



**PLATINUM JUBILEE
OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF CONGO**
April 25, 1957 - April 25, 2027 (70 years)

International Symposium

CALL TO COMMUNICATIONS

GENERAL THEME:

"Universities and the building of a new Humanity"

Place : UCC-Limete/Mont-Ngafula (DRC-Kinshasa)

Dates : April 22-24, 2027

CUC (UCC) Platinum Jubilee: April 25, 2027

1. CONTEXT

The year 2027 marks the seventieth anniversary of the Catholic University of Congo CUC (UCC), which carries on a long academic tradition in service to the Church, the Democratic Republic Congo, Africa and the international scientific community.

Since its creation in 1957, the CUC (UCC) has pursued a mission of teaching, research and service to the Church and to the society, grounded in the evangelical values, the scientific rigor, the dialogue between faith and reason, and the promotion of integral human development.

This Platinum Jubilee is one privileged moment to revisit read the institution's history, assess its contribution to the Congolese, African and world society, and reflect on the challenges facing the University today. With

this in mind, the CUC (UCC) is organizing an international Symposium dedicated to the contribution of Universities to the construction of a new humanity.

2. RATIONAL ARGUMENT

The profound changes characterizing our era are prompting Universities to reconsider their mission. The progress of the artificial intelligence, the digital revolution, the geopolitical changes, the environmental crises, the social inequalities, the armed conflicts, the health challenges and the economic mutations are profoundly altering the relationships between people, institutions and societies. These evolutions present both opportunities and risks. They call into question the place of human beings within scientific, technological, economic and political processes. They also call to a renewed reflection on human dignity, justice, solidarity, peace and the common good.

In his Encyclic Letter *Magnifica Humanitas* dedicated to the protection of the human person to the era of the artificial intelligence, the Holy Father, the Pope Léon XIV recalls that: "*The magnificent humanity created by God is today facing a decisive choice: to erect a new Tower of Babel or to build the city where God and the humanity live in together*". He adds: "*Every generation inherits the task of shaping its own era: to bring history to maturity as a place where the dignity of every person is preserved, justice is promoted and fraternity is made possible*".

These calls find a particular echo in the mission of Universities. These are not merely transmission spaces of knowledge. They are also places for the development of intelligence, critical discernment, scientific innovation, intercultural dialogue and promotion of human dignity.

For Catholic Universities, this mission takes on a special dimension. In light of the Apostolic Constitution "*Ex Rope Ecclesiae*", they are called to promote a permanent dialogue between faith, reason and science so that the scientific progress remains at the service of the human person and the integral development.

In this context, the Catholic University of Congo wishes to provide an international space for reflection, bringing together academics, teachers-researchers, public decision-makers, church leaders, international organizations, professionals, doctoral candidates, and students to address a fundamental questioning: What contribution can Universities bring to the

building of a new humanity – one that is more just, more fraternal, more united and more accomplished?

In answer to this question, contributions are waited in a decidedly interdisciplinary perspective, mobilizing the fields of theology, philosophy, law, politics, economics, social sciences, medicine, technology, environmental and communication studies.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE SYMPOSIUM

4.1. General objective

To contribute, through the University's triple mission (teaching, research and service to society) to the building of a new humanity founded on human dignity, justice, peace, solidarity, responsible innovation and integral human development.

4.2. Specific objectives

The purpose of this conference is to :

- promote a fruitful dialogue between faith, science, technology and culture;
- analyze the contemporary challenges facing higher education in Africa and around the world;
- encourage the interdisciplinary research answering the needs of the modern society;
- reflect on the ethical implications of the artificial intelligence and the emergent technologies;
- reinforce the national and international scientific cooperations;
- propose strategic recommendations for Universities.

5. RESEARCH THEMES

The symposium is organized around six interdisciplinary axes:

1. University, Church and Society

- University, Church and Society
- Building the University of tomorrow

2. Governance, Citizenship, Peace and Public policies

- Governance and Democracy

- State of right and Peace
- Youth, Culture and Citizenship
- Finance, tax system and Public policy

3. Education, Research, Innovation and Digital transformation

- Education, research and innovation
- Digital Technology, Artificial Intelligence and Humanism

4. Economy, entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development

- Economy
- Entrepreneurship
- Sustainable development

5. Health, Bioethics and Integral Human development

- Public Health
- Bioethics and Human Dignity
- Human Development

6. Ecological Transition, Environment and Care for creation

- Ecological Transition
- Care for the creation
- Environment and Climatic Resilience

SCHEDULE

Deadline for submission of proposals (with an abstract of 300 to 600 words)	January 31, 2027
Notification of Acceptance to authors	February 15, 2027
Conference dates	April 22-24, 2027
CUC (UCC) Platinum Jubilee	April 25, 2027

Language of the conference: French and English

Contacts:

E-mail: colloqueucc70@gmail.com

Tel.: +243817643446

Our motto : "*Lumen Super Flumen*"