



52nd Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 27 February–31 March 2023

Item 3: ID with the Special Rapporteur on the right to food

Oral statement delivered by: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23)

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Mr. President,

APG23 thanks the Special Rapporteur on the right to food for the report on “Conflict and the right to food.”

Structural inequalities contribute to a vicious circle of violence. The current food system, like all unequal systems, produces and is affected by violence even leading to extreme consequences.

From the shame of illegal hiring of agricultural workers in situations in which human rights are often violated, passing through the unfair influence of speculation on food commodity prices, to the scourge of malnutrition, just to name a few, the food system is permeated by situations of violence with huge repercussions on the lives of many human beings.

To remove the deep-rooted structural causes of violence and inequalities we need prevention as part of the cure.

Preventing violence means building on equity and human rights, promoting peace through nonviolent means and adopting international solidarity as an antidote to the existing system based on inequalities.

APG23 is convinced that the recognition of the right to international solidarity might contribute to breaking the circle of violence, abuses and violations also by restoring justice, equity and peace in many settings including food systems. In this regard, we would like to ask the special rapporteur: can the recognition of the right to international solidarity be one of the missing pieces needed to unhinge the mechanisms of inequalities that lead to violence also in food systems?

Thank you!