising on the face of the earth. God loves to play, and so do we.



HIS EMINENCE  
CARDINAL GIANFRANCO RAVASI

The world of sport today, like the societies in which we live, is experiencing an economic and identity crisis of systemic proportions. The pandemic has allowed us to see more clearly problems that until now were hidden or at least not visible to all, including the distance between amateur and professional sport. To overcome this situation requires that we all work together.

As Pope Francis said during the historic vigil on the deserted square of St. Peter's Basilica on March 27, 2020, "we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other." It is with this spirit of fraternity that we look ahead, for turning back is not possible. There is a temptation to limit ourselves to resilience, that is, to ride out the storm and go back to the way things were before. However, such a strategy would only lead to outdated cultural models. Instead, we need the courage to adapt, accept change and seize new opportunities.

For this reason, the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, in collaboration with the Dicastery for Culture and Education, is organizing an International Summit in the Vatican on September 29 and 30, 2022, under the title Sport for All: Cohesive, accessible and tailored to each person. It will involve the major sports and intergovernmental institutions and organizations and build on the October 2016 event Sport at the Service of Humanity and the June 2018 document Giving the Best of Yourself. The aim is to promote the social and inclusive dimension of sport in society, especially when it encapsulates an authentically Christian spirit. It is a response to the Holy Father's encouragement of a sport that is socially responsible and his appeals to foster sport as a means of human, educational and spiritual growth.

The main purpose of the Summit is to urge sports and politics, international, regional and local, to embrace the Declaration by committing to work for the integration of people in society through sports, especially people with physical, intellectual and relational disabilities, migrants and refugees, prisoners, youth and the elderly, women, etc. It also seeks to motivate sports bodies to reduce the division that exists between professional and amateur sports so that the sense of play, camaraderie, and gratuitousness is not lost.



## COHESIVE

bringing professional sports closer to grassroots sports by counteracting the dynamics that tend to drive them apart

## ACCESSIBLE

facilitate people's ability to practice sports by reducing social, cultural and territorial barriers

## TAILORED TO EACH PERSON

ensuring participation in the practice of sports for everyone, including people with physical, intellectual, mental and sensory disabilities



PERSON-CENTERED

## THE SYMBOL



## COHESIVE

the intertwining legs and arms as a sign of unity among people



## ACCESSIBLE

one person representing all others, regardless of social, cultural and territorial status



## TAILORED TO EACH PERSON

a symbol of disability to represent all people with vulnerable conditions

9:00 **WELCOME AND PRAYER** 9:15

9:15 **OVERVIEW OF THE SUMMIT** 9:30  
**PRESENTATION OF THE DECLARATION**

9:30 **INTRODUCTION** 9:45

**“THE CHURCH, THE MORAL GOOD OF HUMANITY AND SPORT”**

H.Em. Card. Kevin Farrell - Prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life

9:45 **REPORT** 10:30

**“NEW CHALLENGES IN SPORT TODAY. CHANGE OR BE CHANGED”**

Caterina Gozzoli - Catholic University of the Sacred Heart

Msg. Melchor Sanchez de Toca - Dicastery for Culture and Education

10:30 **COFFEE BREAK** 11:00

11:05 **INSTITUTIONAL GREETING FROM VITO COZZOLI, PRESIDENT OF SPORT E SALUTE** 11:10  
**INSTITUTIONAL GREETING FROM ANDREA ABODI, PRESIDENT OF ISTITUTO CREDITO SPORTIVO**

**SESSION I - “TAILORED”**

**CHAIR: ADILLE SUMARIWALLA - PRESIDENT OF THE ATHLETICS FEDERATION OF INDIA**

11:10 **REPORT** 11:40

**INCLUSION - HOW TO TAILOR SPORT TO EACH PERSON**

Andrew Parsons - President of the International Paralympic Committee

11:40 **ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION** 12:20

Moderator: Kristin Sheehan - Play Like A Champion Today

Verena Bentele - Paralympic champion, Vicepresident of the German Olympic Committee

Tim Shriver - Chairman of Special Olympics

Claudio de Vivo - Italian Paralympic Champion

12:20 **DISCUSSION** 13:00

13:00 **LUNCH** 15:00

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

**SESSION 2 – “ACCESSIBLE”**

**CHAIR: REV. PATRICK KELLY, SJ – PROFESSOR OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES,  
UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY**

**15:00 REPORT 15:30**

**SOCIAL POLICIES - FOR A SPORT ACCESSIBLE TO ALL**

Filippo Grandi - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

**15:30 ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION 16:15**

Moderator: Justin Barich, John Paul II Foundation for Sport – Australia

Ângela Melo - Director of Policies and Programmes, SHS Sector of UNESCO

Aloysius John - Secretary General of Caritas International

Stanley Mutoya - CEO of the African Union Sport Council Region V

Linda Brannon Del Rio – Sport Consultant. Vice-president of the Jack Del Rio Foundation

**16:15 COFFEE BREAK 16:45**

**16:45 WORKING GROUPS 18:15**

“The action of sport to put social marginality back at the center and supporting vulnerable persons. Experiences, proposals, ideas, criticalities”

**18:15 CONCLUSIONS OF THE DAY 18:30**

**19:00 SPORT AND CULTURAL EVENING 22:30**

In collaboration with the Italian Paralympic Committee

8:00 **EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATION** 8:45

H.Em. Card. Gianfranco Ravasi - Dicastery for Culture and Education

9:00 **WELCOME AND OVERVIEW OF THE 2ND DAY** 9:15

**SESSION 3 – “COHESIVE”**

**CHAIR: NELSON TODT – VICEPRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
PIERRE DE COUBERTIN COMMITTEE**

9:10 **REPORT** 9:40

**COMMUNITER - ALL TOGETHER FOR A COHESIVE SPORT**

Thomas Bach - President of the International Olympic Committee

9:40 **REPORT** 10:10

**COMMUNIO – THE ROLE OF SPORT IN BUILDING UP A COMMUNITY**

Msgr. Emmanuel Gobilliard – Bishop Delegate for Paris 2024 Olympic Games

10:10 **DISCUSSION** 10:45

10:45 **INSTITUTIONAL GREETING FROM MR. GIOVANNI MALAGÒ, PRESIDENT OF CONI** 10:50

10:50 **COFFEE BREAK** 11:20

11:20 **WORKING GROUPS** 13:00

“The role of sport in creating community:  
experiences, proposals, ideas, critical issues”

13:00 **LUNCH** 14:30

14:30 **PRESENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON SPORT** 15:30

Santiago Pérez de Camino - Head of the Church & Sport Office  
Daniele Pasquini - President of the John Paul II Foundation for Sport  
Stefanie Reid - World Champion Paralympic Athlete  
Tegla Loroupe - World Half-Marathon Champion

16:15 **SPEECH OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS** 16:45

**SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION**

16:45 **COFFEE BREAK** 17:15

17:15 **PRESENTATION OF CONCLUSIONS FROM THE WORKING GROUP** 17:45

17:45 **CONCLUSIONS OF THE SUMMIT** 18:00

**THOMAS BACH**

President of the International Olympic Committee



Thomas Bach was born on 29 December 1953 in Würzburg, Germany. He completed his studies in law at the University of Würzburg. Mr Bach started his own law firm in 1982. From 1985 until 1987 he was Director for Promotion at adidas.

Married and a lawyer by profession, he has had a successful career in sports both on and off the field of play. He became an Olympic champion when he won a gold medal in fencing (team foil) at the Games of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal in 1976. He also won two consecutive gold medals at the World Championships in the same event in 1976 and 1977. In 2006, he was named as the founding President of the German Olympic Sports Confederation (DOSB). He was also involved in the organization of the FIFA 2006 World Cup™ and the 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup™ in Germany.

Thomas Bach was an athletes' representative at the XI Olympic Congress in Baden-Baden (1981) and a founding member of the IOC's Athletes' Commission. He became an IOC member in 1991, was elected as a member of the IOC Executive Board in 1996 and served as an IOC Vice-President for more than 10 years. He has also chaired several IOC Commissions as well as the appeals division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS). On 10 September 2013 in Buenos Aires, Thomas Bach was elected as the ninth President of the IOC. He was re-elected for a second four-year term on 10 March 2021 in Lausanne.

## VERENA BENTELE

Paralympic champion, Vicepresident of the German Olympic Committee



Verena Bentele, is a blind German Paralympic biathlete and cross-country skier. She studied at the Carl-Strehl Schule, a special school for the blind and partially sighted in Marburg, Germany. She won her first Paralympic medals (one gold, two silver, one bronze) at the 1998 Winter Paralympics, followed by four gold medals at the 2002 Winter Paralympics, as well as two gold and one bronze medal at the 2006 Winter Paralympics. She was also winner of the Combined World Cup in Biathlon and Cross-Country in 2006.

During the 2009 German blind cross country championship, Bentele had a serious accident. Her sighted guide failed to give proper directions, so she fell down a slope in a dry river bed. She tore a cruciate ligament in her knee, and suffered finger and liver injuries, and damaged one kidney so badly that it had to be removed. Despite this, only a year later, Bentele had her best Olympic result, winning five gold medals at the 2010 Winter Paralympics in the 2010 Vancouver Paralympics.

As a result of her performance at the Games, Bentele was named Best Female at the Paralympic Sport Awards. Bentele has won the "Laureus World Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability" award in 2011. Late in 2011, she announced her retirement at the age of 29. In 2014 Bentele was inducted into the Paralympic Hall of Fame. Bentele was nominated by the Social Democratic Party to be a delegate to the Federal Convention for the purpose of electing the President of Germany in 2010, 2012 and 2017.

**CLAUDIO DE VIVO**

Italian Paralympic Champion



Claudio de Vivo is a paralympic athlete, born in Somma Vesuviana, Naples in 1980. He was 29 years old when he was hit by a truck at the construction site where he used to work. The injury caused him to have his left leg amputated. From that moment the road was uphill, because after the accident Claudio had come to weigh 130 kg. Then, in 2012, after many sacrifices and a proper diet, he got his first running prosthesis. He began competing in 2015 and is now the national record holder in the 1500 meters, and has won numerous national championships in his category, T64 in different distances: 100 meters, 800 meters, 1000 meters, and 1500 meters. Since 2018 he is a member of Scholas Occurrentes, and also serves as a testimonial of INAIL Campania from 2017 to the present. He has been awarded as Excellence Campania in paralympic sport in 2019.

## LINDA DEL RIO

Sport Consultant. Vice-president of the Jack del Rio Foundation



Linda has been involved in sports all her life – as an athlete herself, a professional dancer, owner and manager of her own dance studio, she has always understood the female heart, its vulnerability and the power a woman brings to sport. With over 35 years in professional sports, first as the wife of a National Football League (NFL) player and now coach for nine different teams, she has been a tireless advocate for addressing the needs of the wives, significant others, partners, and children of players and coaches who often face the disruption of many re-locations.

Linda was also a natural fit working as a sport consultant mentoring University students in sports ministry to help unify and bridge the gap between coaches, administration and athletes. She has participated and organized many philanthropic events globally, to provide resources to the poorest, underserved and under-resourced youth. From its inception, Linda has been involved with Vatican Sports and its global vision.

Linda presently is a freelance professional Photographer of several genres. She continues to make her mark today for women and girls focusing on their full dignity and power within.



## EMMANUEL GOBILLIARD

Bishop Delegate for Paris 2024 Olympic Games



Between 1994 and 1998 he was part of the chaplaincy team at the Spallazani Hospital, which specializes in the terminal stages of infectious diseases. In 1996 he completed his postgraduate studies at the Pontifical Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family at the Pontifical Lateran University. He was ordained a priest on June 28, 1997 for the diocese of Puy-en-Velay. He completed his studies in Rome the following year, obtaining a canonical license in moral theology.

In September 1998, back in Le Puy, he was appointed diocesan head of public education chaplaincies and youth ministry and is himself chaplain to two middle schools and six high schools. In 2011, he left for a sabbatical year in Madagascar where he worked in a home for handicapped youth and taught at the seminary of Fianarantsoa. It was during this year that he wrote the letters that in 2016 will be collected and published under the title “Diary of Tanjomoha”, letters among which is a letter widely distributed via social networks on the difficulties of celibacy of priests.

On June 16, 2016, he was appointed by Pope Francis as titular bishop of Carpentras and auxiliary bishop of Lyon. He was consecrated the following September 11 by Cardinal Barbarin, assisted by Luc Crepy and Jean-Philippe Nault. As auxiliary bishop in Lyon, he was immediately named vicar general of the diocese and responsible for the catechesis and catechumenate service.

**CATERINA GOZZOLI**

Catholic University of the Sacred Heart



Professor of Psychology of Work and Organizations at the Faculty of Psychology, Caterina Gozzoli is Scientific Coordinator of Cattolica per lo Sport, Director of ASAG (Alta Scuola di Psicologia Agostino Gemelli), Scientific Director of the Psychology, Sport and Society Unit, of the Second Level Master's Degree in Sport and Psychosocial Intervention, and Scientific Responsible for several projects on Sport.

Vice President of AIPAF Association (International Association of Applied Psychology in Football) and member of GRIES (Sport and Society Research Group of Blanquerna University of Barcelona). Main areas and themes of research and intervention include training and role consulting dedicated to professionalism in the world of Sport, with special attention to managers and coaches; development of Sport as a tool for social inclusion, with special attention to the evaluation of the effectiveness of inclusive projects; and consulting to professional Clubs to support the quality of services.

**FILIPPO GRANDI**

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees



Filippo Grandi became the 11th United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on 1 January 2016.

As High Commissioner, he heads one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations. UNHCR has twice won the Nobel Peace Prize. Its 18,000-strong workforce spans 135 countries providing protection and assistance to over 100 million refugees, returnees, internally displaced people as well as stateless people. Some 90 per cent of UNHCR staff work in the field, often in difficult and dangerous duty stations. The organization's needs-based budget for 2022 is US\$10.7 billion.

Before being elected High Commissioner, Grandi had been engaged in international cooperation for over 30 years, focusing on refugee and humanitarian work. He served as Commissioner-General of the UN Agency for Palestine refugees, UNRWA, from 2010 to 2014, after having been the organization's Deputy Commissioner-General since 2005. Prior to that, Grandi served as Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in Afghanistan, following a long career first with NGOs and later with UNHCR in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and at the organization's Geneva headquarters.

Grandi was born in Milan in 1957. He holds a degree in modern history from the State University in Milan, a BA in Philosophy from the Gregorian University in Rome, as well as an honorary doctorate from the University of Coventry.

**ALOYSIUS JOHN**

Secretary General of Caritas International



Aloysius John currently works for Caritas Internationalis in Rome. He teaches at various universities (Paris XII, Andrews University, ESIEE Paris, Faculty of Theology in Olomouc, Czech Republic, and Oxford) on issues of Humanitarianism, Organizational Development, Risk Analysis and Management, Quality Management, Interculturality, Emergency Management and Disaster Risk Reduction. After studying mathematics, education and psychology at the University of Madras in India, Aloysius John pursued studies in Social Sciences at the École Normale Sociale de Paris, in Sociology at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales de Paris and in Human Resources Management at Paris XII. More recently, he has specialized in Organizational Development consulting. For more than 30 years, Aloysius John has been working in humanitarian action. From 1996 to 2010, he was in charge of the Asia and Middle East-North Africa Department and Tsunami operations (2005-2010) at Secours Catholique in Paris. He is the Secretary General of Caritas Internationalis in Rome.

**TEGLA LOROUPE**

World Half-Marathon Champion



Tegla Chepkite Loroupe, born in Kutomwony, Kenya is a world champion long-distance runner and global spokeswoman for peace, women's rights and education. Ms Loroupe holds the world records for 25 and 30 kilometres, and previously held the world marathon record. She was the first African woman to hold the marathon world record, which she held from April 19th, 1998 until September 30th, 2001. She is a three-time World Half-Marathon champion. Ms Loroupe was also the first African woman to win the New York City Marathon, which she has won twice. She has also won marathons in London, Rotterdam, Hong Kong, Berlin and Rome.

In 2003, Ms Loroupe created an annual series of Peace Marathons sponsored by the Tegla Loroupe Peace Foundation "Peace Through Sports" and has established a school (Tegla Loroupe Peace Academy) and orphanage for children from the region in Kapenguria, a high-mountain town in north-west Kenya.

In 2006, she was named a United Nations Ambassador of Sport by Secretary General Kofi Annan. She is an International Sports Ambassador for the IAAF, the International Association of Athletics Federations, and for UNICEF.

In 2015 Ms Loroupe became an Ambassador for the Homeless World Cup. In 2016, she was the Chef de Mission, organizing the Refugee Team for the 2016 Summer Olympics. At those games Ms Loroupe was inducted into the Olympians for Life project for her work in promoting peace. In October 2016 Ms Loroupe was awarded United Nations Person of the Year.

**ÂNGELA MELO**

Director of Policies and Programmes, SHS Sector of UNESCO



Ms Angela Melo is currently the Director of Policies and Programmes of the Social and Human Sciences Sector at UNESCO. She holds an LL.M. (Université des Sciences Sociales de Toulouse, France), as well as a B.A. and M.A. in Law (Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo, Mozambique). Ms Melo has held a number of different positions in the Mozambican Ministry of Justice since 1980, including as Criminal Prosecutor and representative of the Attorney General for criminal matters at the Supreme Court. She was also Senior Legal Counsellor on public and private international law to Mozambique's Minister of Justice, with special responsibility for issues related to international human rights and criminal internal law from 1991 to 2002.

From 2001 to 2007, Ms Melo was Vice-President of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR).

She entered UNESCO in March 2009 as Director of the Ethics, Youth and Sports Division in the Social and Human Sciences Sector, working with key sport and non-sport partners. Ms Melo has always been strongly involved in the various International Conferences of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport – MINEPS (the forthcoming MINEPS VII will take place in March 14-17, 2023, in Baku, Azerbaijan).

**STANLEY MUTOYA**

CEO of the African Union Sport Council Region V



Mr. Stanley Mutoya joined Region 5 (then SCSA Zone VI) in November 2011 and served as the general manager on a five-year contract after replacing Charles Dzimba who had retired. As a former chief executive officer of the Zimbabwe Olympic Committee (ZOC), Mr. Stanley Mutoya has developed into a seasoned sports administrator with 16 years experience in sports administration. He was involved in sports administration and management within the then Ministry of Sport, Arts and Culture as a physical education coordinator from 2000 to 2002. Thereafter, he joined the Sports and Recreation Commission (SRC) as a provincial sports coordinator in Mashonaland Central province from 2002 to 2004 before joining the Grain Marketing Board as a sports and recreation officer from 2004 to 2006. Mr. Stanley Mutoya later joined ZOC as manager: operations and business development where he steadily rose to general manager and ultimately CEO, a position he held up to 2011 when he moved to join the SCSA Zone VI in November 2011 as general manager.

**ANDREW PARSONS**

President of the International Paralympic Committee



Andrew Parsons is a server of the Paralympic Movement and the athletes. He has been working in the Movement since 1997, starting as an intern at the Brazil Paralympic Committee and subsequently rising through the ranks to serve as President of the Brazilian Paralympic Committee from 2009-2017 as well as President of the Americas Paralympic Committee from 2005-2009. He was elected the IPC President in 2017 and was re-elected for a second-term end of last year. Under his leadership, we saw two incredible Games in Tokyo and Beijing, delivered during challenging COVID times, and the launch of #WeThe15, a campaign to transform the lives of the world's 1.2 billion persons with disabilities who represent 15% of the global population.



**STEFANIE REID**

World Champion Paralympic Athlete



Stef Reid is a British Paralympic long jumper and sprinter. She is a World Champion, four-time Paralympian, triple Paralympic medallist, and five-time world record holder. Stef has a degree in biochemistry, and her adventures off the track include acting, modelling, and serving as Vice President for The Leprosy Mission UK and British Athletics. Recently, Stef competed in the Tokyo 2021 Paralympics and starred in the British reality TV show *Dancing On Ice 2022*, making it to the quarter finals and showing the world you can learn to skate with an artificial foot!

Stef was born in New Zealand to a Scottish father and English mother, grew up in Toronto, and moved to Dallas, Texas with her Canadian husband all before settling back in the UK in 2010. Stef's talent and passion for sport were spotted early, and at 12 she was already dreaming of playing rugby on the world stage. But at 15, Stef was involved in a boating accident and suffered severe propeller lacerations. Her life was saved but her right foot was damaged beyond repair and amputated.

Stef's focus shifted from her sports to her studies, and she graduated as valedictorian earning a full academic scholarship to Queen's University in Canada to study biochemistry. While at Queen's, Stef joined the university athletics team just to see how fast she could still run. Upon graduation, Stef put her plans of medical school on hold and decided to give her childhood dream of being a professional athlete one last chance!

After a glittering 18 year Paralympic career, Stef now works as a motivational speaker, broadcaster, and executive coach and is always up for a new adventure!

**TIM SHRIVER**

Chairman of Special Olympics



Timothy Shriver leads the Special Olympics International Board of Directors, and together with 6 million Special Olympics athletes in more than 200 countries, promotes health, education, and a more unified world through the joy of sport.

Shriver joined Special Olympics in 1996. He has been a leading educator who focuses on the social and emotional factors in learning. He co-founded and currently chairs the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), the leading school reform organization in the field of social and emotional learning. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, Co-Chairman of the National Commission on Social and Emotional Learning, President of the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, Member of the Board of Directors for the WPP Group, LLC, and a co-founder of Lovin' Scoopful Ice Cream Company.

Shriver earned his undergraduate degree from Yale University, a Master's Degree from Catholic University, and holds a Doctorate in Education from the University of Connecticut. He has produced four films, authored The New York Times bestselling book Fully Alive – Discovering What Matters Most, and has written for dozens of newspapers and magazines. Shriver and his wife, Linda Potter, reside in the Washington, D.C. area and have five adult children.

**DANIELE PASQUINI**

President of the John Paul II Foundation for Sport



Daniele Pasquini was born in Crema (CR) in 1976. He graduated in Mathematics at the State University of Milan in 2000, then moved to Rome to serve during the Jubilee, starting a collaboration with the Centro Sportivo Italiano (Italian Sports Centre), holding positions and becoming in 2011 its local president of Rome. He has matured his skills as a sports manager working for the Forum of Italian Oratories, the Sports Office of the CEI, and the Holy See. Since 2019 he is the president of the John Paul II Foundation for Sport.



**SANTIAGO PÉREZ DE CAMINO GAISSE**

Head of the Church &amp; Sport Office



Santiago Pérez de Camino is the Head of the Church and Sport Office of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life since March 2013. Born in Spain in 1986, he holds a degree in Law from the Complutense University of Madrid, specializing in International Relations. Before working for the Holy See, he worked as head of the Visa Office for World Youth Day Madrid 2011 and for more than 10 years has collaborated in many projects in youth ministry in the Archdiocese of Madrid, including training coaches and soccer players in schools and youth clubs. He has published in various informative magazines on the importance of values in sport and has been the coordinator of the publication of the first document of the Holy See on sport, entitled “Giving the best of Yourself”. Since 2017 he is also the Head of the Office for the promotion and Formation of the Laity and the Dicastery. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the John Paul II Foundation for Sport in Italy and is the Executive Director of the Summit “Sport for All. Cohesive, Accessible and Tailored to each person”. Santiago is married to Leticia and they have four children.

**MELCHOR SÁNCHEZ DE TOCA**

Dicastery for Culture and Education



Monsignor Melchor Sanchez de Toca is under-secretary a.i. of the Dicastery for Culture and Education and board director of the Sport at the Service of Humanity Foundation. Born in Jaca, Spain, Msgr. Melchor is a priest of the archdiocese of Toledo, Spain, from 1993. He studied philosophy at the Universidad Complutense in Madrid, then theology in Toledo and at the Gregorian University in Rome. In 2006, he completed his PhD in Theology at the Gregorian University in Rome with a thesis on the relations between faith and culture in the contemporary church; From 1999, he has worked in the service of the Holy See at the Pontifical Council for Culture as undersecretary, focusing on a number of key initiatives at the intersection between Christian faith and modern culture, including the dialogue between Faith and Science, as well as, inter-connection of Faith and Sport. In October 2016, under the Pontifical Council for Culture's leadership, "Sport at the Service of Humanity: The First Global Conference on Faith and Sport" was held at the Vatican, successfully launching a global movement that harnesses the power of faith and sport to change the world.



### THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

wishes to thank the following organizations and individuals for their valuable contribution in making this **INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT SPORT FOR ALL** possible.

And a special thank you to all our staff and volunteers!

## THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**KRISTIN SHEEHAN**

Play like a Champion Today Series

**PATRICK KELLY, SJ**

University of Detroit Mercy

**JUSTIN BARICH**

John Paul Foundation for Sport - Australia

**JAMES PARKER**

John Paul Foundation for Sport - Australia

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**CATERINA GOZZOLI**

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

MAIN PARTNER  
JOHN PAUL II SPORT FOUNDATION IN ITALY



The John Paul II Sport Foundation is an Italian foundation, founded in 2008 with the aim of promoting the educational values of sport, following the principles and guidelines of Pope John Paul II, with particular attention to the world of young people.

It collaborates with the Dicastery of Laity, Family and Life and Pontifical Council for Culture of the Holy See and the National Office for the Pastoral Care of Leisure, Tourism and Sports of the Italian Episcopal Conference.

The Foundation operates on two major fronts: the promotion of the educational values of sport through the rebirth of new educational sites in the parish (oratories) and the the realization of major cultural and educational events.





The importance of our movement as a vehicle for inclusion, growth and well-being is a concept that needs to be emphasized to reiterate the depth of the message that characterizes us - and can virtuously permeate the actions of those who make sport a way of life.

I am grateful to the Department of Culture and Sport, of the Pontifical Council for Culture and to the Undersecretary Monsignor Melchor Sanchez de Toca for this conference. This is a meeting animated by a spirit of exchange and profound discussion. The voices of distinguished speakers, and in particular, the testimony of the highest international institution in our world, IOC President Thomas Bach, will allow us to understand better how to promote the essence of the values with which we identify. This gives depth to the concepts that connote them: solidarity, cohesion and reciprocity - these are the best ways to erase distances, fostering dialogue and peace.



**GIOVANNI MALAGÒ**  
President



Talking about sports for all today means turning our gaze to building a society that is more attentive to people, particularly those most in need, with the goal of putting everyone in a position to be able to follow their aspirations and express their potential - whatever it may be - by overcoming physical, sensory, economic and cultural obstacles.

The international Paralympic movement has been committed for years to promoting sport as a tool for inclusion and integration. The extraordinary feats of female Paralympic athletes, for example, have contributed significantly to changing the perception of disability around the world.

Sport on the other hand is an extraordinary instrument of dialogue and peace, able to speak to people's hearts and minds, to create community and to convey those principles of fairness and solidarity that are and should always be at the basis of every sporting competition. Because competition, as the etymology of the word suggests, is never an individual act but is always a path to take with the other toward a common goal.



**LUCA PANCALLI**  
President



We are proud to be involved as a partner of this International Summit. For Duferco Energia, supporting sports is a fundamental and daily activity because we are convinced of its social role and its relevance for the human and spiritual growth of all the people.

One of our main goals, as a Company, is sustainability, not only in environmental terms but also social. That's why we constantly promote sports values to demonstrate our support to various disciplines, because we think that sport, at any level, can truly be one of the most effective factors of social inclusion, sharing and socialization.



**LUCA MASINI**  
President



## ISTITUTO PER IL CREDITO SPORTIVO

We live in a time and inhabit a society that, as Pope Francis has said, are marked by “rapidacion,” by frenzy, compulsiveness and speed, which combine negatively with the disorientation of not knowing where to go, of not knowing and recognizing the goal. In this framework, Sport represents one of the main “social immune defenses” - an indispensable factor in ensuring the right balance in daily life, capable of fostering a culture of encounter, mutual recognition, and respect necessary to build social relationships, promote the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of individuals and communities.

The Istituto per il Credito Sportivo facilitates the collective daily commitment of the people who animate it, to contribute to the affirmation of this sporting paradigm, so that it becomes a life experience for all, in the decorum, kindness and humanity of sports venues, on which we focus our action, without neglecting the centrality of intangible infrastructure.

The International Summit “Sport for All” in the Vatican will give further impetus to our work, helping Sport to be more united and more effective in overcoming personal frailties and limiting social marginality.



**ANDREA ABODI**  
President



Sports are universal in all cultures, therefore having the ability to empower individuals, women, communities, and our youth in our communities globally is one of our major goals.

Recognizing the impact that sports has on societies as a whole has always been an important component of our mission at The Jack Del Rio Foundation. We are honored to make this contribution to the Summit for the presentation of the Declaration on Sport. It is our hope that this gift will assist in the Summit's mission to ensure that sport is a part of what matters most, and it contributes to a more inclusive society. Humanity is resounding and every person is accepted, and welcomed regardless of gender, disability or ability.



**JACK DEL RIO, JR**  
President



The Pontifical Scholas Occurrentes, created and supported by Pope Francis, hopes that the international summit, *Sport for all - cohesive, accessible and tailored to each person*, will be a point of dialogue and concrete actions, in particular, to create a new culture of encounter. We believe that the ultimate purpose of sport is to discover and enhance the unique talents of each person, not by creating uniformity and conformity, but rather by reaffirming the exceptional and unique value of each young person - regardless of the context in which they find themselves. Today, in particular, we must focus our attention on young people. The earlier the formation process begins, the easier it will be for a person's integral development to unfold. The educational challenge today, as Pope Francis often reminds us, is to have the ability to use the three languages: that of the head, of the heart and of the hands. In doing so, we rethink our educational paradigms, questioning our processes of teaching and learning. Moreover, we better understand the culture of the youth, expressed in the languages of sport, art and technology. And, finally, we build an environment where the transcendent animates our education, to fulfill the human spirit, and color it with meaning.



**JOSE MARIA DEL CORRAL**  
President

## SPORT E SALUTE

The path of sport helps young people embrace universal, positive values that are useful for their growth and for finding a place in society.

This path can intersect with that of faith, within a common value framework. As Pope Francis says, “redemption and the spirit of sacrifice are the values of sport that I love most.” There is also inclusion to confront racism and discrimination. Then, there is the discipline of training, loyalty, and “playing life with your head held high” as the pontiff says.

Sport and Salute has the specific mission of promoting sports at all levels, for all and by all. We do so, in such a way that, in addition to the sporting act itself, we also transmit the values that support the development of the human being. Then, there is the fun, which must never be lacking for sportsmen and sportswomen, of all age groups and all walks of life. It is the engine that moves our world.



VITO COZZOLI  
President



TAFISA is proud to support the Summit on “Sport for All: cohesive, accessible and tailored to each person”. Sport for All is at the core of everything we do, and we have established TAFISA Mission 2030: For a Better World through Sport for All as a framework to maximise the contribution that sport can make to society. We know however that we will not succeed alone: we must work together with all actors, partners and stakeholders who are using Sport for All to benefit their community. TAFISA applauds the initiative from The Dicastery for Laity Family and Life, in collaboration with the Pontifical Council for Culture and the John Paul II Foundation for Sport, and believes this Summit will help spread the incredible power of Sport for All globally.



**WOLFGANG BAUMANN**  
President





THE DECLARATION  
SPORT FOR ALL:  
COHESIVE, ACCESSIBLE AND TAILORED TO EACH PERSON  
DECLARATION ON SPORT

This declaration on the role of sport in the world today is a call for change, to promote mature social responsibility at every level and for everyone. It has been written in recognition of the tremendous power that sport exerts in the modern world and its potential as an important enabler of the Sustainable Development Goals. While the Holy See recognises the potential that sport has for good in the world, it also acknowledges its failings and seeks to address both in this declaration.

The declaration has been precipitated by the recent global pandemic. COVID-19 has dramatically affected every person on the globe: with sickness, death, mourning, spiritual reflection, psychological distress and financial hardship more visible than ever. For the first time in the modern era, world sport had also stopped. The absence of sporting activity and the pause in many of our daily activities has given time for deeper reflection, including theological reflection, on what it means to be human and what we desire our societies to be as we move into the future. It has also provided us with an opportunity for a deeper reflection on the human and social significance of sport.

## **1. Vision**

The Olympic Charter states in its ‘Fundamental Principles’: “Blending sport with culture and education, Olympism seeks to create a way of life based on the joy of effort, the educational value of good example, social responsibility and respect for universal fundamental ethical principles”<sup>1</sup>. Other international organizations such as the United Nations have recognized the important role sport can play in our societies. “We recognize the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of young people, individuals and communities as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives.”<sup>2</sup> The time is now ready for all those who are engaged in sport to work to ensure that sport makes these rich contributions.

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<sup>1</sup> International Olympic Committee. 2021. Olympic Charter. Lausanne: IOC.

<sup>2</sup> Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | Department of Economic and Social Affairs (un.org)

## We recognize that

### • Sport must display maturity

Sport has to *change or be changed*<sup>3</sup>. It must play its part in a season of renewed responsibility (social, environmental and personal) instead of focusing only on its own interests (remaining closed in on itself). The United Nations has underlined that although it is “already a pioneer and promoter of inclusive and sustainable development in an unstable and unequal world, the sporting world must now redefine and redesign itself, not only to improve its resilience to future shocks, but to broaden its contribution to the world’s efforts to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.”<sup>4</sup>

Sustainable development, inherent to Olympism itself, has to be considered in connection with the full development of the human person: physical, social, psychological and spiritual. ‘Coubertinian’ idealism – embodied in the Olympic Charter – was not founded simply on displays of superior athletic performance, but as a vehicle for promoting social and educational transformation.

### • Sport has the power to change human beings and the world

The internal goods of sport have to do with the enjoyment of meeting challenges, of going beyond where we were previously, of playing on a team. They are available to every person, regardless of age or skill level. The values experienced while playing on a team, particularly point to the importance of sport being made available to all as part of our commitment to the common good. Our team, in the most fundamental sense, is the human family.

Sport is not an absolute good, however. Its value depends on the context in which it is promoted and the purposes it pursues. If it is accessible and inclusive and remains anchored in sound educational processes, and fosters a commitment to the common good, sport can fully express its potential to improve people and the world.

Human beings are always looking for what is beyond and above themselves and ordinary life, and sport can give voice to this deep desire for transcendence, beauty and happiness in a peaceful way,

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<sup>3</sup> Olympic Agenda 2020 - Strategic Roadmap for the Olympic Movement (olympics.com): “As we launch Olympic Agenda 2020+5, the slogan “change or be changed” that inspired Olympic Agenda 2020 remains more compelling than ever.

<sup>4</sup> Recovering better: Sport for development and peace - Reopening, Recovery and Resilience Post-COVID-19 - Final- SDP-recovering-better.pdf (un.org)

uniting people of every race, culture and religion. A strong dimension of sport as an expression of human transcendence emerges in its following aspects: in play which aims at the enjoyment of physical exercise and playing together without ulterior motives; in competition which leads one to give the best of oneself; in its pursuit of happiness which aspires to achieve goals leading to true fulfillment.

## 2. Mission

Recent times have seen the emergence of new challenges for our societies that can be turned into opportunities, many of them accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Let us have the courage to ensure that sport is part of what matters most, and contributes to a more inclusive society, in which every person is accepted and welcomed, regardless of ability or disability!<sup>5</sup>

Sport can suffer from a never-ending desire for more, no matter what the cost and therefore needs to re-establish a healthy balance. To do so, sport has to *belong to everyone, everywhere*, progressing from the grassroots, bringing sport for all and elite sport closer together and not opposing one against the other.

### **We believe that a fully inclusive sport must be:**

- **Cohesive: safeguarding the unity and solidarity of sport**

Sport in the last century has spread globally, with a vast growth of fans and practitioners, becoming one of the characteristic phenomena of modernity. This rapid development has led sport, particularly elite sport, to suffer sometimes from *an unrestrained orientation towards success* and to be subjected to manipulation, distancing it from its own established values.

There is a danger of a clear separation between the world of elite sport and sport for all, jeopardizing the unitary vision of sport. Instead, it is necessary for sport to recover its balance, in all its spheres and with equal dignity for everybody.

- **Accessible: guaranteeing sport is made available to everyone**

Sport should be ludic and is an example of a human universal. It can be associated with personal growth and help to foster the common good. Everyone should be able to enjoy the benefits of playing a

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<sup>5</sup> Peace and Sport I Be Part of What Matters (peace-sport.org)

sport by having the opportunity to access it, regardless of sex, abilities or disabilities, cultural, social, economic, ethnic status or religious affiliation. These benefits (including physical, psychological, sociological, economic benefits) should ultimately lead to the overall betterment of the person's wellbeing. It is important that sport agencies and institutions engage in shared actions to overcome all the physical, psycho-social and economic barriers that impede access to sport for people who live in conditions of marginalization and/or exclusion.<sup>6</sup> Furthermore, affirming that sport belongs to everyone also means that all institutions, no matter their main organizational mission, can use sport to promote psychological development and inclusion.

- **Tailored: offering a sporting practice tailored to each person's needs**

Everyone must be able to find sports practices suited to their potential, abilities and skills. The sports offered must be adaptable to the needs, limitations and potential of each person, allowing them to enjoy developing their talents in such a way that also fosters their health and well-being. Sports clubs must make a qualitative leap, learning to welcome among their athletes, people in vulnerable situations and people with disabilities, accompanying and guiding them in a sporting experience, as integrated as possible, adapted to their abilities and helping them to develop their talents.

### **3. Action**

It is important that we strengthen our work in an active, inclusive and coordinated manner. In this work, we are not starting from scratch as much has already been done, but an acceleration of our efforts is now necessary. For that reason:

**We give our ongoing commitment to:**

- **Avoid a narrow commercial view of sport**

In some contexts, sport can experience excesses if it becomes purely profit and performance driven, undermining its social and educational value.

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<sup>6</sup> Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | Department of Economic and Social Affairs (un.org)

As Pope Francis has said: “Whenever sport is considered only according to economic parameters or to achieve victory at all costs, we run the risk of reducing the athletes to mere merchandise from which to profit. They lose the true meaning of their activities, the joy of playing that attracted them when they were young, and that has led them to make so many sacrifices and become champions.”<sup>7</sup>

A new alliance, creating a solidarity model between sport-for-all and elite sport is essential to strengthening the educational and social dimension of sport and avoiding what weakens this new model.

• **Promote sport tailored to people living in vulnerable conditions**

Having limits is a fundamental dimension of every person. As has been mentioned, sport motivates every person to give their best, to go beyond where they were before. This is never done alone but together in a community. When done in an inclusive, safe and healthy way, this is an enjoyable experience and brings about growth within each person, irrespective of the age or skill level of the player.

Sport should increase its efforts to include people in different situations of vulnerability, such as:

- **People with disabilities:** many institutions offer great examples of tailoring sport to give participants with physical and/or intellectual needs a pathway to full inclusion in competitive sport and sport for all at community level.

- **People in psychological distress:** “Frequent participation in moderate to vigorous physical activity decreases psychological distress and decreases the likelihood of falling into a high-risk category of mental health disorders,”<sup>8</sup> as well as psychological difficulties resulting from COVID-19. The stress and anxiety of the pandemic has exacerbated psychological difficulties for many, especially persons in the most vulnerable situations.

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<sup>7</sup> Pope Francis, Address to members of the European Olympic Committee, Saturday 23 November 2013

<sup>8</sup> Francisco Perales, Jesus Del Pozo-Cruz, Borja Del Pozo-Cruz, Impact of Physical Activity on Psychological Distress: A Prospective Analysis of an Australian National Sample. American Journal of Public Health, 104 (12) 2014

- **Women and girls in situations of vulnerability:** as Pope Francis has said: “the organization of societies worldwide is still far from reflecting clearly that women possess the same dignity and identical rights as men.”<sup>9</sup> Acknowledgement of historic and contemporary failures to recognize the full dignity of women and girls, in sport, offers a unique opportunity to heal wrongs and better promote the principles of sport for all. The central role of women and girls in sport, is essential to the promotion of social cohesion and integral development.

- **New sociological challenges:** rising polarization across societies is associated with the use of social media that can lead people into ideological bubbles, thereby diminishing concern for the common good. Sport provides opportunities for face-to-face encounters with people from other communities, cultures or religious traditions where players can learn to navigate challenges and even conflict.

A new training for coaches and support staff should be developed to better equip them to deliver safe, inclusive and accessible sport, providing more people and communities the opportunity to practice a sport with joy and to develop their personal skills.

### • **Focus on Social Integration through Sport**

Sport offers an opportunity to create a culture of encounter and friendship, which can break down social, cultural, economic, ethnic and religious barriers. It can give meaning to people’s lives as well as generate deep and lasting social and personal relationships. For some, it helps them reintegrate back into society. Apart from coaches and sports organisations, this must be taken into consideration also by teachers, social workers and health professionals.

Therefore, sport must remain accessible to all, with special attention given to people living in marginalized contexts and those on the periphery, including:

- **Refugees and migrants:** sport can be a positive catalyst for empowering refugee communities, helping to strengthen social cohesion, their psycho-social well-being and to forge closer ties with host communities. Recognizing the important role that sports and

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<sup>9</sup> Pope Francis, *Fratelli tutti*, 23

cultural activities can play in social development, inclusion, cohesion, and well-being, particularly for refugee children partnerships should be pursued to increase access to sporting and cultural facilities and activities in refugee-hosting areas.<sup>10</sup>

- **The socioeconomically disadvantaged:** sport must close or reduce the social gap. Facilities and resources for sport should be available in poorer communities. In some regions, highly specialized coaching for youth is only affordable for wealthy families or excludes girls and women. In such cases, it is easy to lose sight of the communitarian dimension of sport and the common good in society. Resources for sport programs in wealthier school districts are often present but not in schools in poorer communities.

- **The elderly and the youth:** sport can be used to promote a culture of encounter and peace, especially between the elder and younger generations. Sporting events are characterized by unity and not division; they build bridges not walls.<sup>11</sup> As such, sport build bridges across generations, creating new opportunities of intergenerational dialogue.

- **Prisoners:** sport can provide an instant, supportive social circle both inside, and later outside, prison walls, helping to prevent reoffences and recidivism.

Sporting organizations, social institutions, the private sector, NGOs and public institutions should provide participants and professionals with training to develop their capacity to manage sports environments in an inclusive way. Preserving sport as an experience for inclusion requires creating accessible environments, promoting safe and fair participation and inspiring physical activity by all.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Global Compact on Refugees - United Nations, New York, 2018, n. 44

<sup>11</sup> Address of Pope Francis to members of the European Olympic Committee, Saturday 23 November 2013

<sup>12</sup> IPC, Strategic Plan International Paralympic Committee 2019 to 2022



#### 4. Commitment

Sport is called to be safe and fully inclusive in order to perform at its best. This declaration is not just a statement of principles, but a *declar-action*, an invitation to concrete actions. Sport is a very human endeavour; the intentionality, the will, the vision and values of persons who are engaged in it are of great significance for its future and the future of society.

All those who recognise themselves in this declaration's statements and want to freely subscribe to them, are called to commit themselves, in their own context and through their own means and capacities, to be vehicles for change for the improvement of our society through sport.

ADHERE TO THE DECLARATION

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## **SPORT FOR ALL**

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