

# Holistic Vision of our World-wide Latin American Agenda 2014

“Liberty, Freedom!” ... A shout, a flag, a sigh - the utopia dreamed about and fought for throughout all human history ... This was the missing theme in the long list of “Great Causes” and great themes for reflection on the itinerary of our Agenda. So, here we are meeting it head-on, as the ideal, as the path and as the commitment to hope.

Everything can be read in the key of freedom, and indeed freedom is on everyone’s lips, invoked by one and the other on opposite sides of the social spectrum. But some people call freedom their alleged right to subject others to their ambition for power or money. For them the common acceptance that “my freedom ends where the freedom of the other begins” does not exist. ... In this Agenda we will be reflecting on freedom from the viewpoint of the poor, of the little ones, always from the “down-side of history”, which is the only way to make it accessible for everybody...

From our diminutive space of the paper-edition of the Agenda, we aim to confront and meet head-on Freedom in all its dimensions: from the long historical march of freedom militants, to some novel aspects, still rare today as: freedom in its global dimension, or freedom in its cosmic roots, or that transformation that religion itself undergoes when it is approached and lived with an adult attitude: liberty without subjection or blindness. The Latin

American Agenda is always searching new horizons, “pushing up the dawn” ...

Our format is the consecrated three-step Latin American method: See - Judge - Act.

For our SEE-ing: we start with a brief review of data gathered from the reality in which we are living, and which indicates a major socio-economic transformation in this hemisphere, that globally skirmishes elegantly and with more than a little bit of luck, the world-wide economic crisis and the 50% increase in its middle class.

For our JUDGE-ing: a good team of renowned authors, imbued with our Latin American spirit, gets down to examining each edge and fringe of our Liberty and passes its vision on to us in short dense texts, suitable as a basis for personal reflection, for discussions, and for community decision-making.

As for our ACT-ing: we attempt to suggest conclusions, uncover clues and point out paths, although ultimately it’s up to each person and each group or community to discover that which is applicable to their specific concrete situations.

Our Agenda doesn’t imagine having come up with something new when we are confronted with the prospect of issues that are so broad and so deeply human. It’s simply a continuation in the line of its charisma: promoting change through awareness. It helps “bring our software up to date”; it’s able to

Translation by Justiniano Liebl

## THE AGENDA PLACES ALSO THESE RESOURCES AT YOUR DISPOSITION!

- La **página de información y materiales complementarios** de la Agenda: [latinoamericana.org/2014/info](http://latinoamericana.org/2014/info)  
*Todo lo que no cabe en este libro de papel pero que la Agenda también le ofrece para su trabajo de educación popular.*
- El **archivo telemático** de la Agenda: [servicioskoinonia.org/agenda/archivo](http://servicioskoinonia.org/agenda/archivo)  
*Todos los textos de los 23 años de la Agenda, organizados por temas, autor, título... a disposición pública permanente.*
- La **colección digital** de las Agendas aparecidas desde 1992: [latinoamericana.org/Desde1992](http://latinoamericana.org/Desde1992)  
*Puede coleccionar todas las Agendas aparecidas en estos años, en formato digital, para su biblioteca digital personal.*
- La **«Cartilla popular»** de la Agenda: [latinoamericana.org](http://latinoamericana.org)  
*Brevísima, con unas guías para convertirla en texto-base para un cursillo, taller popular, formación comunitaria o actividad escolar.*
- La **colección «Tiempo Axial»**: [tiempoaxial.org](http://tiempoaxial.org) y los **«Servicios Koinonía»**: [servicioskoinonia.org](http://servicioskoinonia.org)

diffuse a new vision that can bring about new ways of acting. It's "the seed capital" of the poor: the critical analysis; the ever utopian hope and courage; always a conscience-raising militancy for our warriors and martyrs, partners in the construction of the Great Fatherland, our Homeland Mother Earth ..

We would like to dedicate the up-coming "2015 Agenda" to Human Rights: a theme that is old but always new; open to the "new generation" of Human Rights that has already arisen and to others that are still emerging, according to different times and places. We would be happy to welcome any and all

suggestions and/or input that you might offer.

We will continue counting upon complementing the "Agenda in paper edition" with the "electronic edition": the portal of the Agenda on the internet; its information page and supplementary materials; the Koinonia Services; the Axial Time Collection -- the complete package of services of the "Latin American Agenda", made available to you and everybody via the internet.

And finally, we extend a great "Thank You" for helping to make this work possible.

Brotherly and Sisterly yours,

**José María VIGIL**



---

### **Pedagogical Use of the Agenda**

In addition to personal use, this Agenda is designed to be a pedagogical instrument for communicators, public educators, pastoral agents, group leaders, and activists...

The texts are always brief and agile, presented under the pedagogical concept of one page, formatted so that they can be directly photocopied and distributed as "work material" in schools, group meetings, adult literacy programs, or on literature tables. They can also be published in the bulletins of organizations or in local magazines.

The format of the texts is dictated by an "economic" criterion which possibly sacrifices aesthetics in the form of white spaces and illustrations in favor of a greater volume of message. This also allows us to keep a low price so the Agenda is more accessible.

### **Ecumenicism**

This agenda is dictated by a "total ecumenicism," not a "remainder ecumenicism." Because of this, we do not eliminate what is only Catholic or only Protestant,

but we unite the two. Thus, in the list of the Saints, the Protestant and Catholic commemorations have both been included. When they do not coincide, the Protestant commemoration is in cursive. For example, the Apostle Peter is celebrated by the Catholic Church on February 22 ("the Chair of Peter"), and for the Protestant Churches on January 18 ("the Confession of Peter"); the differences can be distinguished typographically.

Kindly, the Lutheran Bishop Kent Mahler, in an earlier version of the Agenda, presented us with the "Protestant Saints."

The Agenda is aconfessional, and, above all, "macroecumenical." The world of common references, beliefs, values, and utopias among peoples and men and women of good will—which Christians call "the Reign"—is shared by all who are partners in this humble, serving, brotherly, and sisterly search.

### **A Non-Profit Work**

In many countries, this Agenda is edited by popular and non-profit organizations that use the money received from the sale of

the agenda to support their work for popular service and solidarity. These centers ensure the non-profit character of each edition.

In its central coordination, the Latin American Agenda, is also a non-profit initiative. It was born and developed without help from any agency. The money generated by the Agenda, after adequately compensating the authors who write in its pages, is dedicated to works of popular alternative communication.

*Servicios Koinonia*, permanently maintained, constantly improved, and freely accessible around the world, the "Tiempo Axial" Collection, and some of the prizes financed by the Agenda are the most well-known.

### **A Collective Agenda**

This is a collective work. Because of this, it has gotten to where it is today. We continue to gladly receive suggestions, materials, documents...

In this way, it will continue being a "collective work, a community patrimony, an annual anthology of the memory and hope of our spiritual Continent."