

AN INTER-CULTURAL DIALOGUE FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN OF TOMORROW

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BolognaFiere is delighted to welcome Pope Francis. We thank him for the words that gave rise to this project: words whose naturalness and simplicity have, since its earliest origins, been the driving force of children's literature.

The Bologna Children's Book Fair is one of BolognaFiere's flagship events, and not just because of its importance as a market for children's book copyrights.

It is above all because, owing to the nature of the publishers themselves, and to the efforts made over more than a half a century, the Bologna Children's Book Fair has become a meeting place for contemporary culture and humanism.

The publishing industry for children and young readers is first and foremost a community of people who are passionate about childhood and adolescence: a hard-working community that strives to forge citizens for a better tomorrow, continually creating networks through

dialogue and building cultural bridges; working vigorously against ideological aberrations while doing what they can to support kids and young people experiencing hardship, wherever they may be around the world.

The works of authors and illustrators that travel from country to country carry with them messages of peace, brotherhood and sharing.

This book is a practical example of this phenomenon. Published with the support of the Giunti Editore publishing house, to whom we offer our most sincere thanks, it was conceived beyond market considerations.

Indeed, it was made to be distributed and downloaded free of charge by families, schools, and people of goodwill, to ensure that these two hundred titles find a readership of children and young adults in homes, schools and libraries around the world.