

**ST. JOHN PAUL II'S NATURAL LAW LEGACY
AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS: TOWARD A CENTURY OF PERSUASION**

**WARSAW, MAY 18-19, 2022
AVE MARIA SCHOOL OF LAW
CARDINAL STEFAN WYSZYŃSKI UNIVERSITY**

“If we want a *century of violent coercion* to be succeeded by a *century of persuasion*, we must find a way to discuss the human future intelligibly. The universal moral law written on the human heart is precisely that kind of ‘grammar’ which is needed if the world is to engage this discussion of its future.” (John Paul II, *Address to the Fiftieth General Assembly of the United Nations Organization*, 5 October 1995)

DRAFT PROGRAMME

MAY 17

8:00pm Keynote address:

Joan Lewis, EWTN Rome Bureau Chief (emerita)
“I Made Cookies for a Saint”

Welcome dinner

MAY 18

8:15am Mass

9:00am Opening

Prayer and Opening: Cardinal Kazimierz Nycz
Remarks: John Czarnetzky, Ave Maria School of Law Dean
Remarks: Michał Gierycz, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University Dean

9:30am Keynote Address:

Adrian Vermuele , Ralph S. Tyler, Jr. Professor of Constitutional Law, Harvard Law School
Common good constitutionalism

Questions and answers (15 minutes)

10:45-11:00am Coffee Break

**Session I: From a century of violent coercion
11:00am-1:00pm**

In light of the lived experience of St. John Paul II, this panel will examine the various historical, juridical and anthropological factors of the 20th century leading to the lack of intelligible discourse in human rights experienced today and the consequences thereof.

Moderator: Alejandro Bermudez, Executive Director, Catholic News Agency

Speakers:

Cardinal Willem Jacobus Eijk
Human rights in a secularized society

Wojciech Roszkowski, former Member of the European Parliament:
Was communism better than Nazism?

Ron Rychlak, Distinguished Professor of Law, Jamie L. Whitten Chair of Law and Government,
University of Mississippi School of Law:
John Paul II, the United Nations, and the Quest for Freedom

VIRTUAL:

Robert P. George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and Director of the James Madison
Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University
Faith and Reason: Amity or Enmity?"

Questions and answers (20 minutes)

1:20pm Lunch

**Session II: The “grammar” of St. John Paul II and coherent human rights discourse
2:30-4:30pm**

This panel will examine the various historical, juridical and anthropological factors in the response of St. John Paul II to the elements identified in Session I.

Moderator: Solène Tadié, Europe Correspondent, National Catholic Register

Speakers:

William Saunders, Professor and Director of the Center for Human Rights, The Catholic
University of America:
JPII: Three pillars of Catholic social thinking

Ryan Meade, Professor, Oxford University, Hertford College, Faculty of Law, University of Oxford
TBD

R.J. Snell, Editor-in-Chief of Public Discourse and Director of Academic Programs, the Witherspoon Institute (Princeton, NJ)
The Full Profile of Ethics: John Paul II's Vision of Natural Law

Pilar Zambrano, Legal Philosophy Professor, Navarra University Law School (Spain)
Taking Rights Seriously: Semantic Realism as a Logical Condition of the Universal and Categorical Force of Human Rights

Gabriel Maino, Professor of Jurisprudence, Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina
John Paul II Charter on the Rights of the Family in light of the natural law

Questions and answers (20 minutes)

4:30-4:45pm Coffee Break

**Session III: St. John Paul II's legacy on human life, the natural family and natural rights
4:45-7:00pm**

Moderator: Bree Dail, Rome Correspondent, Epoch Times

Speakers:

Jerzy Kwaśniewski, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Collegium Intermarium:
John Paul II and the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Mark Bonner, Professor of Law, Ave Maria School of Law
Legal protections for unborn babies in American civil laws

Rafael Santa María, Law School Dean, Universidad Católica San Pablo
John Paul II's contribution to biotechnology and human rights

Leonardo Villafuerte Philippsborn, Law Professor, Universidad Católica Boliviana "San Pablo" (Bolivia)
The Dignity and Prosperity of Indigenous Peoples. A Legacy of the Church Reaffirmed by John Paul II

Questions and answers (20 minutes)

6:00-6:15pm Coffee Break

Carmen Domínguez, Professor of Civil Law, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
JPII's magisterium on the family

Nicolas Bauer, Research Fellow, European Center for Law and Justice (ECLJ)
The right to life from conception : a worldwide battle

Ligia Castaldi, Professor of Law, Ave Maria School of Law
JPII's teaching on family law and the Catholic lawyer

Questions and answers (20 minutes)

7:15pm Dinner

MAY 19

8:15am Mass

Session IV: Contemporary challenges to the natural law in human rights law 9:00am-11:00am

This panel will discern the present-day applications of the elements identified in Session II in light of the issues discussed in Session I and their human rights consequences.

Moderator: Alejandro Bermudez, Executive Director, Catholic News Agency

9:00am Keynote Address:

J.H.H. Weiler, Professor, N.Y.U. Law School
On the limits of Natural Law and the Virtues of Revealed Law

Questions and answers (15 minutes)

Archbishop Zbignevs Stankēvičs
TBD

Monsignor Piotr Mazurkiewicz, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University:
Liberal versus Christian understanding of Human Rights

Aleksander Stepkowski, Judge, Poland Supreme Court
Human rights: is the concept truly coherent with Christian moral teaching?

Nicolás Lafferriere, Natural Law and the Human Person Co-Chair & Professor of Civil Law,
Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina (Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina)

The teachings of John Paul II and the paradoxes of the right to life in the International Human Rights Discourse

VIRTUAL:

Chris Smith, U.S. Congressman for 4th District of New Jersey/ Marie Smith, Founder and Director of Parliamentary Network for Critical Issues
Advancing respect for life through legislation and policy

Questions and answers (20 minutes)

10:40-11:00am Coffee Break

Session V: Contemporary challenges to the natural law in international human rights bodies

11:00am-1:00pm

Moderator: Solène Tadié, Europe Correspondent, National Catholic Register

Speakers:

Javier Borrego Borrego, former Judge of European Court of Human Rights and Spain Supreme Tribunal

Is the European Court in Strasbourg protecting all human rights equally?

Carlos Bernal Pulido, Commissioner, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Protection of the Unborn Child's Life under the American Convention on Human Rights

David Moore, Former Member of United Nations Human Rights Committee, Sterling and Eleanor Colton Endowed Chair in Law; Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University Law School

The Indeterminacy of the Positive Law of Human Rights

Jan Figel, former Special Envoy for the promotion of the freedom of religion or belief outside the EU

TBD

Grégor Puppinck, Executive Director, European Center for Law and Justice

The transformation of Natural law in contemporary understanding of international human rights law

Rebecca Oas, Rebecca Oas, Director of Research, Center for Family and Human Rights (C-Fam)

Custom, Contestation, and the Defense of Universally Recognized Human Rights

Questions and answers (20 minutes)

1:00pm Lunch

**Session VI: Toward a century of persuasion
2:30-6:30pm**

This panel will examine contemporary failures and victories in protecting natural rights as identified by Saint John Paul II, as well as future challenges in law and legal philosophy.

Moderator: Ellen Kryger Fantini, The European Conservative

Speakers:

Gladden J. Pappin, Associate Professor of Politics, University of Dallas
TBD

Zachary Calo, Professor of Law, Hamad bin Khalifa University (Qatar)
Religious Freedom and Healthy Secularity

María Ines Franck, Professor of Canon Law, Academic Secretary, Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina (Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina). Member of Legislative Issues Commission, Argentine Conference of Catholic Bishops
John Paul II and respect for local cultures

Bartosz Lewandowski, Rector, Collegium Intermarium:
John Paul II's thoughts and the Polish Constitution of 1997: a brief commentary on the concept of dignity

Questions and answers (20 minutes)

4:30-4:50pm Coffee Break

Zbigniew Stawrowski, Professor, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University
John Paul II on the law

Pablo Nuevo, Professor, Universitat Abat Oliba CEU (Spain)
Human rights, legislation and the common good

Brian Scarnecchia, Professor of Law, Ave Maria School of Law
John Paul II contributions to Human Ecology: A Natural Law Analysis

Joseph MacDonald, Co-Founder, The John Paul II Project
Safe Spaces vs Zones of Freedom: Young people and modernity's greatest aspiration

Questions and answers (20 minutes)

6:30pm Conclusion:

Dean John Czarnetzky and Dean Michał Gierycz

7:30pm Closing dinner