

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

RONALD S. LAUDER
PRESIDENT

His Holiness
Pope Francis
Saint Martha House
00120 Città del Vaticano
Vatican City

Your Holiness,

On behalf of the World Jewish Congress and our affiliated communities in more than 100 countries, I wish to extend my deep gratitude for your principled decision to fully open the Vatican's archives on Pope Pius XII.

The World Jewish Congress has long urged the Vatican to make such a vitally important move, in order to clarify the many questions and concerns that have prevailed for decades regarding what the Holy See did and did not do during World War II. It is critical, for the sake of history, that historians have full access to these essential documents.

Your agreement to make public potentially sensitive information relating to Pope Pius' legacy is a true demonstration of your dedication to the remembrance of the Shoah, and a testament to your commitment to strong and open relations between Catholics and Jews.

I am truly grateful that under your papacy, the ties fostered between the Catholic Church and Jews over the past few decades have continued to flourish and thrive and appreciate that you are always a willing partner for dialogue with the global Jewish community.

We look forward to many more years of friendship and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

