

## What is the *Nostra Aetate* Foundation?

The *Nostra Aetate* Foundation was established in 1990 under the auspices of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue as a means of promoting and supporting dialogue between Catholics and believers of other religions in different countries around the world.

It is based on the teachings of the Catholic Church as found in the Declaration of the Second Vatican Council, *Nostra Aetate*, on relations with non-Christians (28 October 1965).

The Foundation offers study grants to qualified persons of other religions who have proven experience working in the area of interreligious dialogue.



Pope Francis greets a *Nostra Aetate* Foundation student.

“A fraternal living together, founded on education and justice; a human development built upon a welcoming inclusion and on the rights of all: these are the seeds of peace which the world’s religions are called to help flourish.”

Pope Francis, 4 February 2019

# *Nostra Aetate* Foundation Study Grants



## Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue *Nostra Aetate* Foundation

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# Encouraging a True Search for God among All Peoples -cf. PE 149

## Goals

Our focus is on helping eligible candidates of other religions to deepen their knowledge of Christianity through study at one of the Pontifical Universities in Rome.

By studying in Rome at the center of the Catholic Church, it is the hope that these persons can return to their country of origin with an enriched awareness of Christianity and interreligious dialogue so as to be better prepared to participate in the on-going dialogue among believers.

**“One is the community of all peoples, one their origin, for God made the whole human race to live over the face of the earth. One also is their final goal, God.”**  
*Nostra Aetate 1*



A Nostra Aetate Foundation group at a papal General Audience in 2016.

## Guidelines

The study grants are awarded to persons who have completed their university studies and have received their diploma. The individual must be recommended by either the Pontifical Representative in their home country, by a member of the Dicastery, or another authority of the Catholic Church.

The grant covers one semester of study (either fall or winter) and includes registration fees, tuition for the designated courses plus room and board. Travelling expenses are not included.

As part of the acceptance process, the applicant should demonstrate facility in the language of his/her proposed study.

## Applications

Applications are reviewed by the Board of Governors twice a year.

The following information is required:

- [Application form](#),
- recommendation letter,
- proof of university degree,
- medical attestation,
- copy of passport.

These should then be sent to:

The President  
Nostra Aetate Foundation  
Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue  
00120 VATICAN CITY  
Email: [nafoundation@interrel.va](mailto:nafoundation@interrel.va)  
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Nostra Aetate Foundation students with the President, the Secretary of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue, in 2022.

“It is essential that in all countries, learning about the faith and experience of others regularly forms part of education, ideally in a way that enables these others to contribute to the process. ...In addition, members of all religious communities need a solid formation in their own religious tradition, as well as good information about the others, as a background to dialogue. When learning about their own religious tradition, people need to do so in a way that does not foster arrogance.”

*Education for Peace in a Multi-Religious World*

Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue  
World Council of Churches