The event is organized by the Pontifical Academy for Life (PAV), the World Federation of Catholic Medical Associations (FIAMC), and the Italian National Transplant Centre (CNT).

The Congress will be a meeting of people from all over the world, at which the organ donating activities of five continents will be represented. Papers will be presented pertaining to scientific and medical, as well as to organizational, legal and ethical, aspects of organ donation. The first day of the Congress will be dedicated to the current ‘state of the art’ of the transplant system on an international basis, with a focus upon the historical evolution of transplantation sciences and of organ donation. It will also analyse crucial matters, such as the need for organs world-wide, the problem of trafficking in organs, and the importance of spreading the culture of organ donation.

On the second day of the meeting, ethical and anthropological dimensions of organ donation will be the core of the discussion, which will extend to theoretical, ethical and legal aspects of ‘living wills’ in relation to the donation of organs. The third and last day will be devoted to the role of the mass media in respect of the culture of donating organs.

An audience with His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, has been requested for the last day of the Congress, in which the Church’s position and teachings on organ donation may be presented.

DATE  
Thursday, November 6th – Saturday, November 8th, 2008  
VENUE  
Auditorium della Conciliazione, Rome, I  
www.auditoriumconciliazione.it  
LANGUAGE  
The official language of the International Congress will be English and Italian. Simultaneous translation will be provided.  
TOPICS  
• The experience of donating  
• From history to reality: the development of transplant science  
• State of the art in modern transplantology  
• Organ donation, requirements and trafficking in the world  
• Giving oneself and organ donation: an anthropological perspective  
• Expression of will in organ donation and transplants: theoretical and legislative aspects  
• Ethics of organ allocation and the transplant system  
• Health provider training  
• Ethical issues on marketing, predation and social pressure  
• International legislation and guidelines  
• Educational proposals to promote a culture of donation  
• Pastoral initiatives  
• Role of the mass media  
• Address by the Holy Father

A gift for life.  
Considerations on organ donation
CME CREDITS
The Congress will apply for accreditation from the Italian Ministry of Health and European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME - UEMS).

ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT

key

Via Makalè, 75 – 35138 Padova – Italy
Ph. ++39 049 8729511
Fax ++39 049 8729512
E-mail:agiftforlife2008@keycongress.com

With an educational grant of

International Congress
A gift for life. Considerations on organ donation

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Auditorium della Conciliazione

first announcement