

Scholas Occurrentes. For a pedagogy of the Encounter

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What is Scholas Occurrentes?

Scholas is an international non-profit public good entity promoted by Pope Francis that works with schools and educational communities both public and private, of all religious and secular confessions to restore the educational pact. As a civil society organization, it seeks the commitment of all social actors to implement **the culture of encounter** for peace through education.

It is an initiative aimed at young people from all over the world that has its origin in the City of Buenos Aires in 2001 when *Jorge Bergoglio* was Archbishop under the name of "School of **Neighbors**" and "Sister **Schools**", integrating students from public and private schools, of all religions in order to educate young people in the commitment to the common **good**.

Scholas is born from an educational debt... the lack of direction. It is set in motion after the objective of reuniting what was broken: technique with passion, reason with feeling, life with education.

Scholas generates spaces for young people from all over the world to live a path of educational experiences that, from the difference, highlights the unique and therefore beautiful of each one, and the party that is created by sharing it.

What is its mission?

It seeks to generate a paradigmatic change in education through the integration of educational communities with a focus on those with fewer resources through the commitment of all. Relying on **technology** to design the global classroom, bring through **art** a poetic sense of living and **sport** showing the play for the sake of playing, thus recovering the educational pact to make an integrated and peaceful society a reality.

Achieve the integration of communities, especially those with fewer resources, through the commitment of all social actors, integrating schools and educational networks around the world based on technological, sports and artistic proposals.

What is the Scholas Occurrentes Chair of the Catholic University of Valencia?

The "Open Chair Scholas Occurrentes" arises on the occasion of the signing of an agreement with the Pontifical Law Entity *Scholas Occurrentes* created by Pope Francis.

It promotes in the educational community, and especially in young people, lifestyles that allow them to intervene on reality to transform it from a **model based on the Social Doctrine of the Church and Christian humanism**.

We intend to generate a space for reflection and action in which all educational agents have an impact on reality, humanizing education, accompanying processes and relationships that help awaken the consciences of educational agents in favor of the common good.

The Chair promotes the culture of encounter through projects, formative actions, awareness-raising and research.

- Projects: encompass the disciplines of technology and play, art, thought and sport, building bridges and bringing young people closer to realities different from their own.
- Formative actions: Service-Learning Course (SLC) in times of *Laudato sí*: Fidelity, Active Citizenship and Social Justice, a methodology that attends to the integral formation of the person, as well as the commitment to the other in favor of the common good.

- Awareness-raising actions: against human trafficking, "Together against trafficking", attendance at congresses and seminars related to Scholas pedagogy.
- Research: the multidisciplinary team of the Chair has published the book *"The educational horizon for integral ecology. Keys to a culture of encounter and social justice"*



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<https://www.scholasoccurrentes.org/en/>