

# Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

## An NGO in Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC, UN



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Oral Statement to the Commission for Social Development 61st Session addressing the -  
Priority theme:

Creating full and productive employment and decent work for all as a way of  
overcoming inequalities to accelerate the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the full  
implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you ...

I am Winifred Doherty, representing the Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good  
Shepherd.

We welcome the priority theme of the Commission but hasten to add that innovative solutions  
alone are not enough. We must address the systemic causes of informal and demeaning  
employment and work and inequalities including gender discrimination. Systemic issues go  
directly to the persistence of inequalities, which are unethical and are the reason why people  
suffer and planet is threatened. The Industrial revolution was an innovative moment that  
offered the possibilities of full employment, but morphed with the concentration of power and  
wealth in the hands of a few.

If we as a human community, a global family fail to create full employment and decent work  
and ensure processes for social protection the projectory we are on is almost assured.  
Creating full and productive employment and decent work for all with social protection, is a  
crucial and necessary approach but its implementation requires good will and trust on behalf  
of everyone, especially those in power and those who amass wealth.

The words of Mahatma Gandhi, 'The world has enough for everyone's need, but not enough  
for everyone's greed' give us a starting point in the conversation. Not just humanity but the  
planet herself, is now impacted and threatened by human avarice and exploitation. As we  
look to a second social summit, we must do so with a renewed consciousness of how human  
behaviors impact humanity and the planet, and with a determination to change our egotistical  
and war- mongering ways toward altruism, peace, sustainability and the wellbeing of all.  
We urgently need to invite each other to a renewal of faith in humanity – a humanity that  
cares and nurtures – and a trust in our governments that are accountable, implementing fully  
the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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*“Our commitment to reconciliation demands that we promote justice and peace...”*