

### **What was the purpose of the April 2016 Nonviolence & Just Peace conference?**

The conference was an initial step in a new global initiative reaffirming the centrality of active nonviolence to the vision and message of Jesus, to the life of the Catholic Church, and to the long-term vocation of healing and reconciling both people and the planet.

### **How was the Vatican involved in the conference?**

The Vatican's Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace (PCJP) [now part of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development] was an official co-sponsor of the conference, along with [Pax Christi International](#). The PCJP staff was involved in reviewing the purpose, determining the participant list, assisting in the logistics, and participating in the conference. About nine staff persons were present for most of the conference and some had input in the drafting of the outcome document. Cardinal Peter Turkson, president of the PCJP, opened the conference by reading a letter from Pope Francis, shared some of his own reflections, offered input in the consensus session for the outcome document, and celebrated the closing Mass. The cardinal has shared the outcome document with Pope Francis, who, after the conference, signaled a desire for the next Synod of Bishops to be on the topic of global peace.

<https://nonviolencejustpeace>.