



 [VATICAN](#) [VATICAN](#) [CONFERENCE](#) [WOMEN](#) [INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE](#)

# Vatican hosts conference on women and interreligious encounter

*The Dicastery for Promoting Interreligious Dialogue is set to host a conference in Rome on the importance of women building a culture of interreligious encounter, on 25-27 January.*

By Francesca Merlo

An International Conference organised by the Dicastery for Promoting Interreligious Dialogue is due to take place from 25 to 27 January.

The Dicastery released a statement on Tuesday to present the conference entitled: "Women Building a Culture of Encounter Interreligiously".

The event was organised in collaboration with the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO), and will be held at the Pontifical Urbanian University in Rome.

# Interreligious networking

In the statement, the Dicastery for Promoting Interreligious Dialogue noted the multiple goals of the three-day conference.

"The event, on the one hand, aims to listen to interreligious initiatives from different contexts and, on the other, to develop a global network of religious traditions and spiritualities which, through the promotion of a 'culture of encounter' as well as of their own dignity and equality, can work together in solidarity for a growing re-humanisation of society through friendship, dialogue and cooperation."

The statement concluded with a quotation from Pope Francis' encyclical *Fratelli tutti*.

"To speak of a 'culture of encounter' means that as a people we are passionate about wanting to meet, seeking points of contact, building bridges, planning something that involves everyone. This has become an aspiration and a way of life."

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