



AI Ethics:

An Abrahamic Commitment to the Rome Call

10th January 2023 | 17th Jumada al-Thani 1444 | 17 Tevet 5783

Vatican City

اخلاقيات الذكاء الاصطناعي :

التزام ديانات العائلة الابراهيمية ببناء روما

10 يناير 2023 17 جمادى الثانية 1444





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**ADDRESS OF HIS HOLINESS  
POPE FRANCIS**

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To Participants in the “Rome Call” Meeting  
Promoted By the Renaissance Foundation

Tuesday, 10 January 2023

Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished Authorities,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I thank Archbishop Paglia for his kind words, and extend my greeting to Rabbi Eliezer Simha Weisz and Sheikh Abdallah bin Bayyah. I likewise greet Mr Brad Smith, President of Microsoft, Mr Dario Gil, Global Vice-President of IBM, and Mr Maximo Torero Cullen, Chief Economist of FAO, the first signatories of the Rome Call, as well as the members of the various delegations here present.

I am grateful to the Pontifical Academy for Life and to the Renaissance Foundation, for their commitment in promoting, through the Rome Call, a shared ethics regarding the great challenges that lie ahead in the area of artificial intelligence. After the first signing in 2020, today's event also sees the involvement of the Jewish and Islamic delegations, who are looking at so-called artificial intelligence with a perspective inspired by the words of the Encyclical [Fratelli Tutti](#). In agreeing on promoting a culture that places this technology at the service of the common good of all and of the care of our common home, you are offering an example to many others. Fraternity among all is the precondition for ensuring that technological development will also be at the service of justice and peace throughout the world.

We are all aware of how artificial intelligence is increasingly present in every aspect of daily life, both personal and social. It affects the way we understand the world and ourselves. Innovation in this field means that these tools are increasingly decisive in human activity and even compelling in human decision-making. I encourage you, then, to continue in this endeavour. I am pleased to know that you also wish to involve the other great world religions and men and women of goodwill so that “algor-ethics” – ethical reflection on the use of algorithms – will be increasingly present not only in public debate, but also in the development of technical solutions. Indeed, every person must be able to enjoy a human and supportive development, without anyone being excluded. We must therefore be vigilant and work to ensure that the discriminatory use of these instruments does not take root at the expense of the most fragile and excluded. Let us always remember that the way we treat the last and least of our brothers and sisters speaks of the value we place upon all human life. We could take the example of asylum seekers: it is not acceptable that the decision about someone's life and future be entrusted to an algorithm.

The Rome Call can be a useful tool for a common dialogue among all, in order to foster a humane development of new technologies. In this regard, I would reiterate that, “in the encounter between different visions of the world, human rights represent an important point of convergence in the search for common ground. At present, there would seem to be a need for renewed reflection on rights and duties in this area. The scope and acceleration of the transformations of the digital era have in fact raised unforeseen problems and situations that challenge our individual and collective ethos” ([Address to the Plenary Assembly of the Pontifical Academy for Life](#), 28 February 2020). The accessions to the Rome Call, which have increased over time, are a significant step towards promoting a digital anthropology, with three fundamental coordinates: ethics, education and law.

I willingly express my support for the generosity and dynamism with which you have committed yourselves, and I invite you to continue, with boldness and discernment, in searching for ways that will lead to an ever greater involvement of all those who have the good of the human family at heart.

Upon all of you, I invoke God’s blessing: May God bless all of you, that your journey may unfold with serenity and peace, in a spirit of cooperation. May my blessing also accompany you, and, please, do not forget to pray for me. Thank you!



# **SPEECH OF H.E. SHAYKH ABDALLAH BIN BAYYAH**

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President, Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace  
Chairman, UAE Fatwa Council

Tuesday, 10 January 2023

## **In The Name of God, The Merciful, The Most Compassionate**

Praise be to God, Lord of the worlds, and prayers and peace upon our master Muhammad, the last of the prophets, and upon his brothers the prophets and messengers of God.

Speech of His Excellency Sheikh Abdallah bin Bayyah

Given at *The Ethics of Artificial Intelligence:*

*The Commitment of the Abrahamic Religions to the Rome Call*

Vatican City, 10th January 2023

Your Excellencies and Eminences,

I greet each of you by your beautiful names and qualities,

Peace, mercy, and the blessings of God be upon you.

At the outset, I am pleased to extend my sincere thanks to the organizers of this valuable initiative that focuses on the important topic, inspired by the 2020 Rome Call for AI Ethics and a continuation of its work.

The importance of this subject is evident since humanity has become, in a certain way, hostage to dangerous scientific developments such as nuclear weapons that have spread fear and terror in the heart of humanity, many of whom live under the threat of nuclear war that portends the possible annihilation of our species itself

Dear participants,

Religions, at their core, seek to secure humanity's quest for happiness in both this world and the next. Therefore, all of our religious traditions urge us to seek out the means of felicitous wellbeing. In this regard, the religion of Islam encourages the acquisition of knowledge, seeking an understanding of the universe, and a perpetual increase in learning. The Qur'an states, "Say, 'My Lord, increase me in knowledge.'" Knowledge, in its exhaustive meaning, of



which we perpetually seek an increase includes both religious and worldly knowledge, which is the foundation of any successful civilization both spiritually and materially. Thus, when religious civilizations flourished, discoveries and inventions were made that enhanced human life. Religion was not a hindrance to innovation, but rather a stimulus that motivated creativity and achievement.

However, religious laws and commandments, in their endeavour to promote wellbeing and guidance, are keen to ensure that achievements in science and technological take into account ethical frameworks that preserve human dignity and the nobility of man, and, most importantly, protect life itself.

In this context, AI is among the most momentous creative innovations of human genius that have emerged moving from theory to application in a very short time. Its use now spans both the private and public sectors, and whilst it has already succeeded in various fields, its development continues due to a passion for innovation, invention, and sustained investment. Hardly a field today exists that is not directly involved in it, especially healthcare, transportation, education, training, and manufacture.

Thus, these technologies opened the door to a wide range of potentials and promising opportunities in various fields that can contribute to improving human life, and this is something we support and encourage. However, along with the great potential offered by these technologies, they also open the door to risks and fears of abuse and misuse, which could lead to catastrophic consequences for our shared humanity.

I do not wish to be pessimistic here in the manner of the Arab poet Abu al-Fath al-Busti who described man's toil as akin to a silkworm weaving itself into annihilation. He stated:

*Man toils like the silkworm which spends its life weaving only to perish confused inside its woven creation.*

Nonetheless, many forms of AI raise philosophical and ethical questions related to liberty, free will, and responsibility which call for a careful response. For example:

1. Who is responsible for the mistakes of artificial intelligence?
2. What will happen to communication between humanity because of these technologies?

3. How will artificial intelligence affect our behaviour and consequent actions?
4. How do we avoid artificial intelligence failures?
5. How do we control a system that may prove smarter than we are?
6. How can we be safe from the unintended consequences of artificial intelligence programs?

Not to mention the many questions that will unfold with time.

These dangers could pose a threat to humanity from the perspective of what we Muslims term the five protected universals: religion, life, reason, property, and human integrity, the last of which includes family and individual human dignity. The preservation of these five higher objectives of our sacred law remains an overarching priority. Artificial intelligence may pose a threat to life as an uncontrolled weapon used against humanity. It also poses a danger to human integrity because of the absence of privacy and the subsequent violation of information security. It may also cause the loss of money and property through electronic theft, piracy, and intrusions. Moreover, it can cause further division and disunity in societies by contributing to the spread of false information and misleading news and influencing voter opinions.

In the light of this, concerned religious leaders, technology companies, government actors, and others must cooperate to maximize the benefits of these technologies and reduce their risks. They must do so by developing an ethical framework aimed at ensuring that the development of artificial intelligence complies with high and strict ethical standards which preserve human dignity and moral integrity.

To this end, it is necessary first to agree on the importance and the necessity of this matter, because failure to implement it threatens us with dire consequences, both morally and materially. Second, we must cooperate and participate as an alliance in designing an ethical framework that guides developers and helps them respond to the requirements of ethics with the demands of creativity and innovation.

This desired ethical system should be based on innate moral values, which are values common to all people, upon which no two people differ, and which are not affected by the vicissitudes of time, place, and human impulse. These are the natural rights of every human being by the very virtue of his or her

humanity. “They are Divinely-granted rights granted to both the believer and the atheist,” as stated in the first amendment of the Charter of *The New Alliance of Virtue* in 2019.

These ethics include the values of virtue, mutual respect, solidarity, and cooperation in benevolence and the common good, as well as the values of honesty, justice, sincerity, integrity, responsibility, and transparency. These include the central values in the ethical system of all religions and worthwhile human philosophies.

The integration of this ethical system in the development of AI has many advantages for both the end users of these products and their developers because these ethical frameworks give them a clearer vision of what should be worked on, with a list of priorities and clear objectives.

Technical development must develop and focus on the existential challenges facing humanity in the areas of health, food, education, and work. Efforts must be made to contribute to the protection of our children from inappropriate content online.

It should also be recalled that the desire for material gain - which is not evil in itself and is in fact supported and supportive of development and production - should not prevail over the values of responsibility and the common good. In addition, focusing on the question of “how?” instead “why?” may lead to the development of products that do not aim at lofty goals and do not serve useful purposes. On the contrary, the question of “why?” leads to the search for the purpose of every act, allowing it to be guided by ethics and higher ideals.

Distinguished participants,

It is important to support AI with ethical standards, solidarity, and cooperation so that its development can be increasingly beneficial. The proposed ethical framework may serve analogously to a brake which protects cars from collision and destruction, or as a compass that guides ships in the midst of a vast ocean. Therefore, what we require today involves an awakened conscience that remains vigilant regarding the unintended consequences of artificial intelligence, so that these systems may eventually become self-regulatory.

In sum, laws and regulators must set standards that ensure the prevention of harm to individuals and societies by companies developing artificial intelligence applications. The Prophet (peace be upon him) says, “There should be

no harm nor reciprocation of harm.” This principle is a governing principle because it suppresses the human desire for wealth under the pretext of development and discovery if this involves harm or reciprocation of harm with others. It also protects researchers and scholars from interference in their work as long as their work does not lead to harming others or reciprocating the harm from others.

Finally, the prosperity and stability of societies is not measured by technical and economic advances alone. Rather, it requires the ability to enrich the world with valuable content and noble ideals, and it needs a comprehensive view of life based on harmony, coexistence, and cooperation. All of this confirms the need for ethical frameworks that illuminate the path and guide us upon it.

These sentiments reflect well the vision of our country, the United Arab Emirates, which is rooted in rational foundations coupled with high developmental aims, the most important of which include a positive outlook at the outset, effectiveness in implementation, and excellence in all of our endeavours. These were the values that the founding leader, Sheikh Zayed, may God have peace upon his soul, built the UAE upon. This legacy has been continued by his noble sons and is conserved under the auspices of the UAE’s President, His Royal Highness, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, may God Almighty protect him, in his endeavour to make the United Arab Emirates a leading centre for innovation which includes artificial intelligence advancement.

I thank you once again for this kind invitation, and I wish our meeting every success.

Peace, mercy, and blessings of God be upon all of you.



**AI ETHICS:  
AN ABRAHAMIC COMMITMENT  
TO THE ROME CALL**

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10th January, 2023, Vatican City

*Joint Declaration*

## Preamble

The development of Artificial intelligence (AI) is already changing lives across the world. As its power grows, this change will prove as great as the industrial revolution, changing the nature of work, the possibilities of manufacture, and opening possibilities to deal with humanity's great challenges. But all great changes bring the capacity for good and for harm. Whether the development of AI is truly beneficial to all is in our hands.

In February 2020, a group of organizations led by the Vatican signed in Rome a "Call for AI Ethics", seeking to foster an ethical approach to AI. The Rome Call sought to promote a sense of responsibility among governments, businesses and institutions to think carefully about the ethical development of AI technologies, serving human creativity and respecting human dignity.

The Rome Call recognizes that new technologies and vast changes in human experience do not come with innate ethical constraints. It is incumbent on those of good will, from all walks of life, to look to the future, laying out frameworks for the ethical use of new technologies that envision the vast changes and opportunities that they create. If such action waits until the potential of new technologies is realized, it is too late.

Religious leaders, ethicists and theologians have essential roles to play in this endeavor. The religions that they serve place the inherent dignity of the human being, as something given by God, at the heart of their concepts of social relations and development. Their ethical approaches are not utilitarian, but absolute: we seek human flourishing because we are commanded to by our creator. We seek the welfare of the most vulnerable because in each individual, however weak, there is the spirit of God. Such a shared commitment to the value and well-being of every individual was expressed in the Charter of the New Alliance of Virtues signed in December 2019.

The three religions of the Abrahamic family, sharing basic ethical values derived from their shared history and development, should particularly seek opportunities to work together for an ethical vision of a world changed by AI.

## Declaration

Mindful of the Rome Call and the duties incumbent upon us in a world in which 80 per cent of people declare a faith,

We, representatives of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel's Commission for Inter-religious Relations, the Pontifical Academy for Life and Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace, having deliberated on

- The need for religious freedom in the promotion of human flourishing;
- The requirement for an ethical approach to the opportunities presented by AI;
- The complexities of AI and the challenges of international regulation;
- The vital contributions of religious leaders to a well-functioning polity and good governance;
- Our common concern for the most vulnerable in our societies and the requirement for equitable economic and technological development;
- The opportunities for inter-religious cooperation in the development of ethical frameworks for AI;

Acknowledged that technological development can have unintended consequences that lead to division and violence, and that this is especially true when development occurs without prior ethical consideration, frameworks, and a view to mutual human flourishing; and that our societies do not always affirm human dignity or promote peace.

Recognized and accepted that voluntary regulation is insufficient for the pace and scale of technological progress, and that new forms of international regulation must be encouraged to promote transparency and compliance with ethical principles.

Affirmed our role, as religious and political leaders and representatives, to build and uphold the principles of human dignity, freedom, "algorithcs", protection for the vulnerable and the common good.

We are mindful of the fact that, in the past, religion and religious differences have been exploited to exacerbate conflict, violence, the loss of life and property, and to gain political privilege. Accordingly, we stand together as an alliance of virtue, in pledging to do our utmost to work for peace and global

fraternity and to avoid future exploitation of religions and their adherents. Committed ourselves to promote “algorithethics”, namely an ethical framework for the development and use of AI, by means of the following principles:

1. Transparency: on principle, AI systems must be clear and explicable.
2. Inclusion: the needs of all human beings must be taken into consideration so that everyone can benefit, and all individuals can be offered the best possible conditions to express themselves constructively.
3. Responsibility: those who design and deploy the use of AI should do so in a responsible manner and with integrity.
4. Impartiality: tools of AI should not be developed with bias, but should strive to be fair, honest, and protect human dignity.
5. Reliability: every effort must be made to ensure that AI systems work reliably.
6. Security and privacy: AI systems must ensure security and respect the privacy of users.

## **Call to Action**

We call upon all stakeholders, including but not limited to business, developers, governments, civil society, and academics to

- Uphold the algorithethics principles, enshrining them in company policies and developing international regulation to maintain them;
- For those in authority or positions of power to refrain from the development of AI technologies for partisan, national or individual gain;
- For governments to refrain from the weaponization of AI technologies, which threatens the peaceful co-existence of us all.

We urge those engaged in AI research and development to consider the ethical ramifications of any advancements, to collaborate with ethicists, and to adhere to the cautionary principle in areas of moral concern.

We propose the creation of an alliance between technology companies and leaders representing most of the religious and ethical traditions of the world.

We hereby commend this joint declaration as a companion to the “Rome Call for AI Ethics,”

Rome, 10 January 2023; 17 Jumada II 1444 AH; 17 Tevet 5783





**AI ETHICS:  
AN ABRAHAMIC COMMITMENT  
TO THE ROME CALL**

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10th January, 2023, Vatican City

*Press Release*

## VATICAN CITY, 10th January 2023

“We have gathered with our Jewish and Muslim brothers in an event of great importance to call upon the world to think and act in the name of brotherhood and peace - even in the field of technology. The signing of the Rome Call by Jewish and Muslim religious leaders and the joint call for algoethics to guide the design of artificial intelligence refer precisely to the increasingly urgent need to build paths of peace, mutual respect, dialogue and community. With these words, Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Pontifical Academy for Life and the RenAIssance Foundation, welcomed the participants in a unique event at the Vatican today, which brought together leading religious representatives and international technology key players, such as Microsoft and IBM.

Promoted by the Vatican’s RenAIssance Foundation, the United Arab Emirates’ Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace and the Chief Rabbinate of Israel’s Commission for Interfaith Relations, the event consisted of two parts.

The opening remarks, institutional greetings and reflections were presented by the attending religious leaders: Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia; Chief Rabbi Eliezer Simha Weisz (Member of the Council of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel), and HE Sheikh Al Mahfoudh Bin Bayyah (Secretary General of the Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace), on behalf of HE Sheikh Abdallah bin Bayyah (President of the Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace, Chair of the Emirates Council for Shariah Fatwa).

“Judaism extols the wisdom of humanity, created in the Divine Image of God manifest generally in human innovation and in Artificial Intelligence in particular”, stated Chief Rabbi Weisz. “We are enjoined to bless such endeavor with the formula «Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who imparts from His glory to flesh and blood.» However, at the same time there must be a creative tension between human creativity and the moral guidance that flows from our connection to the Creator of the Universe, the Source of all wisdom; for without such, there is a danger to the uniqueness and vocation of the human person created in the Divine Image, and an existential danger is posed to humanity in general”.

HE Sheikh Abdallah bin Bayyah (President of the Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace, Chair of the Emirates Council for Shariah Fatwa) sent a video message in which he stated: “Religions, at their core, seek to secure man’s felicity in both this world and the hereafter. Therefore, they urge us to seek out its means of actualization. In this regard, the religion of Islam encourages the acquisition of knowledge, seeking an understanding of the universe, and a perpetual increase in learning. The Holy Qur’an states, “Say, ‘My Lord, increase me in knowledge.’” The knowledge of which we seek an increase includes both religious and worldly knowledge, which is the foundation of a successful society, both spiritually and materially.” He explained, “Religions and laws, in their endeavor to promote wellbeing and guidance, are keen to ensure that scientific and technological innovations and achievements take into account ethical frameworks that preserve the dignity and nobility of man, and in fact protect his life.”

Then Father Paolo Benanti, Extraordinary Professor of Ethics of Technologies at the Pontifical Gregorian University and Scientific Director of the RenAIssance Foundation, delivered a keynote speech, in which he reminded the participants of the urgency of developing algorethics, stating: «Developing an algorethics that respects people and their rights means to clarify the sense of our values. In fact, algorithms work on numerical values. While ethics, on the other hand, addresses moral values. We must create a language that can translate moral values into something computable for the machine. However, in the man-machine relationship, the true expert and bearer of values is man. Human dignity and rights point out that man must be protected in the man-machine relationship.»

Father Paolo Benanti’s keynote was followed by the signing of the Rome Call by the religious leaders.

The delegation was then received by the Pontiff. Pope Francis renewed his interest in the ethical development of artificial intelligence, stating: “I am glad to know that you also want to involve the other great world religions and men and women of goodwill so that “algor-ethics”, that is ethical reflection on the use of algorithms, be increasingly present not only in the public debate, but also in the development of technical solutions. Every person, in fact, must be able to enjoy human and supportive development, without anyone being excluded”. The Pontiff added then a reflection about asylum seekers, saying:

“It is not acceptable that the decision on the life and fate of a human being should be entrusted to an algorithm. The Rome Call can be a useful tool for a common dialogue between all, in order to foster a humane development of new technologies”.

After the papal audience, the floor was given to the partners who first signed the call in February 2020. They confirmed their commitment to the design and implementation of an artificial intelligence that follows the principles of this call.

“We must ensure that AI remains a tool created by humanity for humanity,” said Brad Smith, Vice Chair and President of Microsoft. “AI will advance even more rapidly in 2023, and it’s imperative that we guide this work with a strong commitment to high ethical standards and a broad sense of societal responsibility.”

“That the great Abrahamic monotheistic religions have come together to reflect and act on the implications of the rapidly advancing frontiers of science and technology, as exemplified by artificial intelligence, is of historical importance,” said Darío Gil, Senior Vice President and Director of Research, IBM. “IBM is an institution that has been responsibly advancing such frontiers for over a century, and we believe it will be the quest of all of society, and of all our institutions, including religious ones, to reason through the moral and ethical implications of great scientific and technological advances. We are proud to reaffirm our commitment to the Rome Call for AI Ethics, and we look forward to realizing its vision in partnership with all its signatories and allies.”

“FAO is honoured to be one of the first signatories and supporters of the Rome Call for Ethics, and would like to congratulate the commitment, and multi-religious support for this important common cause moving forward”, said Maximo Torero Cullen, FAO Chief Economist.

In the second part of the day, leading speakers discussed the ethics of technology and artificial intelligence in particular, analysing the topic from both a religious and secular perspective.

The attending keynote speakers were Prof. Ana Palacio, former Minister for

Foreign Affairs of Spain; Prof. Mario Rasetti, Professor Emeritus of Theoretical Physics at the Politecnico of Turin (Italy) – CENTAI Institute; Dr. Hamza Yusuf, president of Zaytuna College in Berkeley (CA, US); Prof. Aviad Hachon, President of the Academic Center for Law and Science and former Dean of its Law School; Prof. Sebastiano Maffettone, Director of Ethos – LUISS Guido Carli University of Rome (Italy).

After the experts' speeches, a joint declaration prepared by the representatives of the three Abrahamic religions was officially read out. The declaration can be downloaded from the website [www.romecall.org](http://www.romecall.org)

“The joint signature to the Rome Call by the three Abrahamic religions - a unique event for its social and cultural magnitude,» Msgr. Vincenzo Paglia concluded, «will raise global awareness of the urgency of ethical approaches to AI in areas, such as education, health, social equality and law.”

As the day drew to a close, Msgr. Paglia announced the next event that will be organised by the RenAIssance Foundation to promote the Rome Call for AI Ethics: namely, the signing of the call by leaders of the Eastern religious traditions in July 2023 in Japan.

The video of the event is available at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKvvmg5jI\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKvvmg5jI_g)

## TO LEARN MORE

- **The Rome Call for AI Ethics**

The Rome Call for AI Ethics ([www.romecall.org](http://www.romecall.org)) was signed in February 2020 by some of the world's leading tech companies (Microsoft and IBM), together with the FAO and representatives of the Italian Government. The Call binds its signatories to comply with its principles, in terms of transparency, inclusion, accountability, impartiality, reliability, security and privacy.

- **An inter-religious signature**

Religions have played and will continue to play a crucial role in shaping a world in which the human being is at the centre of the concept of development. For this reason, an ethical development of artificial intelligence must be approached from an inter-religious perspective.

The potential of an inter-religious event lies in the impact of its message. Faced with the radical transformations that digital and intelligent technologies are producing in society, the three Abrahamic religions together provide guidance for humanity's search for meaning in this new era.

Essential for building solidarity and peace and strengthening relationships between the East and the West, inter-religious dialogue must be promoted in all aspects of life, including technology and modern science. Covid-19 has demonstrated how technology (and in particular, artificial intelligence) is ubiquitous and deeply embedded in our lives. For technological achievements to be used for the benefit of all, in the promotion of human dignity, equality and justice; and for tools, such as social media or their future versions, to be used to promote shared values, such as human brotherhood, instead of division and mistrust, the human society must adopt *algorithethics*, i.e., the ethical development of algorithms, designed, discussed and agreed upon by all the people of goodwill.

- **RenAIssance Foundation**

The signature of the Rome Call for AI Ethics by the Abrahamic religions is the first major event promoted and organized by the RenAIssance Foundation. The Foundation was established on 12th April 2021 by Pope Francis as a public canonical juridical personality; it is an instrumental body of the Pontifical Academy for Life, where it is headquartered, in the Vatican City State. The non-profit RenAIssance Foundation aims to support the anthropological and ethical reflection of new technologies on human life, promoted by the Pontifical Academy for Life. It is registered in the register of NPOs (Non-Profit Organisations) of the Governorate of Vatican City State.

- **The Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace (ADFfP)**

was established by HE Shaykh Abdallah bin Bayyah in 2014 under the patronage of Sheikh Abdallah bin Zayed, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates. The vision of the ADFfP was to address the crises facing global Islam from within the framework of the Islamic theological and jurisprudential tradition, applied to local contexts. Over 1,000 of the world's Islamic scholars from various backgrounds, as well as academics and thought leaders, attended the ADFfP's launch and continue to participate in its interfaith initiatives. The ADFfP is thus the first global gathering of scholars and experts from multi-disciplinary backgrounds, designed to provide a calling for peace, coexistence and the common good.



## **ABOUT THE COMMISSION OF THE CHIEF RABBINATE OF ISRAEL FOR RELATIONS WITH THE HOLY SEE**

The Commission of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel for Relations with the Holy See was established pursuant to Sant John Paul II's pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the jubilee year 2000, to advance bilateral friendly relations and cooperation as well as to explore issues of common interest and concern .

The current chair is Rabbi Ratzon Aroussi, the chief rabbi of Kiryat Ono, a member of the Chief Rabbinate Council and Professor of Jewish Jurisprudence. Members of the Commission include, Rabbi Eliezer Simchah Weiss, Rabbi Professor Avraham Steinberg and Rabbi David Rosen, and the convener Mr. Oded Wiener former DG of the Chief Rabbinate. They constitute the Jewish delegation that meets regularly with the Catholic delegation of the Pontifical Commission for Religious Relations with Jewry under the presidency of Cardinal Kurt Koch.

The Commission of the Chief Rabbinate is part of another bilateral body constituted with the Anglican Church under the auspices of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Chief Rabbis of Israel, and also interfaces with official representation from other world religions.



## **ABOUT THE PONTIFICAL ACADEMY FOR LIFE**

The Pontifical Academy for Life is a Vatican organization established by Pope Saint John Paul II on 11 February 1994 and renewed by Pope Francis on 2016. The Academy is composed by 160 scientists from all over the world, coming from different fields of scientific research and belonging to the most diverse cultural and religious traditions. The objective of the Pontifical Academy for Life is the defense and promotion of the value of human life and of the dignity of the person. The specific responsibility of the Academy is: to study, from an interdisciplinary perspective, the problems connected with the promotion and defense of human life; to form persons in a culture of life; to inform, in a clear and timely manner, about the most significant results of its own study and research. Since 2016, the president of the Pontifical Academy for Life has been archbishop Vincenzo Paglia.





## ABOUT THE ABU DHABI FORUM FOR PEACE

The Abu Dhabi Forum For Peace, under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Arab Emirates was established during the pinnacle of social strife in the Muslim world following the Arab Spring. The Forum works earnestly to bring an end to conflict and establish peace through facilitating spaces for dialogue and the dissemination of a discourse of moderation. It strives to allow its participants to put behind them the differences of the past and focus on a secure, peaceful societies future together.

The Forum takes an academic and theological approach to the problem of violence, holding that any violent act begins as ideology before emerging as action. Wars are waged in the realm of ideas before they devastate the physical world. Shaykh Abdallah bin Bayyah, the Forum's founder, teaches that we must construct defenses of peace in the heart and mind and inculcate a correct understanding of Islam. This is one of the primary roles of the scholarly elite and religious leadership in our time.

Likewise, the Forum focuses on securing the rights and safety of religious minorities living in Muslim lands. The Marrakesh Declaration launched in 2016, calls on Muslim states to accord the rights of equal citizenship to all minorities in their midst on the basis of The Charter of Madina and the Islamic values of benevolence, solidarity, human dignity, peace, justice, mercy and the common good. Most recently, the Forum has focused on elevating interreligious cooperation from the discourse of shared rights and responsibilities to the heights of a common conscience and genuine loving kindness towards the other. This is profoundly showcased in the promulgation of the 2019 Charter for a *New Alliance of Virtue* and the 2021 Abu Dhabi Charter of *Inclusive Citizenship*.

# CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



His Holiness Pope Francis presented with the Joint Declaration drafted by Abrahamic Faith leaders, alongside senior figures from the tech world



Signing of the Joint Declaration Left to Right:

H.E Sheikh Mahfoudh Bin Bayyah (Secretary General of the Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace), H.E. Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia (President of the Pontifical Academy for Life) & Chief Rabbi Eliezer Simha Weisz (Member of the Council of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel)







Reaffirmation of the Rome Call: Left to Right  
 Signing of the Joint Declaration Left to Right:  
 Brad Smith (President of Microsoft) H.E Sheikh Mahfoudh Bin Bayyah (Secretary General of the Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace), H.E. Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia (President of the Pontifical Academy for Life), Chief Rabbi Eliezer Simha Weisz (Member of the Council of the Chief Rabbinate of Israel), Maximo Torero Cullen (FAO Chief Economist), Dario Gill (Vice President of IBM)



# MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

**Vatican News** @VaticanNews · Jan 10

Pope Francis receives signatories of the Rome Call for AI Ethics, applauding their efforts to safeguard the good of the human family, promote shared ethics and fraternity among all, and be vigilant against misuses of technology and artificial intelligence.



vaticannews.va

Pope: AI Ethics must safeguard the good of human family - Vatican Ne...  
Pope Francis receives signatories of the Rome Call for AI Ethics, promoted by the Pontifical Academy for Life and Renaissance ...

**Pope Francis** @Pontifex · Jan 10

The joint signing of the #RomeCall for #AIEthics by Catholics, Jews and Muslims is a hopeful sign. Religions are accompanying humanity in the development of a technology centered on the human person, thanks to the shared ethical reflection on the use of algorithms. #Algor-ethics

Zeshan Zafar Retweeted

**Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace** @adpeacef... · Jan 13

#منتدى أبوظبي للسلام  
#نداء روما 2020  
#الذكاء الاصطناعي

منتدى أبوظبي للسلام ينضم إلى "نداء روما" لأخلاقيات الذكاء الاصطناعي



wam.ae

منتدى أبوظبي للسلام ينضم إلى "نداء روما" لأخلاقيات الذكاء الاصطناعي  
أبوظبي في 11 يناير / وام / وقع الأمين العام لمنتدى أبوظبي للسلام سعادة الشيخ المحفوظ بن بيه اليوم في القائيكان وثيقة "نداء روما" لأخلاقيات الذكاء الاصطناعي التي

**FAO e-Agriculture** @FAOeagriculture · Jan 10

#HappeningNow Follow the renewed commitment of the major partners @fao ,@IBM ,@Microsoft to the the multi religious signature of the #RomeCall for #AIEthics, to comply with the principles of transparency, inclusion, accountability, impartiality, reliability, security and privacy.



FAO Newsroom and 5 others

**RomeCall** @call\_rome · Jan 10

The first signatories of the Rome Call for #AIEthics renew their commitment to a cause that has the good of all humanity at heart #algorithmeics #interfaith #RomeCall

@call\_rome @PontAcadLife @Microsoft @BradSmi @IBM @IBMItalia @FAO @MaximoTorero @dariogila



**RomeCall** @call\_rome · Jan 10

"The #RomeCall can be a useful tool for common dialogue among all, in order to foster a humane development of the new technologies", said @Pontifex today. #AIEthics #interfaith #algorithmeics @PontAcadLife @PagliaAbp



**FAO e-Agriculture** @FAOeagriculture · Jan 10

👏 @FAO -one of the 1st signatories & supporters of the #RomeCall for #Ethics- congratulated today the commitment 🙌 & multi-religious support 🙌 for this important common cause moving forward.

📖 Read the full PR -> [bit.ly/3QxQmkn](https://bit.ly/3QxQmkn)







newsroom.ibm.com  
**IBM Renews Commitment to Rome Call for AI Ethi...**  
 IBM to reaffirm its commitment to the Rome Call for AI Ethics, a pledge signed in 2020 by the Pontifica...

**Pontifical Academy Life** @PontAcadLife · Jan 10  
 Photogallery @Pontifex\_it @call\_rome @monsapaglia @PagliaAbp @BradSmi  
 @IBM @FAO @Microsoft @VaticanNews



**Brad Smith** @BradSmi · Nov 10, 2022  
 An honor, as always, to be engaged in this important work on artificial intelligence. #RomeCall

**RomeCall** @call\_rome · Nov 10, 2022  
 Preparing new steps for the next signatures of the Call.  
 #algorithcs @paolobenanti @PagliaAbp #Call\_rome  
 @BradSmi @PontAcadLife @monsapaglia



**Zeshan Zafar** @zeshanzafar · Jan 13  
 #Tech gets religion on #AI: Inside the #Vatican summit with Islamic & Jewish leaders, Microsoft & IBM – @geekwire An interview with @BradSmi highlighting importance of religious leaders working with tech world 4 solutions



geekwire.com  
**Tech gets religion on AI: Inside the Vatican summit with Islamic and Je...**  
 It's unusual for tech executives and religious leaders to get together to discuss their shared interests and goals for the future of humanity and...

75 1 1

**Archbishop Paglia** @PagliaAbp · Jan 10  
 The presence of the three Abrahamic religions, come to sign the Rome Call for #AIethics, is a great manifestation of the peace that solidarity brings.  
 @call\_rome @PontAcadLife #algorithcs #interfaith #RomeCall



**Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace** @adpeacef... · Jan 10  
 Official signing today of the Rome Call with HE @MahfoudhSheikh SG @adpeaceforum, HE Archbishop @PagliaAbp of the @PontAcadLife and Chief Rabbi Eliezer Simha Weisz (member of the Council of the Chief Rabbinate) #algorithcs #RomeCall @call\_rome



**Renovatio** @RenovatioOnline · Jan 11  
 Editor-in-Chief Hamza Yusuf recently spoke at a conference held by the Vatican on the ethics and consequences of artificial intelligence. You can watch his presentation around the 6:21:00 mark.  
 you.tu.be/sKvvmg5JLg  
 Here we share some highlights:  
 @sh\_hamzayusuf  
 Show this thread



**Shaykh Dr Umar Al-Qadri** @DrUmarAlQadri · Jan 11  
 Inspiring to witness this historical united effort of Catholics, Jews and Muslims in signing the #RomeCall.

AI must be an inclusive and ethical tool by which the entire world's human rights, dignity and welfare are upheld. #AIethics #AIethics

**Abu Dhabi Forum for Peace** @adpeacef... · Jan 10  
 Official signing today of the Rome Call with HE @MahfoudhSheikh SG @adpeaceforum, HE Archbishop @PagliaAbp of the @PontAcadLife and Chief Rabbi Eliezer Simha Weisz (member of the Council of the Chief Rabbinate) #algorithcs #RomeCall @call\_rome





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