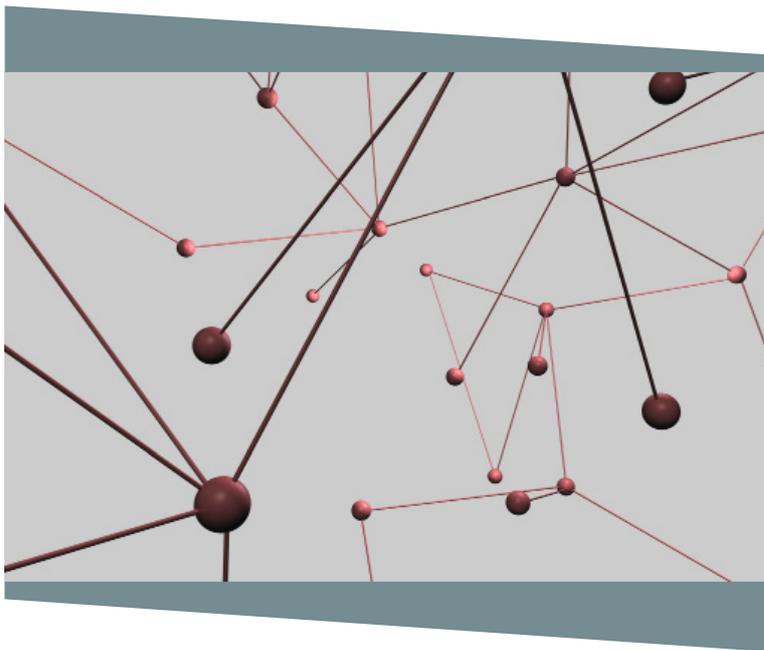




THE PONTIFICAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
and THE FOUNDATION FOR WORLD WIDE COOPERATION

Conference on

# CONNECTIVITY AS A HUMAN RIGHT



10 October 2017 | Casina Pio IV | Vatican City



Humanity has entered a new era in which our technical prowess has brought us to a crossroads. We are the beneficiaries of two centuries of enormous waves of change: steam engines, railways, the telegraph, electricity, automobiles, aeroplanes, chemical industries, modern medicine, information technology and, more recently, the digital revolution, robotics, biotechnologies and nanotechnologies. It is right to rejoice in these advances and to be excited by the immense possibilities which they continue to open up before us, for “science and technology are wonderful products of a God-given human creativity”. The modification of nature for useful purposes has distinguished the human family from the beginning; technology itself “expresses the inner tension that impels man gradually to overcome material limitations”. Technology has remedied countless evils which used to harm and limit human beings. How can we not feel gratitude and appreciation for this progress, especially in the fields of medicine, engineering and communications? How could we not acknowledge the work of many scientists and engineers who have provided alternatives to make development sustainable?

Pope Francis, *Laudato si'*, paragraph 102.

# Introduction

**A**s the world's primary means of enabling learning, delivering knowledge, providing health care, enhancing agriculture, saving the environment, creating jobs, and understanding each other, the Internet is moving from commercial service to public utility. Still 3 billion people have no connection. The next step should become for them a human right.

Human rights are free and being human is the only requirement to be eligible. Free to every human who may need it is not cost free to society. Like public schools, street-lights, roads and sidewalks, it becomes the responsibility of civic society thereafter to manage, maintain, bid and subcontract the constituent parts in a competitive, innovative, free market manner. Like primary healthcare, public education, rule of law, police and defense forces.

Education, a special and important case, is the fastest road to dignity and freedom. It can no longer be a toll road. We can say that "a school without connectivity is not a school for the 21st century" and that all students and teachers have the right to be connected. For those who are disabled to be connected to the digital environment may change their lives. The same applies for a continued education, in particular for senior elders and the poor, who are mostly excluded from the digital resources.

The cost to connect every human being worldwide is far less than 0.1% of what we currently spent on war. Surely that is a small price to pay to elevate all of society, eliminate ignorance, alleviate poverty, share basic knowledge, and work toward world peace by better understanding each other.

# Programme

TUESDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2017

WELCOME	
9.00	<b>Joachim von Braun</b> , <i>President of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences</i>
9.05	<b>H.E. Msgr. Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo</b> , <i>Chancellor of the President Pontifical Academy of Sciences</i>
INTRODUCTION <i>Moderator: Joachim von Braun</i>	
9.10	<b>Romano Prodi</b>   <i>The Right to Connectivity</i>
9:25	Discussion
9:35	<b>Nicholas Negroponte</b>   <i>Worldwide Free Internet through a Global Public Sector</i>
9:50	Discussion
10:00	<b>Jeffrey Sachs</b>   <i>Why Connectivity is Vital for the Sustainable Development Goals</i>
10:15	Discussion
10:25	<b>Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka</b>   <i>Women's Rights are Connected Rights</i>
10:40	Discussion
10:50	Coffee Break
HUMAN RIGHTS DOCTRINE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS <i>Moderator: Alessandro Ovi</i>	
11:05	<b>Ronald Daniels</b>   <i>Introduction</i>
11:20	Discussion
11:30	<b>Gianni Magazzeni</b>   <i>UN Decisions and Proposals</i>
11:45	Discussion
Free Versus Affordable / Public Sector, Telcos	
11:55	<b>Denis O'Brien</b>   <i>The Role of Silicon Valley in the Development of Broadband in the Developing World</i>
12:10	Discussion
12:20	<b>Roberto Viola</b>   <i>Connecting Europe</i>
12:35	Discussion
DIRECT AND DERIVATIVE BENEFITS <i>Moderator: Antonio M. Battro</i>	
Education	
12:45	<b>Miguel Brechner</b>   <i>Technology as a Driver of New Pedagogies for the 21st Century</i>
13:00	Discussion
13:10	<b>Matt Keller</b>   <i>Global Learning</i>
13:25	Discussion
13:35	Lunch at the Casina Pio IV
15:00	General Discussion   Discussant: <b>Molly Buhrans</b>

Health and Job Creation	
15:15	<b>Joachim von Braun</b>   <i>Connectivity for All in Rural Areas – Improving Agriculture, Food Security and Employment</i>
15:30	Discussion
15:40	<b>Máximo Torero</b>   <i>The World Bank's Experience with Connectivity</i>
15:55	Discussion
16:05	<b>Gisella Finocchiaro</b>   <i>Fondazione del Monte, Research and Proposals</i>
16:20	Discussion
16:30	General Discussion   Discussant: <b>Tara Ramanathan</b>
16:45	Coffee Break
TECHNICAL MEANS , METHODS AND GLOBAL ADVOCACY Moderator: Roberto Viola	
Orbital and Terrestrial	
17:00	<b>Yael McGuire</b>   <i>Creating a World of Opportunities</i>
17:15	Discussion
17:25	<b>Michael Lubin</b>   <i>We Know the Why and Have the How. Now Who?</i>
17:40	Discussion
17:50	<b>Valeria Termini</b>   <i>The Role of Energy Regulators</i>
18:05	Discussion
Global Advocacy	
18:15	<b>Stefano Quintarelli</b>   <i>Radical Digital Change</i>
18:30	Discussion
18:40	General Discussion   Discussant: <b>Dominique Lambert</b>
18:55	Crafting a Final Statement   <b>Moderator: Matt Keller</b>
19:55	End
20:00	Dinner at the Casina Pio IV

# List of Participants

## Speakers

**Antonio M. Battro**, Member, Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Academia Nacional de Educación, Argentina  
**Joachim von Braun**, President, Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican City  
**Miguel Brechner**, President, Plan Ceibal, Uruguay  
**Ronald Daniels**, President, Johns Hopkins University, USA  
**Gisella Finocchiaro**, President, Fondazione del Monte, Italy  
**Matt Keller**, Senior Director, Global Learning XPRIZE, USA  
**Michael Lubin**, Senior Advisor, ViaSat, Inc., USA  
**Gianni Magazzeni**, Chief UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, USA  
**Yael Maguire**, PhD, Facebook Connectivity Lab, USA  
**Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka**, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, South Africa  
**Nicholas Negroponte**, Professor Emeritus, Co-Founder, MIT Media Lab, Founder, One Laptop per Child, USA  
**Denis O'Brien**, Chairman, Digicel, Ireland  
**Alessandro Ovi**, Vicepresident, Foundation for World Wide Cooperation, Italy  
**Romano Prodi**, President, World Wide Cooperation, former Primer Minister, Italy  
**Stefano Quintarelli**, Member of Parliament, Italy  
**Jeffrey Sachs**, Professor, Columbia University and Special Advisor to UN Secretary-General, USA  
**Msgr. Marcelo Sánchez Sorondo**, Chancellor, Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican City  
**Valeria Termini**, Member, Collegio dell'Autorità per l'Energia Elettrica, il GAS e il Sistema Idrico (AEEGSI), Italy  
**Máximo Torero**, Executive Director for Argentina, Bolivia, Chile Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, World Bank Group  
**Roberto Viola**, Director General of DG CONNECT (Directorate General of Communication, Networks, Content and Technology) at the European Commission, Italy

## Discussants

**Molly Buhmans**, Director, Goodlands, USA  
**Dominique Lambert**, Professor, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Philosophy, University of Namur, Belgium  
**Tara Ramanathan**, Director, Nexleaf, USA

## Observers

**Gilles Dowek**  
**Jennifer Elisseff**  
**Daniela Flamini**  
**Marisa Garito**  
**Giuseppe Guzzetti**  
**Salvatore Luigi Parlatore**  
**Sonia Sachs**  
**Ritu Sharma**  
**Hugo Trentesaux**  
**Lorenzo Zambonardi**  
**Roberto Zamora**  
**Maria José Zamora**

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## MEMORANDUM

1. On 10 October 2017 a bus will leave the Domus Sanctae Marthae at 8:40 a.m. for the Headquarters of the Academy (Casina Pius IV). A bus will depart from the Academy after dinner at the end of the afternoon sessions to take participants back to the Domus Sanctae Marthae. Lunch and dinner for the participants will be served at the Academy.
  2. If you are coming to the Academy on your own, please enter the Vatican through the Sant'Uffizio Gate or Perugino Gate. Please make sure you bring your passport/ID since you will be crossing the Vatican City State border. The Vatican guards will have a list of the invitees.
  3. Could you please let us know, as soon as possible, if you have any dietary restrictions, food allergies and/or religious restrictions.
  4. WiFi is available in the conference hall at the Casina Pio IV. Please log in to the network called **WLAN\_PADS (WPA2)**. Type **!!WIFI\_2017\_PADS!!** as the password. You can check our website [www.pas.va](http://www.pas.va) for further information on the Academy, the Academicians, and current and past events.
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