

Review of: "How can Ecological ethics assist in the progress of man? - Towards a reflection on the Encyclical letter Laudato si'"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper address a very important topic related to the moral and ethical dimensions of environmental destruction. It does so through the lens of one of the most important religious documents appeared so far in the millennium, Pope Francis' Encyclical Laudato Si'.

This watershed document is a global appeal which transcends the Christian/non-Christian divide, but also the chasm between science and religion. Pope Francis is fully aware of recent scientific research which overwhelmingly points to a series of catastrophic outcomes and unprecedented global suffering if action is not promptly taken to avoid runaway climate change and related existential crises.

To this scientific dimension, Francis I adds a more emotional appeal centred on the preaching and practices of solidarity, empathy and love for all living beings. Most important, this expression of universal solidarity can hardly remain confined within the hidebound limits of nationalism and nationhood. The result is a new form of cosmopolitanism coalescing around a deep humility and love for humanity. The new gospel is enunciated at a decisive moment in the history of the human survival. In other words, the Pope Francis Encyclical Laudato Si' is the first important and global public expression of an emerging trend which I call "survival cosmopolitanism".

The article here considered has, however, some limitations. Conceptually the article should distinguish between environmental pollution and climate change as distinct problems.

In ethical terms, both pride and lack of humility are reflected in the prevalence of nationalism in world politics.

One possible way to straighten and enrich the article's argument is by placing the new discipline of geoethics at the centre or even at the beginning of the article (consider various works by <u>Giuseppe di Capua</u> and <u>Silvia Peppoloni</u>).

General comments:

The article needs to be more structured and condense its argument at the beginning and in the conclusion.

its English language deserves further improvement and requires much more editing.

In the abstract:

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"For this reason, we will try to make a few suggestions in our proposal.": Please specify in the abstract which these few suggestions are.

"Some moralists say that ..": What do you mean by "moralists"? Who are them?

In short, this essay may need a great amount of work before being published in an international scholarly journal.

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