

# CONFERRING OF THE HONORARY DEGREE

CANDIDATE FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS, HONORIS CAUSA

## Emilce Cuda

PhD, STD • SECRETARY, PONTIFICAL COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA;  
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Emilce Cuda, PhD, STD is an Argentine social and moral theologian, university professor, and Roman Curia official. Dr. Cuda's work focuses on the intersection of theology and society, and she has published and spoken extensively on social and moral theology, social justice as a constitutive challenge of Christian preaching, theology of the people and culture in a Latin American context, the pontifical social magisterium, and many other pressing contemporary topics.

Dr. Cuda was born in Buenos Aires, completed her studies at the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina, and was awarded a bachelor's degree in theology and a master's degree in moral theology. She later earned licentiate and doctoral degrees there, and she also received a master's degree in business administration from the Commercial and Economic Sciences University. In addition, Dr. Cuda studied philosophy at the University of Buenos Aires, and in December of 2022 was awarded the Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa degree at the National University of Rosario.

At the Vatican, Dr. Cuda holds several pontifical appointments and coordinates the Working Group on The Future of Work and Care of the Common Home. She collaborates with the Dicastery of the Promotion of Integral Human Development of the Holy See, the International Catholic Migration Commission of Geneva, the Argentine Episcopal Conference, and with trade unions and popular movements in Latin America. In February of 2022, Dr. Cuda was instrumental in the planning of an event led by Loyola University Chicago that brought students from across the Americas together with Pope Francis.

As a teacher, Dr. Cuda was a professor at the Arturo Jauretche National University, the Pontifical Catholic University and the University of Buenos Aires and also served as a visiting professor at Boston College, Northwestern University, and DePaul University. A frequent speaker at academic and theological conferences worldwide, Dr. Cuda is a highly regarded thought leader on democracy, populism, labor and unions, poverty, liberation theology, and Latin American ecclesial and popular culture. She has also organized several international conferences addressing theology and ethics, and last year she played a key role in the Building Bridges Initiative, which included a synodal virtual encounter between students and Latin America and the Bishop of Rome. That initiative was expanded last fall to include university students in Africa.

Dr. Cuda's most recent book is *Reading Francis—Theology, Ethics, and Politics*. Her other publications include *Catolicismo y democracia en Estados Unidos*, *La democracia en el magisterio pontificio*, *Para leer a Francisco: Teología, ética y política*, as well as numerous scholarly articles and book chapters.