APG23 statement -Social Forum 2012

Globalisation is good in itself, but the actual model behind it, the so called new liberal globalisation, is wrong. A significant number of the driving forces behind the current new-liberal globalisation are, indeed, unfair: prioritising profit at any cost and with every means over the dignity and human rights of individuals; unregulated markets; financial speculations; asymmetric global markets; excessive consumption of goods; an economic model that, in spite of all the evidence of its failure unveiled by the current economic crises - is still centred upon the chase of unlimited growth.

According to the UN Millennium Summit Declaration "the central challenge we face today is to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people [...] Thus, only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future, based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable".

In our era of globalisation, we need a global governance that is super partes, that is legitimate and seeks the common good in respect of the different cultures, of the material and immaterial resources, of the historical and geographical conditions of countries and that applies the principle of subsidiarity. We need the formation of a public global authority that could pursue the common good in an unified world without undermining the legitimacy of the sovereignty of States. This calls for the reform of the United Nations as the only institution that can be super partes providing that the Security Council will be reformed too as well as for the democratic and fair reform of institutions such as WB; IMF and WTO.

One also senses the urgent need to find innovative ways of implementing the principle of the responsibility to protect and of giving poorer nations an effective voice in shared decision-making. This seems necessary in order to arrive at a political, juridical and economic order which can increase and give direction to international cooperation for the development of all peoples in solidarity.

There is a great need to rethink global economy going towards the direction of elaborating macro and micro solidarity economic models as well as forms of solidarity cooperation, and build up an ethical, just, more democratic financial architecture that pursues the common good of humanity. In this regard, we would like to ask the panelists if they know of any macro-economic alternative model that experts at WB, FMI, and other international economic and financial institutions, have already elaborated or are in the process to elaborate.

In our opinion, in order to push further towards the creation of an enabling international and national environment there is need at the UN to create an official coordination mechanism among the concerned thematic Special Rapporteurs, Independent Experts and the Advisory Committee in consultation with all the other stakeholders. This mechanism could be a forum of experts where issues of globalisation, global governance, international solidarity and sustainable development could be further elaborated in order to offer food for thought to the Member States.