

**Dominicans**  
for justice and peace



**2025**

**Annual  
Report**

2025

# Annual Report

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# A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear FRIENDS,

Pope Leo's luminous words before the Spanish Parliament reaffirm the very reason for our presence at the United Nations:

*The reflections of the School of Salamanca – and in particular those of Fray Francisco de Vitoria, along with other Dominicans and Jesuits – helped to shape a legal and moral consciousness capable of remembering that authority always entails responsibility and that every human being must be recognized as a subject of rights and duties. That aspiration continues to resonate today: that dignity, justice and the common good should be the measure of social relations, both at the national and international levels.*

On the eve of the Holy Father's arrival, the University of Salamanca paid tribute to the pioneering legacy of Francisco de Vitoria by conferring upon him a posthumous doctorate honoris causa in commemoration of the fifth centenary of the School of Salamanca. Pope Leo's apostolic journey to Spain and the jubilee celebration of the School of Salamanca stand as unmistakable signs of the enduring relevance of the Dominican intellectual, theological, and philosophical tradition, and of the necessity of a Dominican presence at the United Nations, alongside that of the Holy See..



It is my pleasure to present the significant contributions of Dominicans for Justice and Peace in 2025. Our engagement with diverse branches of the Dominican Family - in the Solomon Islands, the Dominican Republic, the Philippines, Brazil, and Cameroon - once again demonstrated the transformative power of presence, accompaniment, and solidarity. We listened to communities confronting environmental degradation and the disruptive impact of multinational corporations on local livelihoods; we supported educators in forming a new generation of stewards of God's creation; and we strengthened the Family's commitment to justice, peace, and integral ecology.

From classrooms and community assemblies to the halls of the United Nations, our work reflected a shared conviction: that authentic and lasting change begins within local communities and must be safeguarded through global advocacy.

The achievements of the Delegation in 2025 headed by fr. Aniedi Okure, included the formation of community leaders, the advancement of climate and human rights education, active engagement with the Dominican Family and partners at COP30, and First Prize at the Misesan Cara Climate Action Awards. None of this would have been possible without the dedication of Dominican sisters, brothers, and lay collaborators on the ground, the solidarity of local partners, and confidence in the Order's longstanding tradition of preaching and advocacy on behalf of the poor and vulnerable. Particularly encouraging was the recognition received from the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development: the Dicastery not only commended our work in climate education, but the Prefect personally requested that our Handbook on Climate Change and Human Rights Education be made available through the Laudato Si' Action Platform as a resource for the wider Church. This request has now been fulfilled.

As we look to the future, we remain committed to accompanying the Dominican Family at both the local and international levels: providing formation in integral ecology and justice as important elements for a lasting peace; addressing challenges where they arise while amplifying their implications in international forums; and nurturing hope through faith-filled advocacy rooted in Sacred Scripture and inspired by Catholic Social Teaching. In this way, we seek to contribute, with humility and perseverance, to the building of God's reign where "kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss" (Psalm 85:10).

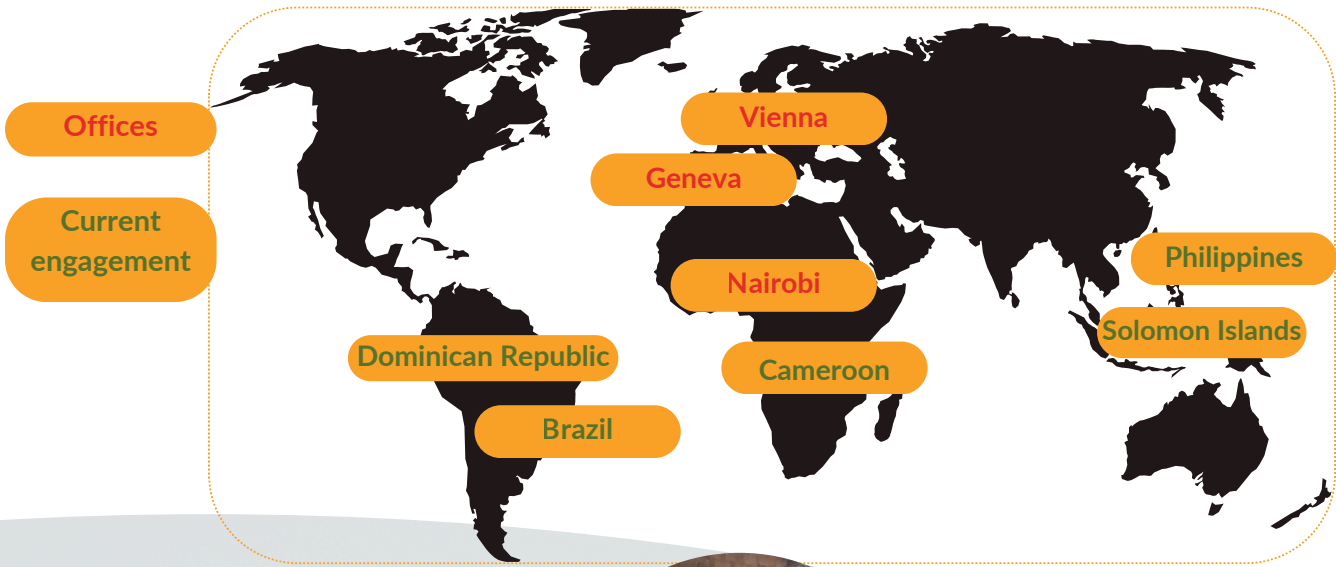
As you can see in the following pages, it is a huge task which fr. Aniedi Okure, our dedicated representative at the UN, and his team cannot sustain without your support.

Sincerely in Christ,

FR. GERARD FRANCISCO TIMONER III, OP  
PRESIDENT

# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

*From local communities to the United Nations*



118

**TRAINEES**

including community leaders, during workshops that strengthened local advocacy on environmental justice and human rights in the Solomon Islands, Cameroon, and the Philippines.



325

**COPIES**

of our Climate Change and Human Rights Education Handbook were distributed across the Visayas and Mindanao regions in the Philippines.



38

**MEMBERS**

of the Dominican Family contributed through statements, ecumenical gatherings, side events, and support for Indigenous communities during the COP30 in Brazil.

# CAPACITY-BUILDING & FIELD WORK

## STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ADVOCACY IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

Dominicans for Justice and Peace conducted a field visit to the Solomon Islands with Franciscan partners to continue accompanying communities affected by logging and mining. Our team met with three local communities, which was essential to better understand their reality on the ground. We then were able to share their concerns with national authorities, including the Ministry of Forestry. We organized a three-day workshop, which brought together community leaders, members of religious networks, and civil society representatives. This aimed to strengthen their advocacy skills locally, and prepare contributions to the United Nations Universal Periodic Review of the Solomon Islands.



“One of my key takeaways from the workshop is that we need to involve more women in the decision-making, especially at the local level. (...) We need to work all together, especially with the civil society and other stakeholders, so that we can help our people address what has been damaged by the companies.”

Sr. Teresa Tebaia, OP

## SUPPORTING DOMINICAN PARTNERS IN CAMEROON TO ADVANCE JUSTICE AND PEACE

Our team conducted two online training sessions for members of the Dominican Family in Cameroon to strengthen their engagement in justice and peace initiatives. The sessions explored the biblical foundations of advocacy and provided practical guidance on collecting reliable information and using it effectively in human rights advocacy. This initiative also contributed to the wider efforts of the Dominican Family during the Dominican Month for Peace 2025, dedicated to Cameroon under the theme “Truth and Justice for a Lasting Peace.”

## RAISING AWARENESS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SUGAR INDUSTRY

We brought international attention to human rights concerns linked to the sugar industry in the Dominican Republic, such as forced evictions and the difficult living and working conditions faced by sugarcane workers and their families. Thanks to our involvement, we could participate in providing information for the making of the ARTE documentary called Dirty Sugar. We also engaged with United Nations human rights mechanisms to bring awareness on this issue and call for greater respect for the rights and dignity of affected communities.



## LAUNCHING AN INITIATIVE ON CLIMATE AND HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION IN THE AMAZON

Our team carried out a field visit to Palmas and Porto Nacional, in the Brazilian state of Tocantins, to launch a new project on Climate Change and Human Rights Education for Youth in the Amazon region. The visit aimed to strengthen collaboration with local partners and explore how climate issues are currently addressed in schools. The delegation visited several schools run by Dominican and other Catholic partners, as well as public schools, observing initiatives such as school gardens, tree-planting activities, and resilience projects that connect environmental care with human rights education. Meetings with teachers and school administrators highlighted both strong local commitment and the need for additional training and resources.



# ADVOCACY IN GENEVA

During the 60th session of the Human Rights Council, we co-organized an event highlighting the call made by bishops from the Global South ahead of COP30. Among the speakers, Archbishop Ettore Balestrero, representing the Holy See at the United Nations in Geneva, pointed to how climate change is already affecting basic human needs such as access to food, health, housing, and cultural identity, with the heaviest impact on the most vulnerable communities. The discussion also emphasized the need for COP30 to deliver strong and fair climate decisions that truly respond to people's realities on the ground.



## STATEMENTS

- Oral statement at 58th session of the Human Rights Council (HRC) on multilateralism and the reform of international institutions
- Oral statement at the 59th session of the HRC on the imperative of de-fossilizing our economies
- Oral statement at the 59th session of the HRC on Education, Empowerment, and Action: Defending Human Rights in the Climate Crisis
- COP 30 Call to Action

## REPORTS

- Joint report for the Universal Periodic Review of the Solomon Islands
- [Beyond material loss: exploring non-economic impacts of climate change through faith-based perspective](#)
- Dominicans for Justice and Peace booklet

## EVENTS

- Interfaith Talanoa Dialogue during COP 30
- Presentation on Dominican engagement in justice and peace during an Anglican Lenten gathering in Geneva
- Presentation at the World Café on the human rights impacts of business in the DRC
- Presentation on Climate Change and Human Rights Education initiatives in the Philippines and the Amazon during COP 30

## AD HOC & URGENT ACTION

We continued monitoring evolving situations in Haiti, Myanmar, Venezuela, Ukraine, Palestine. We contributed to a UN Briefing on Haiti in raising concerns from the Dominican family – including issues related to the arms trade.

# ADVOCACY IN VIENNA

## EVENTS

- Regional Preparatory Meeting for Europe for the 15th UN Crime Congress
- The team engaged with the Executive Director of the UNODC and the Chair of 34th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)
- Organization of the meeting of European Promoters on Justice and Peace in Vienna
- Attended the 29th Renovabis Congress on Inviolable and Vulnerable. Human Dignity between Universal Claim and Social Conflict Lines in Europe
- Participation at the UNODC regional workshop on UNTOC in Rome

Active engagement at the five Constructive Dialogues on the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime Review Mechanism. They offer meaningful dialogue with member states on topics including firearms, international cooperation and technical assistance, trafficking in persons, and smuggling of migrants. The team provided first hand experiences from the Dominican family. These testimonies resonated deeply with diplomats and UN officials alike.



# ADVOCACY IN NAIROBI

The main focus this year was the participation in the 7th session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) from 8 to 12 December. Discussions centered on accelerating science-based action to combat the triple planetary crisis: climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. The Delegation of the Dominicans for Justice and Peace participated in open sessions and strengthened the collaboration links with different NGOs. We also partnered with the World Council of Churches, Lutheran World Federation, Caritas Internationalis, All Africa Conference of Churches, Anglican Communion, and Franciscans International on the event “Ethical Pathways to a Just and Resilient Planet”. The event explored how faith-based organisations are supporting communities facing climate disruption.



The Nairobi office regularly shares environmental insights from these conferences with members of the Dominican Family, particularly youth and lay groups in Nairobi, Kenya, as well as with students at the Institut Supérieur Pédagogique de Gety in Gety, DR Congo. As a result of these outreach efforts, these communities have become increasingly engaged in tree planting initiatives aimed at mitigating the impacts of climate change.



# CONNECTING DOMINICANS TO OUR WORK AT THE UN

A group of Dominican brothers and friars from the Provinces of Toulouse and France came to Geneva to experience the Dominican presence at the UN. Aniedi Okure OP and Laurence Blattmer presented on the work and mission of Dominicans for Justice and Peace at the United Nations. Their presentation highlighted the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and showcased both the achievements and the ongoing advocacy and training efforts undertaken by Dominicans for Justice and Peace. During their visit, they toured the Palais des Nations and attended the 59th session of the Human Rights Council.



Fr. Juan Anguerry, Promoter for Justice and Peace of the Province of Peru was a fellow at the delegation during the summer months. He had the opportunity to make an oral presentation at the UN on the need to defossilize our economies. He highlighted the severe current and future human rights harms of fossil fuels on youth - especially in places like the Philippines and the Amazon - and called for a rapid fossil fuel phaseout alongside stronger climate education to empower young people.





*“This experience was for me a particularly meaningful first immersion within the United Nations. I was able to closely follow the work of the Human Rights Council, notably during its 58th session, as well as various side events, which allowed me to better understand the major international issues related to human rights, ecology, and humanitarian aid”*

**Fr. Cyprien El Euch, Intern at the UNOP Geneva Office.**

# CLOSING A 3-YEAR JOURNEY

## ADVANCING CLIMATE EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Philippines is among the most climate-vulnerable countries in the world. For the young people growing up there, climate change is not a future threat, it is already shaping their lives. They deserve to be equipped to act on it.

Dominicans for Justice and Peace supported the integration of climate change and human rights education in Dominican and other Catholic schools. At the heart of the project is the Climate Change and Human Rights Education (CCHRE) Handbook, a practical tool we used to strengthen educators' capacity to integrate climate change and human rights into school curricula.

“

*In 2025, the project's final year, we closed with:*

- 2 intensive workshops in Iloilo and Davao
- Training of 75 teachers and school leaders from 38 schools across Visayas and Mindanao
- Presentation of the Handbook to the Philippines' Department of Education and the Commission on Human Rights
- Global reach extended through digital access, including publication on the Laudato Si' Action Platform
- Facilitated the participation of a teacher from the Philippines at COP30

”





12,481

STUDENTS  
REACHED IN 3  
YEARS



Trained educators are cascading the approach to colleagues, initiating school-based climate actions, and guiding student-led projects. This is the case of Daniel Timbal, a teacher in Davao, who explains: "My students do not only study climate change, they collaborate to solve it".

In 2025, Daniel's work reached the global stage at COP30 when he joined us in Belém, Brazil - a reminder of what becomes possible when a single teacher is equipped and supported. To support long-term institutionalisation, a national secretariat for the Dominican Family for Justice, Peace and Care of Creation was established.

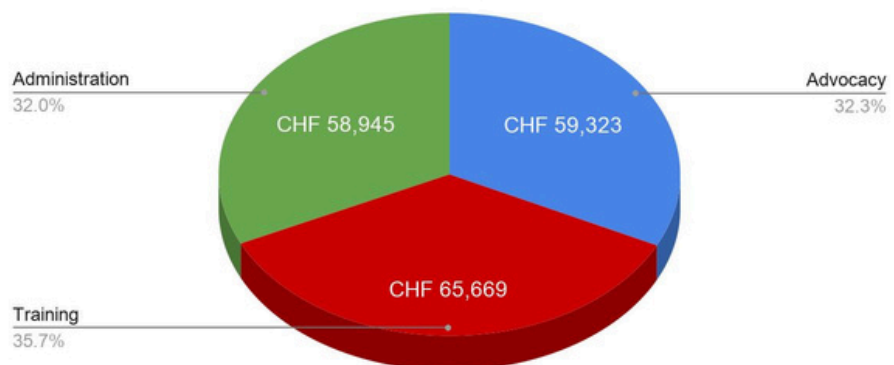
**Our project received international  
recognition,  
winning 1st place at the 2025  
Misean Cara Climate Action  
Awards.**

# FINANCIAL REPORT

2025

	2024	2025
<b>INCOME</b>		
Fundings	144,719.58	142,207.50
Donations	58,691.19	65,402.89
Other incomes	-3,127.11	-5,954.85
<b>Total INCOME</b>	<b>200,283.66</b>	<b>201,655.54</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<b>PROGRAMMES</b>		
Advocacy	81,425.29	59,322.86
Training	45,263.28	65,668.94
Academic engagement	0.00	0.00
<b>Total PROGRAMMES</b>	<b>126,688.57</b>	<b>124,991.80</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES</b>	56,144.15	58,945.30
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>182,832.72</b>	<b>183,937.09</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	17,450.94	17,718.45

Expenses 2025



# OUR TEAM



**Fr. Aniedi Okure, OP**  
Director



**Laurence Blattmer**  
Programme Coordinator  
Geneva



**Enkeleda Papa**  
Project Manager and Interim  
Programme Coordinator  
Geneva



**Cynthia Bringollet**  
Interim Project Manager  
Geneva



**Fr. Günter Reitz**  
Advocacy Officer  
Vienna



**Tobias Krachler**  
Advocacy Officer  
Vienna



**Fr. Steve Sese Okoth**  
Advocacy Officer  
Nairobi



**Jean-Claude Loba Mkole**  
Advocacy Officer  
Nairobi



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Consultant  
Philippines



**Soleil Vinoya**  
Consultant  
Philippines



**Cyprien El Euch**  
Intern



**Charlie Hergott**  
Intern



**Juan Angerry**  
Consultant  
Peru



**Benedict Rimando**  
Project Management &  
Fundraising Volunteer



**Marie Bretton**  
Human Rights Officer  
Volunteer



**Marco Tortora**  
Communications  
Volunteer

# Thank you!

## To Our Donors and Volunteers!

We deeply appreciate the generosity of our donors and volunteers, whose financial and in-kind contributions made our work possible in 2025. As a non-profit organisation, we rely on external support to carry out key initiatives that benefit our partners in various countries. Your commitment enables us to continue this vital work.

Thank you for standing with us!

We are also pleased to continue our internship partnership with Providence College in the United States, which sends us motivated and committed interns each year.

### Donors in 2025:

- Order of Preachers
- Miseen Cara
- Fastenaktion
- Province of Teutonia
- Dominican Sisters from Australia
- Dominican Sisters of Cabra - Sr. Veronica Rafferty
- Couvent St. Dominique Geneva



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