

**FREE ZONE • The future of theology rests on its renewal. Speaking to our time again
by Agostino GIOVAGNOLI**

Today, more than ever, we need theology to be "on the frontline" as is the magisterium of Pope Francis.

In the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, theologians often pointed the way forward by moving away from a magisterium that was entrenched in defensive positions. In that context, the conflict between authority and freedom often played a crucial role. But such a conflict loses its centrality when it is the magisterium that plunges into the wounds of humanity, countered in this evangelical choice by the tools of an old theology or by different forms of cultural disregard.

On the contrary, new forms of collaboration between magisterium and theology seem urgent, even in the diversity of roles and with creative freedom. In particular, it would be desirable that the problems and insights of Pope Bergoglio's magisterium meet a courageous theology, capable of exploring the former and developing the latter, without neglecting other challenges posed by modernity. This is also the case with Pope Francis' passionate insistence on the poor, which does not yet seem to have found a theology fully up to the task, able not to write another chapter of the "social doctrine of the Church" but to fully highlight the true value of the encounter with the *anawin*.

The call *Rescuing Fraternity - Together*, on the other hand, goes precisely in the direction of a theology that speaks again to believers and non-believers of our time.

(Original text: Italian. Summary by Fabrizio Mastrofini. Translation by Leonardo Stefanucci)