

Corso UPM 2025
Recognising oneself.
The Statutes: a path and a mirror.

Questions for the assessment/discussion

Lesson 1: *Introduction to the course* (Renata Simon, Francisco Canzani, Maria Emmaus Voce) – Leave only the Gospel (Fabio Ciardi, Lucia Abignente, Adriana Cosseddu)

1. What did the two images of a “path” and a “mirror” make me think about? Has getting to know the Statutes better given me new ideas for my life and my belonging to the Movement?
2. What suggestion did Maria-Emmaus Voce make for getting to know the Statutes?
3. The document *Mutuae Relationes* speaks of the “charism of the founders”: what does it suggest to us for re-reading our history?
4. Chiara Lubich said that she wanted to leave “only the Gospel”, yet she dedicated strength and many years to drawing up the Statutes. What do you think is the connection that draws together the Gospel and the Statutes?

Lesson 2: *The Charism and the Rule* (Fabio Ciardi)
A life together expressed by Law (Tiziana Merletti)

1. What is the relationship between the Gospel and the Rule?
2. Why do we need a Rule?
3. How does the Rule safeguard and transmit the Charism?

4. What responsibility do we have regarding the Statutes and for any possible revisions?

Lesson 3: *Approaching the Statutes: a historical understanding* (Lucia Abignente)
The Statutes: inheritance and prophecy (Adriana Cosseddu)

1. The proposed rules presented to the Church indicate important milestones on the path to the approval of the Work of Mary. What were the main stages? How many rules were drafted? What were the new developments in the Movement that caused the greatest difficulties? What was the reason for the choice of different juridical forms (Association, Secular Institute and, later, Private Association of the Faithful)? What did the experience of the Movement during the years of study by the Church make you think?
2. What importance does the “Premise” have for a correct understanding of the Statutes?
3. What do the Statutes say to your life and why can it be said that the Statutes are also a prophecy?

Lesson 4: *Rules and Freedom* (Tommaso Bertolasi)
Government: service to unity (Elisabetta Scomazzon)

1. What do we mean by the word freedom? And what is its relationship with the rules?
2. In Part Four the organs of the central government are presented: after listing them, describe what is meant by governing in the Work of Mary.
3. The taking on of office in the central government of the Work of Mary can be by election or by nomination: what is the difference between the methods of appointment? Please briefly describe the bodies that are the result of an election.
4. What are the tasks of the co-president and what are the tasks as vicar/substitute of the president? What is the difference between a co-president and a vice-president?
5. What are the tasks of the General Assembly and who participates in it?

Lesson 5: *How to read the Statutes: some perspectives from around the world* (Raphael Takougang, Cristiane Ribeiro, Elfriede Glaubitz)

1. Why are we called a “private association of the faithful”?
2. How is the reality of the “zones” presented in the Statutes?

- 3.** What does Part Ten speak of?
- 4.** How are non-Catholic Christians and also non-Christians structurally included in the Work of Mary?