

THE FOCOLARE MOVEMENT AND GUIDELINES FOR THE WELLBEING AND PROTECTION OF MINORS

The Focolare Movement undertakes the commitment to **prevent and avoid any abuse of minors** during all its activities. For this purpose, in 2014, “**Guidelines for the promotion of the wellbeing and protection of minors**” were drafted and published on the website www.focolare.org. When drafting these guidelines, both the canonical and Italian legislation were taken into account.

These guidelines are for the use of Focolare communities in various countries of the world. They are implemented in accordance to the various cultural and legal realities, while the principles proclaimed by the International Law about the protection of minors are also duly considered.

The third section of this document, which speaks about legal procedures, applies to the Focolare Movement’s activities in Italy.

Presently a revision of these guidelines is taking place. This work has also benefitted from the precious contribution of Commission members and others who are responsible for the Wellbeing and Protection of Minors in Focolare Communities worldwide, present at a meeting held at Castelgandolfo (Italy) from 14 to 17 March 2019. A conference on “The protection of minors in the Church” was held at the Vatican last February, and the publication of Pope Francis’ *motu proprio* on this subject is awaited so that the current revision work can be concluded. Once this work is finalized, the new guidelines will be published,