LCWR Assembly Resolution 2022-2025

Creating Communion at the Intersection of Racism, Forced Migration & Climate Crisis

RESOLUTION
Reading the signs of the times and in our desire to create communion, we, the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, reaffirm our commitment to address the interrelatedness of the concerns expressed in our 2019-2022 Assembly Resolution, Creating Communion at the Intersection of Racism, Migration and Climate Crisis. We are heartbroken by the myriad ways our one human family and Earth, our common home, continue to suffer from disconnection, indifference, violence, and fear in the face of racism, forced migration, and climate crisis.

Responding to God who loves all of creation into being, we recommit ourselves to initiating opportunities to create communion to more deeply examine the root causes of injustice. We particularly give priority to projects and actions that focus on the intersection of racism, forced migration, and the climate crisis. We recognize a sense of urgency and pledge prayer, education, action and advocacy. We will use our collective voice, resources, and influence in collaboration with others, to establish justice which reflects God’s creating love.

RATIONALE
Through the lens of integral ecology, we see the deep connections between racism, forced migration, and the climate crisis. Laudato Si’ challenges us to “dare to manifest a passionate concern for the protection of our world” so that “the effects of [our] encounter with Jesus Christ becomes evident in our relationship with the world around [us].” (LS 216, 217).

Our contemplative listening to the signs of our times has invited us to choose a more compassionate response to the cries of our brothers and sisters, and to Earth and its biosphere. The LCWR membership pledges to go deeper into the critical work of addressing systemic injustice and building God’s Beloved Community. By renewing this resolution, we build on the work of previous LCWR assemblies; we embrace the Church’s call to journey toward integral ecology; and commit to becoming an anti-racist community.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS
1. LCWR members are encouraged to use contemplative processes and social analysis, to continue to explore the intersections of racism, forced migration, and climate crisis. Acknowledging our own complicity as individuals and as congregations we support systemic change by our public use of our collective voice through advocacy and social media. The choices we make and the energy we expend on collaborative ventures that address these intersections are the outward signs of our contemplation.

2. Congregations are encouraged to use their human and financial resources to help address the root causes of racism, climate crisis, and forced migration, including migration caused by environmental destruction, through advocacy, service, impact investing, and other collaborative projects.

3. Regions are encouraged to identify groups and actively partner with them in responding to issues rooted in the intersection of racism, forced migration, and climate crisis. LCWR regions and the national office will work collaboratively to report on strategic initiatives and partnerships taken in pursuit of justice at the intersection of racism, forced migration, and climate crisis and use many forms of media to publicize this work.

For the next three years the Global Concerns Committee will provide resources to the regions to facilitate the implementation of this resolution.