

May 22, 1957

Dup - PRO DEO
Structure, Function & History

International University of Social Studies Pro Deo

Rome, Italy

The International University of Social Studies was founded in 1945. Its founder, Felix A. Morlion, O.P., is a Belgian who became a Dominican after engineering studies at Louvain. He served for Psychological Warfare Activities in the United States from 1941-44 with other leaders of anti-totalitarianism. He was first on the Nazi blacklist for his Brussels International Pro Deo Center. The impact of the American way of life brought him and his associates to plan the creation of a university to apply the philosophy of the American Founding Fathers to the international promotion of democracy under God. The university operates under an international and inter-denominational Board of Trustees, responsible for the civic and economic programs of the University.

James D. Zellerbach has been succeeded by Louis Rabinowitz on the Board of Trustees. Fred Altschul, Nathan Cummings, Leo Cherne and David Steinman are the first Jewish members on the Board of Directors of the American Council. Other members include Henry Luce, Dean Harry Carman, Huntington Hartford and C. D. Jackson. It has the approval of church authorities through the cooperation of a Doctrinal Council composed of members of the Dominican Order, responsible for its religious and philosophical inspiration in the spirit of Thomas Aquinas as developed in Vittoria and Bellarmine for national and international government by consent.

The university is the first in Europe to have organized American-inspired departments of business administration, of industrial and labor relations, of public administration, of modern languages, united with secretarial administration and mass communications media. Its main post-graduate schools are the Institute of International Law and Policies of European studies, of civil service, of social training (for priests and religious leaders), of applied economy (for top management), of human relations and of public relations. There are extension courses for operating management and for front-line management.

The university has branches in Milan and Turin, in Europe and South America. Its decisive role in the overcoming of communism in Italy and similar activities in afore-named countries has been described in the world press (in the United States, The New York Times, The Herald Tribune, Time, etc.).

During the last four years, enrollments at the university have reached 3,803, including students from 26 countries; among them, 200 from Latin America, Asia and Africa and from the United States. There are 102 professors who are presently active in the university, as well as visiting professors from the United States and special lecturers from nine other countries.

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