



Catholic
Association of
Propagandists

acdps.es/international



ACdP

SERVING THROUGH LEADERSHIP
OMNIA POSSUM IN EO QUI ME CONFORTAT



ACdP

To serve the Church, as the Church wants to be served.

(F. Martín-Sánchez)



For over a hundred years, ACdP (Asociación Católica de Propagandistas) has encouraged its members to respond to their call with **apostolic initiatives** that contribute to the **common good**. Propagandists of all ages are committed to bringing the Catholic ideal into the public arena in the form of schools, universities, newspapers, political parties and social institutions.

With such an intense external activity, it is essential for propagandists to take care of their religious spirituality and personal relationship with God in prayer. These are the key personal traits of every propagandist.



WHAT IS ACdP?

ACdP stands for the Spanish acronym of Catholic Association of Propagandists. The Association is a community of lay Catholics, legally constituted under civil and canonical law. Its mission is the **propagation of the Catholic Faith** and evangelisation achieved through **forming and fostering their members to an active participation in public life.**

ACdP was founded in 1909 by Jesuit Father Ángel Ayala S.J. when he gathered a group of thirteen brilliant young professionals for a meeting in Madrid. That first encounter did not have a well-defined purpose and Father Ayala opened it with a laconic: *"let's see what God wants from us"*. ACdP's seed was planted. Over the years and in different social and political circumstances, ACdP developed an **extraordinary activity with the foundation of newspapers, political parties, unions and publishers among other initiatives.** Nowadays ACdP is the promoting entity of CEU Educational Group with three private universities, nine schools and high schools and several professional and business schools.

SPIRITUALITY



As a religious organization, ACdP's founding goal is the **sanctification of its members through evangelization in public and social life according to the Kingdom of God's demands** (art. 1.1.) ACdP's charisma is **Jesuitical** after our founder Ángel Ayala, **Pauline** after our patron Saint Paul and **Roman** as we pay especial attention to the popes' teaching.

ACdP's members live their charisma through daily prayer, frequenting the sacraments, attending retreats and yearly Ignatian Spiritual Exercises.

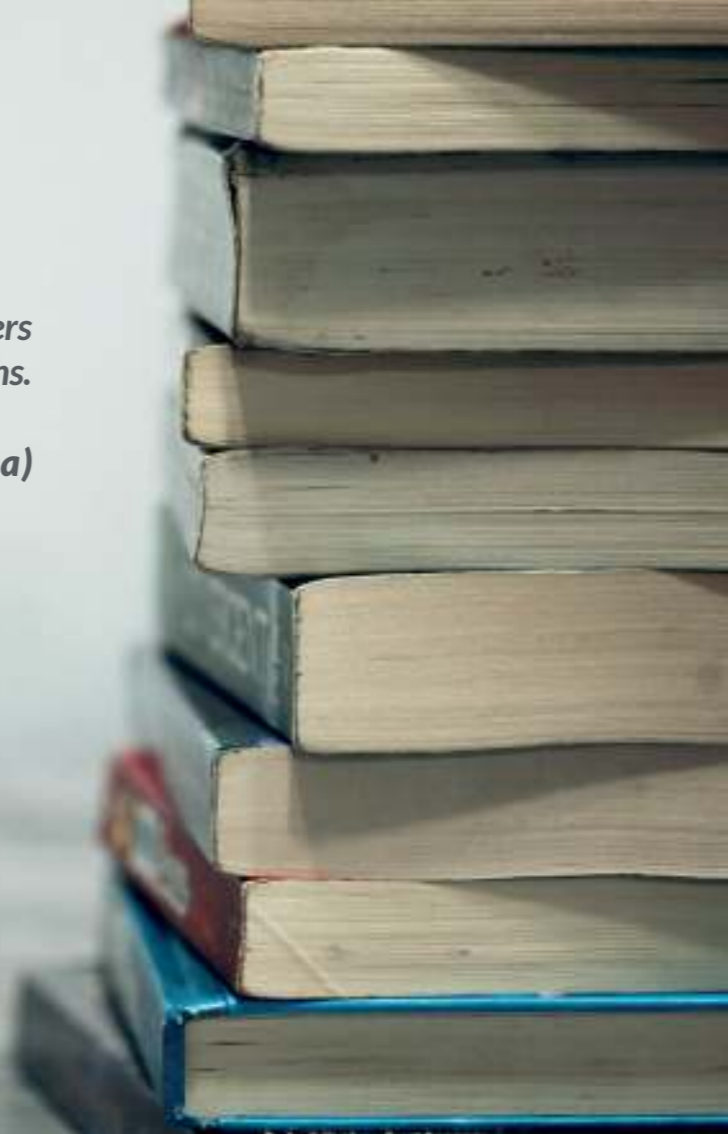
As long as that supernatural spirit prevails, the Association will reap abundant fruits.

(P. Ángel Ayala S.J.)



*Our primary target is to form our members
in their spiritual and intellectual dimensions.*

(A. Herrera Oria)



EDUCATION



ACdP's members have a declared predisposition to **lifelong learning**. The Association fosters this through various activities such as: conferences, congresses, study circles and education programmes. The activities deal with areas as broad as is lay people's mission in the world: economy, entrepreneurship, law, culture, philosophy, ecology, science, engineering, politics and social work.

LEADERSHIP



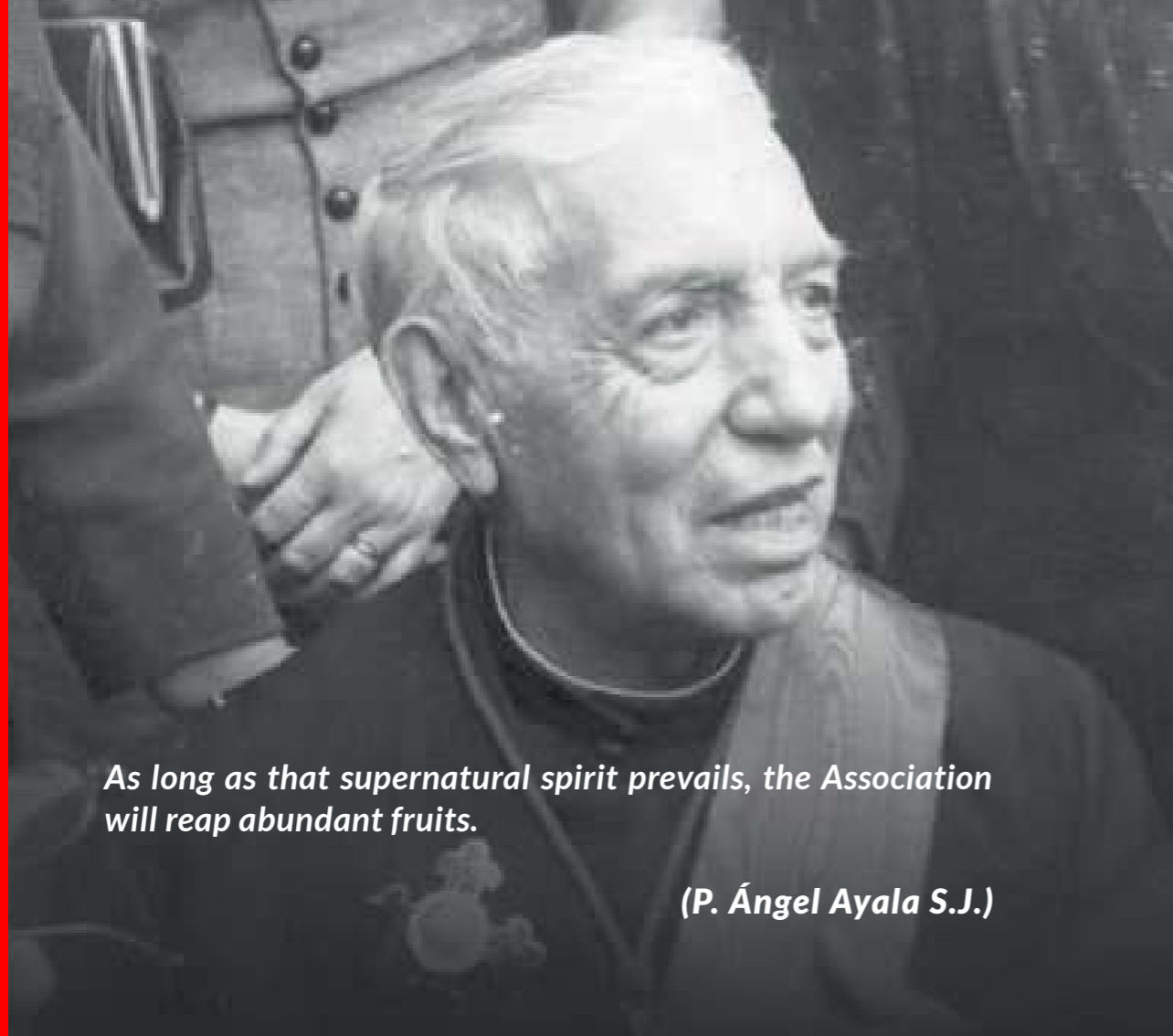
ACdP's founders created a **new movement with an explicit call to action**. The inspiration for new undertakings is found in the origin of ACdP's mission (to be and to act). At times projects are the result of a propagandist personal initiative and other times initiatives come through institutional momentum. However, all initiatives should look for the **inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the guidance of the Catholic Social Teaching and the clear resolution to engage others to work for the common good**.

*You must be forward thinking, think beyond here and now.
The past is behind you.*

(F. Martín-Sánchez)



FOUNDER



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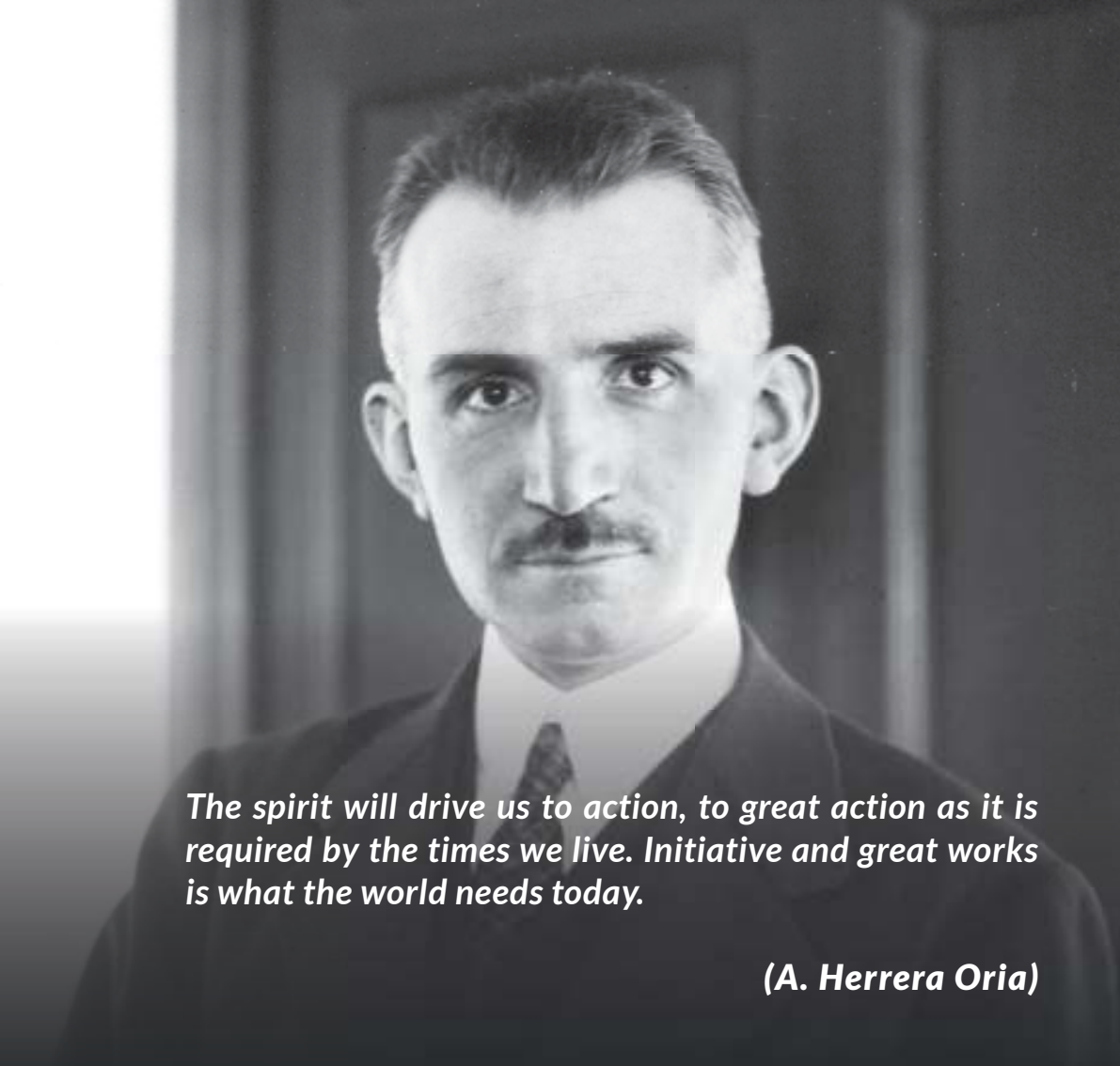
(P. Ángel Ayala S.J.)

P. ÁNGEL AYALA Y ALARCÓ S.J.

Ángel Ayala is the founder of ACdP. As a Jesuit Father, he was inspired to propose a selected group of young professionals to serve God and His Church through their testimony in public life. Ayala studied Law and Philosophy in the universities of Salamanca and Deusto and afterwards entered the Jesuits novitiate. Besides founding ACdP, Ángel Ayala encouraged the establishment of many other institutions, especially in the field of education.

ÁNGEL HERRERA ORIA

Ángel Herrera served as the first ACdP president. After receiving his doctorate in Law, he was appointed editor of El Debate newspaper which he successfully led for twenty-two years. In 1933 he founded the political party Acción Nacional and three years later he moved to Fribourg (Switzerland) to start his priestly studies. In 1947 he was consecrated Bishop of Malaga and after attending the Second Vatican Council, in 1965 he was made Cardinal by Pope Paul VI. He died in Madrid in 1968. His cause of canonization has commenced, and he is referred to as a Servant of God.

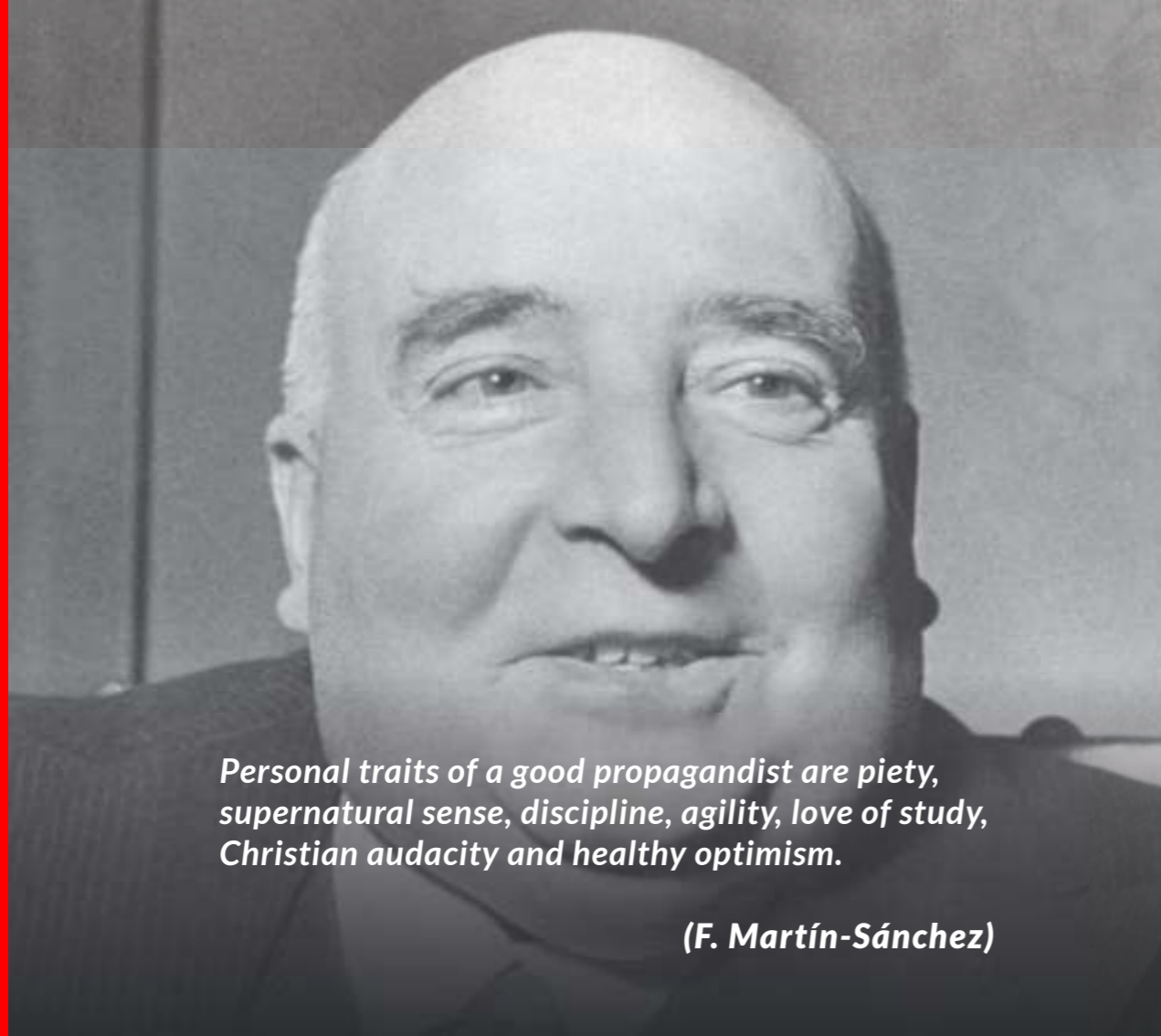


The spirit will drive us to action, to great action as it is required by the times we live. Initiative and great works is what the world needs today.

(A. Herrera Oria)

I PRESIDENT

II PRESIDENT



Personal traits of a good propagandist are piety, supernatural sense, discipline, agility, love of study, Christian audacity and healthy optimism.

(F. Martín-Sánchez)

FERNANDO MARTÍN-SÁNCHEZ JULIÁ

Fernando Martín-Sánchez was the second ACdP president from 1935 to 1953. As Agricultural and Geographic Engineer he was very active in student associations. He was founder of the Catholic Students' Federation, represented Spain in the foundation of the Catholic students international movement called Pax Romana and chaired it in 1929. Fernando Martin-Sanchez founded CEU (Centre of University Studies) in 1933 and San Pablo Residential College in 1951. Being still young, he suffered a degenerative paralysis which obliged him to use a wheelchair until his death in 1970.



ACdP's current most important work is CEU Education Group.

Centre for University Studies was created in 1933 by ACdP and is the core of today's San Pablo CEU University Foundation. It was established with a view to making positive changes in society through its educational centres offering an educational framework based on Christian Gospel values and through the work it carries out in the public realm in defence of humanity and justice. The Foundation's educational model is based on **Christian Humanistic principles, commitment to academic excellence and providing an all-round education.**





UNIVERSITIES AND SCHOOLS

In 2019 CEU Educational Group holds three private universities in Spain: **CEU San Pablo in Madrid, CEU Abat Oliba in Barcelona and CEU Cardenal Herrera in Valencia.** Furthermore, it has 25 educational centres offering 200 officially recognised programmes from early childhood education to postgraduate studies and vocational training. The group's campus are in Murcia, Castellón, Alicante, Vigo, Elche, Sevilla, Vitoria and Valladolid.

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