

2025 JUBILEE EXHIBITION

COMMUNICATING HOPE

OTHER INFORMATION IS POSSIBLE

Initiative promoted by the Society of St. Paul and the Daughters of St. Paul,
with the patronage of the **Dicastery for Evangelization**
and the **Dicastery for Communication**

Inauguration: **25th January 2025, Nervi Hall Entrance, Vatican**

«There are two goals of journalism: to protect democracy and to help people cope with daily life. Investigations are important, but so is proposing solutions to what does not work». This beautiful sentence, which summarizes in a few words the meaning of journalism—especially in times when daily life is plagued by terrible events in every corner of the world—is the mantra of **Styli Charalambous**, co-founder of the South African *Daily Maverick*. This publication, launched in 2009 by a start-up of five people (today numbering more than a hundred) has been experiencing great success.

On the occasion of the opening of the Holy Year, whose motto is “Pilgrims of Hope,” journalists **Francesco Antonioli** and **Gerolamo Fazzini**, reflecting on these themes, pondered how journalism, beyond legitimate denunciations, can also communicate trust and the anticipation of a better future. They also considered what the Jubilee that has just begun has to say to the world of communicators and the media. From these questions came the idea for the exhibition “**COMMUNICATING HOPE. OTHER INFORMATION IS POSSIBLE,**” an initiative promoted by the Society of St. Paul and the Daughters of St. Paul, with the patronage of the **Dicastery for Evangelization** and the **Dicastery for Communication**. The project was entrusted to the agency **Mediacor for its realization**, under the direction of Paolo Pellegrini and Simona Borello.

The exhibition will be displayed for the first time at the entrance of Nervi Hall in the Vatican on January 25, the opening day of the Jubilee of the World of Communications. A second copy will immediately be exhibited at the **Basilica of Mary, Queen of the Apostles**, a significant venue for the Institutes of the Society of St. Paul and the Daughters of St. Paul. It will subsequently become itinerant in the succeeding months (it will also be possible to book the exhibition for initiatives held at institutions, cultural centers, parishes, and organizations). The exhibition project also has the patronage of COPERCOM (Coordination of Associations for Communication), FESMI (Federation of Italian Missionary Press), FISC (Italian Federation of Catholic Weeklies), the METER Association, UCSI (Italian Catholic Press Union), and WeCa (Association of Italian Web Catholics).

In **24 concise panels**, presented with an engaging graphic design, the exhibition issues to communication professionals a strong appeal, based on Pope Francis' invitations that call for a shared responsibility. The exhibition, available in multiple languages through a dedicated QR code, encourages each individual to reflect on his or her role in service to the community, in order to strengthen the civic dimension of the communicator's profession, all the more so if it is rooted in Christian values.

The panels are full of data, news, stories, and up-to-date statistics. Among the many interesting insights that emerge from scrolling through them is what is highlighted by the *Digital News Report*, the most authoritative study that exists on media and information trends, conducted annually by the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism. The 2024 edition presents a landscape in deep transformation, outlining several trends: the feeling among many users of **information overload**, which is difficult to manage; the media's **focus on bad news**; and a **credibility crisis** among information providers. All of this contributes to the phenomenon known as "**news avoidance**," the turning away from information by a growing segment of the public, a finding that has worrying implications with regard to the quality of democracy.

The exhibition seeks to shed light on the reasons behind the public's disengagement from the news, while also aiming to highlight other possible models of positive communication. It gives voice to numerous examples of journalists, both from the distant and recent past who are well-known or less

so, and who have distinguished themselves as credible witnesses—sometimes at the cost of their lives—for their passion for truth and their tireless pursuit of justice. Figures such as Walter Tobagi, Ilaria Alpi, James Foley, and Maria Ressa are featured, as well as individuals who embody and promote constructive journalism. These communicators, regardless of affiliations, faiths, orientations, and geographic origins, are capable of spreading hope through journalism focused on finding solutions, rather than solely concentrating on denouncing what does not work.

“To fully participate in the celebration of the Jubilee of the World of Communications,” says the work team of the Society of St. Paul and the Daughters of St. Paul, “our Institutes have come together to carry out several initiatives, including this itinerant exhibition, which aims to highlight the relevance of the theme of the Jubilee: Pilgrims of Hope. This is our contribution to underline the theological and practical importance of hope in addressing contemporary crises. The itinerant exhibition seeks to highlight the commitment of many who have lived the values of the journalistic profession, even at the cost of their lives, becoming active agents of hope, embodying mercy and justice in their vital service of information to society, and nurturing its ethical conscience.”

The exhibit concludes with the rediscovery of the fruitful legacy of Father Giacomo Alberione and Sister Tecla Merlo, founders and prophetic inspirers of their time, figures whose message deserves to be reread and repropounded even today.

“The commitment to communicating hope,” declare the two journalists Francesco Antonioli and Gerolamo Fazzini, authors of the texts, “is a passion that transcends the boundary between believers and non-believers. It is a civic passion for the search for truth and for the firm defense of democracy: precisely for this reason, it is a journalism that is upright, honest, impartial, and capable of guiding us toward the future, because it can authoritatively distinguish facts from commentary. With this interpretive key, we have presented some witnesses from the last century and the present time who have tried to live and testify to these values.”

The Pauline initiatives for the Jubilee will continue starting on the afternoon of Saturday, January 25, at 3:00 PM, at the Basilica of Mary, Queen of the Apostles in Montagnola, in one of the official panel discussions of the day. The symposium, entitled “*From Competition to Collaboration: New Media as*

Vectors of Hope for Young People in a Conflicted World,” will focus in particular on new media, their future, and their influence in today's society.

Fr. Stefano Stimamiglio, director of *Famiglia Cristiana*, will moderate the conference. The following speakers will be in attendance: **Professor Andrea Casavecchia** of the Department of Education Sciences at the University of Roma Tre; **Rosario Carello**, Rai Journalist; **Franco Vaccari**, Founder and President of *Rondine - Cittadella della Pace*; **Sr. Bruna Fregni**, General Councilor of the *Daughters of St. Paul*; **Ivano Zoppi**, Secretary General of the *Carolina Foundation*; and **Orsola Vetri**, Journalist of *Famiglia Cristiana*.

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