



Fortifying Families Webinar Series

During this time of virtual engagement, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, represented by Latter-day Saint Charities in New York and Geneva, and the European Union Office in Brussels, is presenting a webinar series on issues pertaining to the family.

The family is the fundamental unit of society and strong, stable and healthy families sustain strong, stable and healthy societies. This series will explore contemporary issues affecting today's families, significant ways families provide solutions to social ills, and suggested policies to **fortify families** as the fundamental unit of society.

The main audience for this series will be those who work with the United Nations and the European Union, diplomats, staff, and non-governmental organizations. Accordingly, the speakers will focus on the international organizations and recommendations will be primarily geared to those bodies. In addition, the series may be picked up and advertised by the organizations of the invited speakers, as well as other Church and Latter-day Saint Charities colleagues worldwide. The live format of the webinar series will also allow us to reach larger audiences through social media, thus raising awareness on these issues among the general public.

Speakers will be drawn from both diplomats and elected officials working with the aforementioned bodies, as well as subject-matter experts. Topics to be explored will fall into two major categories of *Fortifying Families through Public Policies* and *Fortifying Families through Human Rights*. Public Policy subthemes will include Family and Education, Family and the Economy, Families and Children, Family and Domestic Violence, etc. Human Rights subthemes will include Family and Human Rights, Families and Global Crises, and Families and Sexual Exploitation. Select topics have been elaborated below, along with proposed speakers for each topic.

It is anticipated that this series will run biweekly during the academic year, with episodes starting on September 29 and culminating in a celebration of the International Day of Families (May 15). Francesco Di Lillo and Ryan Koch, the directors of the Brussels and New York offices respectively, will host and moderate the series. The episodes will run from 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. European CET/9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. EDT. This shorter time frame will require participants to focus their messages to the most important points. Live engagement with the audience will be encouraged.

The series will be hosted through a dedicated Facebook page (facebook.com/fortifyingfamilies).



Thematic Buckets and Episodes' Topics

Fortifying Families through Public Policies

International Organizations and the Family – 29 September 2020

Family and the Economy – 13 October 2020

Strengthening Fatherhood – 10 November 2020*

Domestic Violence and the Family – 19 January 2021*

Families and Safer Media – 16 February 2021*

Strengthening Motherhood – 16 March 2021*

Families and Demographic Trends – 30 March 2021*

International Day of Families – 11 May 2021

Fortifying Families through Human Rights

Human Rights and the Family – 27 October 2020*

Family and Education – 24 November 2020*

Family and Freedom of Religion or Belief – 8 December 2020*

Families and Global Crisis – 2 February 2021*

Families and Migration – 2 March 2021*

Sexual Exploitation – 13 April 2021*

Families and the Sustainable Development Goals – 27 April 2021*

** Dates are subject to change. Once the date of an episode is confirmed, information on how to register will be published on our webinar series' Facebook page (www.facebook.com/fortifyingfamilies).*