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# Declaration of identity, mission, perspective, and values of CLAR



[www.clar.org](http://www.clar.org)

Latin American Confederation of Religious

## IDENTITY

The Latin American Confederation of Religious - CLAR, is a non-profit International Organization of Pontifical Law with Ecclesiastical Legal status, which is regulated by Universal Law and its Statutes; It is composed of 22 National Conferences of Major Superiors (men and women) from Latin America and the Caribbean. CLAR was established by the Holy See on March 2, 1959.

CLAR promotes, coordinates, and encourages the common initiatives and services of the National Conferences. It fosters communion and mutual collaboration between the National Conferences that inspire the Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life and establishes proper coordination and cooperation with the Latin American Episcopal Council - CELAM, with the National Episcopal Conferences, and with the Bishops of each member country.

## MISSION

Its mission is to integrate the Religious Life of the Continent into communion, articulation, and co-responsibility, so that, docilely following the Spirit of Jesus, it can live its vocation with meaning, evangelical radicalism, and prophetic and missionary passion, and it is able to become a channel of solidarity commitment with all the causes in need of a change on the Continent.

## PERSPECTIVE

In 2030, CLAR sees itself as an ecclesial space, in which different charisms come together and around which the meeting, interaction, articulation and dynamism of the Religious Life of the Continent are possible. CLAR promotes the collective making, the synodal style, the communion, and a new way of establishing relationships. It stands on the values of the Gospel, in defense of life, justice and peace. It takes the side of the victims and the most impoverished. It strives to maintain the prophetic and missionary commitment that it has received as a legacy and dives into the urgent task of the Kingdom, in networks, being aware of its commitment to the dignity of people, care for the earth, respect for cultures, and the improvement of living standards on the Continent.

## VALUES

The values and ethical principles that CLAR promulgates and realizes in its programs, projects, actions, and experiences are the following:

- **Listening.** Community and plural dynamics of discernment; common and prayerful search of the pilgrim Religious Life in Latin America and the Caribbean, to glimpse God's will in the concrete reality.



- **Discernment.** Personal way of reading in the light of faith the facts of the history, in order to unravel in them the calls of God and the channels of commitment.
- **Hope.** Trusting and full openness to God, who invites us to recreate the meaning to provide appropriate responses in our daily lives.
- **Hospitality.** Capacity of Religious Life to promote specific measures to meet and welcome the myriads of migrants who travel across the Continent.
- **Comprehensive training.** Training people with a solid identity, who can combine vital spirituality and academic and professional training to cultivate mature interpersonal relationships in their community and missionary work.
- **Synodality.** Specific way of living and working (*modus vivendi et operandi*) in the evangelizing mission of the Church, which through the joint journey, the continuous review of lifestyles (spirit), discernment practices (method) and the reform of mentalities and structures, manifest and put into practice its communion service.
- **Care for our common home.** Fostering an integral ecological conversion which is powered by a deep spirituality, and which includes *Laudato si'* as part of his life project.

#### **Actions and dynamisms that accompany the CLAR Values:**

- Walking in minority with the people inspires the dynamics of collaboration and co-responsibility, structures the participation of all and teaches to live from closeness and horizontality.
- Relying on intercongregationality, interculturality, and intergenerationality, to generate spaces of synergy, which become a school of learning in diversity.
- Rethinking the charismatic identity in relation to the laity, being aware of our mutual belonging, in order to achieve the consolidation of the charismatic family and recreate shared spaces to manage common projects of formation, evangelization, and social commitment.
- Consolidating the process of reconfiguration and redefinition at all levels in order to achieve a radical transformation of our lifestyles, services and apostolates.
- Training and empowering women to promote the denounce of feminicide, gender-based violence, and all existing forms of slavery.
- Creating bridges with diversity: sex, races, religions, ideologies, culture, and social condition, in order to leave behind the experience of threat and mistrust and turn to the construction of the Common Home.



- Accompanying and being part of movements and networks that denounce social injustices to defend life, by favoring new processes that promote change.
- Denouncing the spoliation and overexploitation of Mother Earth to reach a personal, community, and socio-ecclesial commitment to respect biodiversity and defend a habitable land for all.
- Protecting and preserving what is “shared and common” to claim a new society-power relationship, and a new political-economic relationship and to defend life.

The Latin American Confederation of Religious constantly assumes the fundamental values of life, the values of God's project and the values of human dignity. With its prophetic imprint, CLAR denounces everything that destroys the image of God Father-Mother in our impoverished brothers and sisters.

A fundamental part of the CLAR process is the practice of *Lectio divina*, which illuminates the life, mission, prophecy, and mysticism of the path. By throwing these seeds of the Word through *Lectio divina* and by promoting it in its Magazine, CLAR intends to fulfill one of its fundamental purposes: discipleship training. With its contributions, CLAR intends to create unity in theological reflection and in the mysticism of the Religious Life of the Continent, so that, enlightened by the Word, we can walk towards a unitary –but at the same time diverse– prophetic testimony in how we love, serve, and inspire.





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**Calle 64 No 10 - 45 Piso 5to**

**Bogotá, Colombia**

**Phone: 9272889**

**[www.clar.org](http://www.clar.org)**

