ONBOARDING 3 | APR - MAY 2026

COUNTRY'S

SOCIAL

NEEDS







REGION OF EAST AND SOUTH ASIA

PATH TO THE
CENTENARY
2028/30



INTRODUCTION

This onboarding module guides your team in understanding the needs of society in your country, with a focus on two groups: **families** and **young people**.

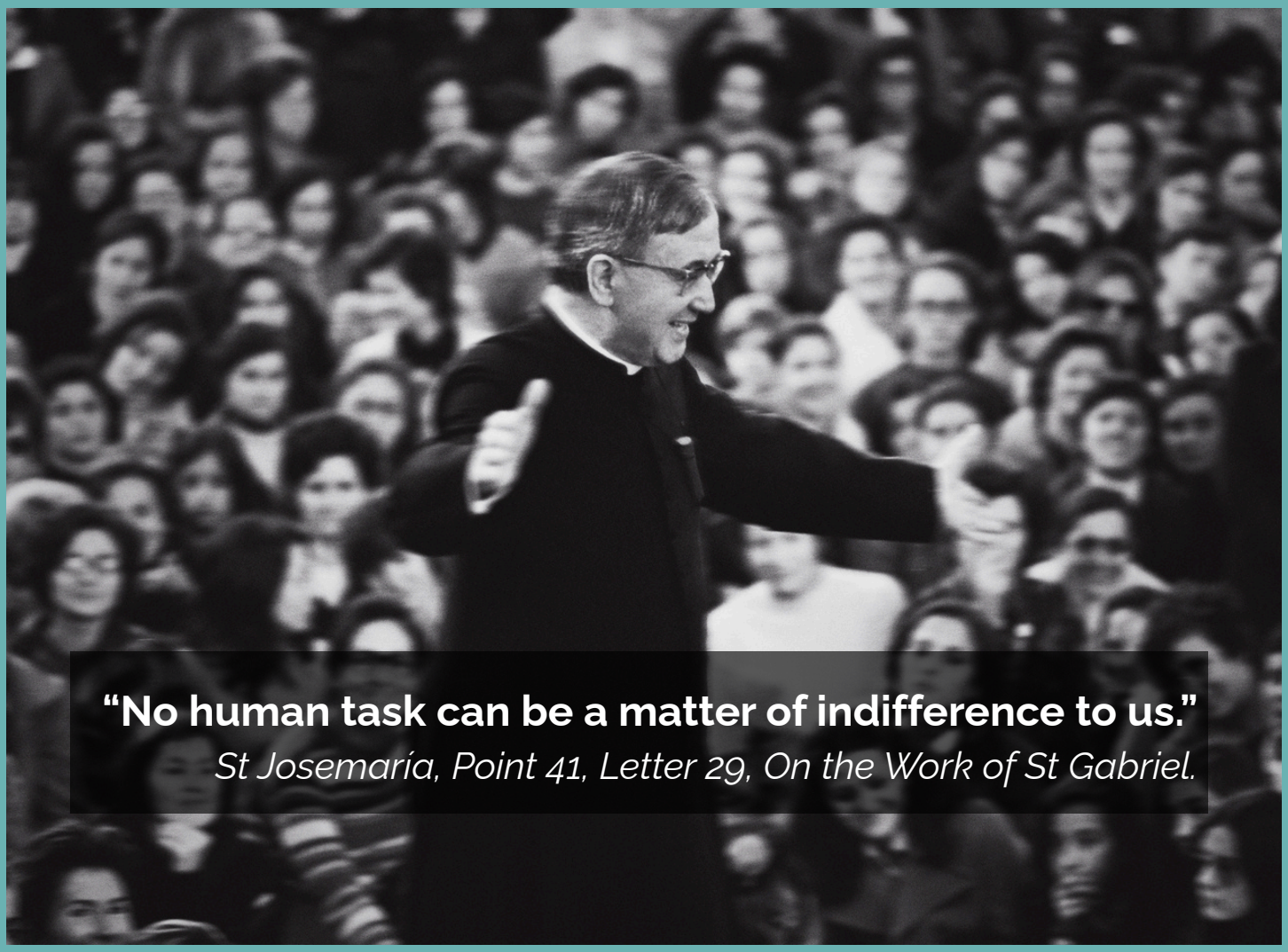
The Central Centenary Committee has identified three key target groups as areas of attention. Families and young people are two of these. Understanding their real needs and challenges is essential if we want to respond in a meaningful way.

This module has 3 parts. The first is a foundational section on what it means **not to be bystanders,** but people who **take responsibility in society** and are **actively engaged in it**.

The next two sections focus on the two groups, with reading materials specific to each. This is followed by a short research component to help you better understand the broader realities in your country.

As with the other onboarding modules, begin by reading the materials individually, then come together as a group to discuss and compile your insights.

ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN SOCIETY



“No human task can be a matter of indifference to us.”

St Josemaría, Point 41, Letter 29, On the Work of St Gabriel.

Looking toward the next hundred years: what role will Opus Dei play in an increasingly secularized society that is growing more distant from the Church?

To help each person recognize that they have a divine vocation, one that gives full meaning to their life. The beauty of the Gospel is lived and shared above all in the family, in the relationship between spouses, with children, and among siblings. The realization that God is calling me, here and now, to be united with Jesus wherever I find myself is a source of joy, security, and hope.

Excerpt from interview with Historian José Luis González Gullón by Italian outlet Affari Italiani. Full interview here



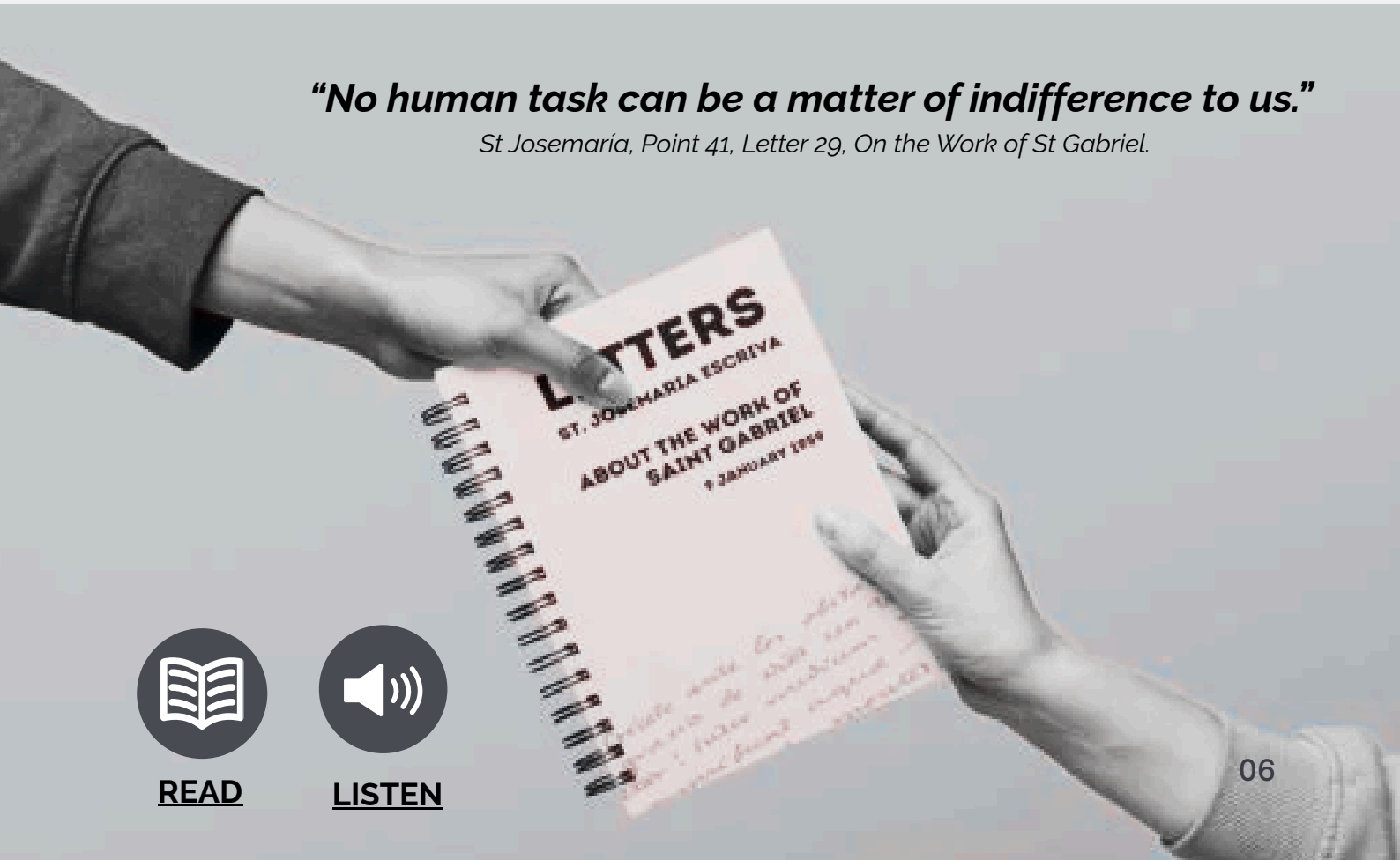
ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN SOCIETY

In this letter, Saint Josemaría invites Supernumeraries into a "human and supernatural adventure" of co-redemption with Christ. He defines their vocation as a path to holiness found in the "bright and cheerful" realities of family life and professional work. By living as "leaven in the dough," Supernumeraries are called to divinize the world from within, transforming everyday tasks into a "divine path on earth".

In **Points 41–52,** he urges his children to be "fearlessly present" in every social structure—from parents' associations to the halls of government—driven by an "apostolic zeal" for peace and understanding. Because no human task is indifferent to God, Supernumeraries exercise their personal freedom to give a Christian orientation to society, defending the family and ensuring social justice for "humbler folk". This involvement is a "service of a professional nature" born of love, aimed at placing Christ at the summit of all human activities

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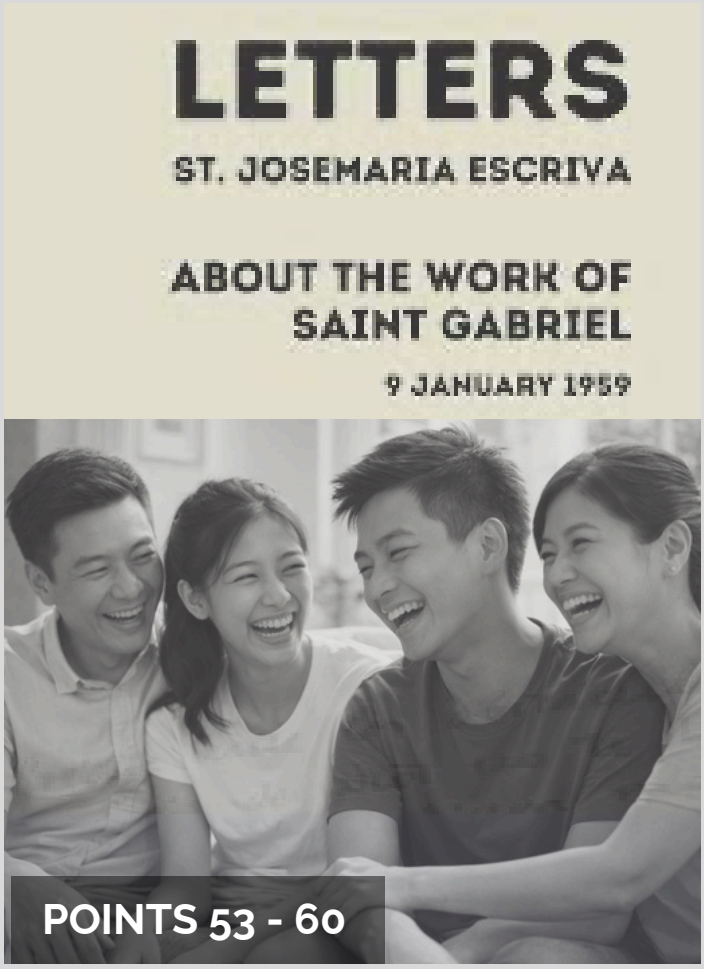
READ **LISTEN**

FAMILIES



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ON MARRIAGE & FAMILIES



READ

LISTEN

The letter defines the family as the primary "Christian cell of society," identifying the home as the first and most vital field of apostolate. Within this structure, marriage is recognized as a "divine path on earth," where everyday domestic duties are transformed into a source of sanctification. To establish a strong foundation, St Josemaría highlights the importance of fostering "bright and cheerful homes" that serve as schools for human and supernatural virtues, emphasizing an atmosphere of freedom and mutual sacrifice.

Supporting families in wider society involves a proactive presence in the associations and legislative processes that shape human relations. This includes participation in parents' organizations and advocating for a Christian orientation in laws concerning marriage, education, and property rights. Furthermore, St Josemaría points to the necessity of promoting social justice through "job security and proper pay" and ensuring equal access to education, which provide the temporal stability required for the human person and the family to thrive.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV

on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the post-synodal apostolic exhortation **AMORIS LAETITIA**

A decade ago, Pope Francis published Amoris Laetitia, the Apostolic Exhortation on "love in the family," inspired by the Synods of Bishops of 2014 and 2015.

In a letter published on Wednesday, March 19, 2026, Pope Leo XIV praised the document as a "luminous message of hope regarding conjugal love and family life."

The 2016 Exhortation "encouraged reflection and pastoral conversion in the Church," the Pope wrote, and "offers valuable teachings that we must continue to examine today."

READ

SUMMARY

AMORIS LAETITIA

DEEP DIVE



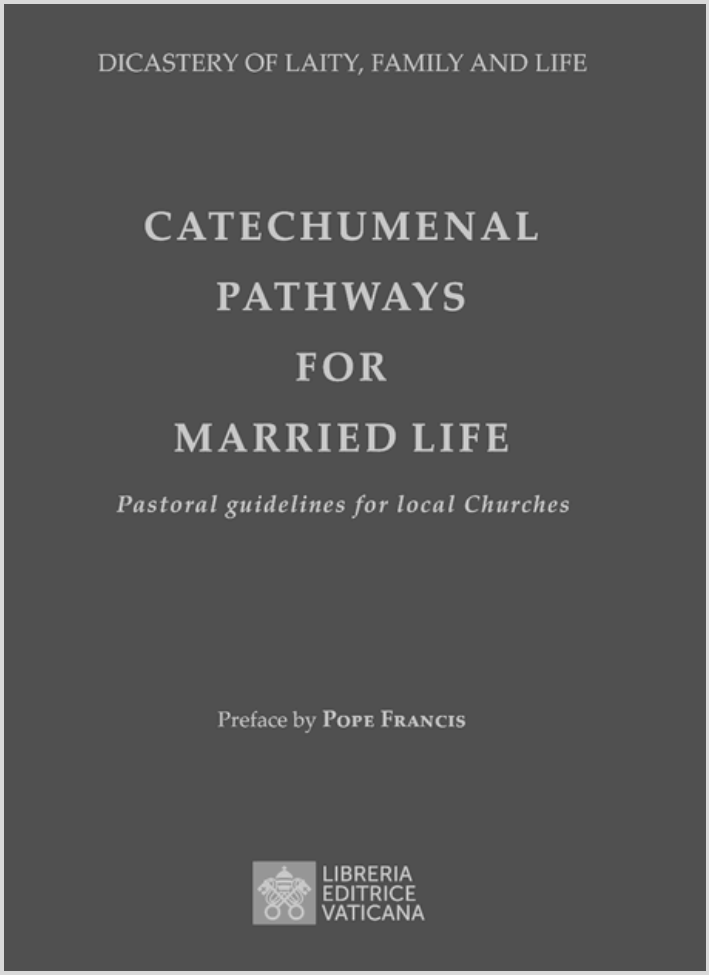
"There are, in fact, places and circumstances in which the Church "can become the salt of the earth" only through the lay faithful and, in particular, through families."

CATECHUMENAL PATHWAYS FOR MARRIED LIFE

Published by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, Catechumenal Pathways for Married Life," serves as a guide for global Catholic leadership to transform how they prepare couples for the sacrament of matrimony.

The initiative aims to create a spiritual journey that helps young people rediscover their faith as they explore a potential vocation to domestic life.

By offering a structured process of discernment, the text seeks to provide more profound pastoral support for the next generation of families within the Church.



READ

VIDEO OVERVIEW

YOUNG PEOPLE



FOOTPRINTS

An International Study on Young People, Spirituality, Faith & Religion





An international research group presented their findings on youth, values, and religion in Rome in 2024. The study was carried out by the "**Footprints**" research group from the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross (Rome) and seven other universities around the world.

The survey was conducted in November and December 2023 in eight countries: Argentina, Brazil, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Philippines, Spain, and the United Kingdom. The sample consisted of 4,889 young people between 18 and 29 years of age.

ABOUT

RESEARCH ARTICLES

UNCOVERING
INSIGHTS



UNCOVERING INSIGHTS

This section is a little different from the other material that you have received so far. Here, you'll be filling in the information yourself.

Your goal is to understand what **families** and **young people** in your country are actually facing today to get a good understanding of their needs.

You are not researchers, so this exercise is for you to uncover and find evidence of what the challenges in your society are and to piece together information that you can find to give you a more complete picture.



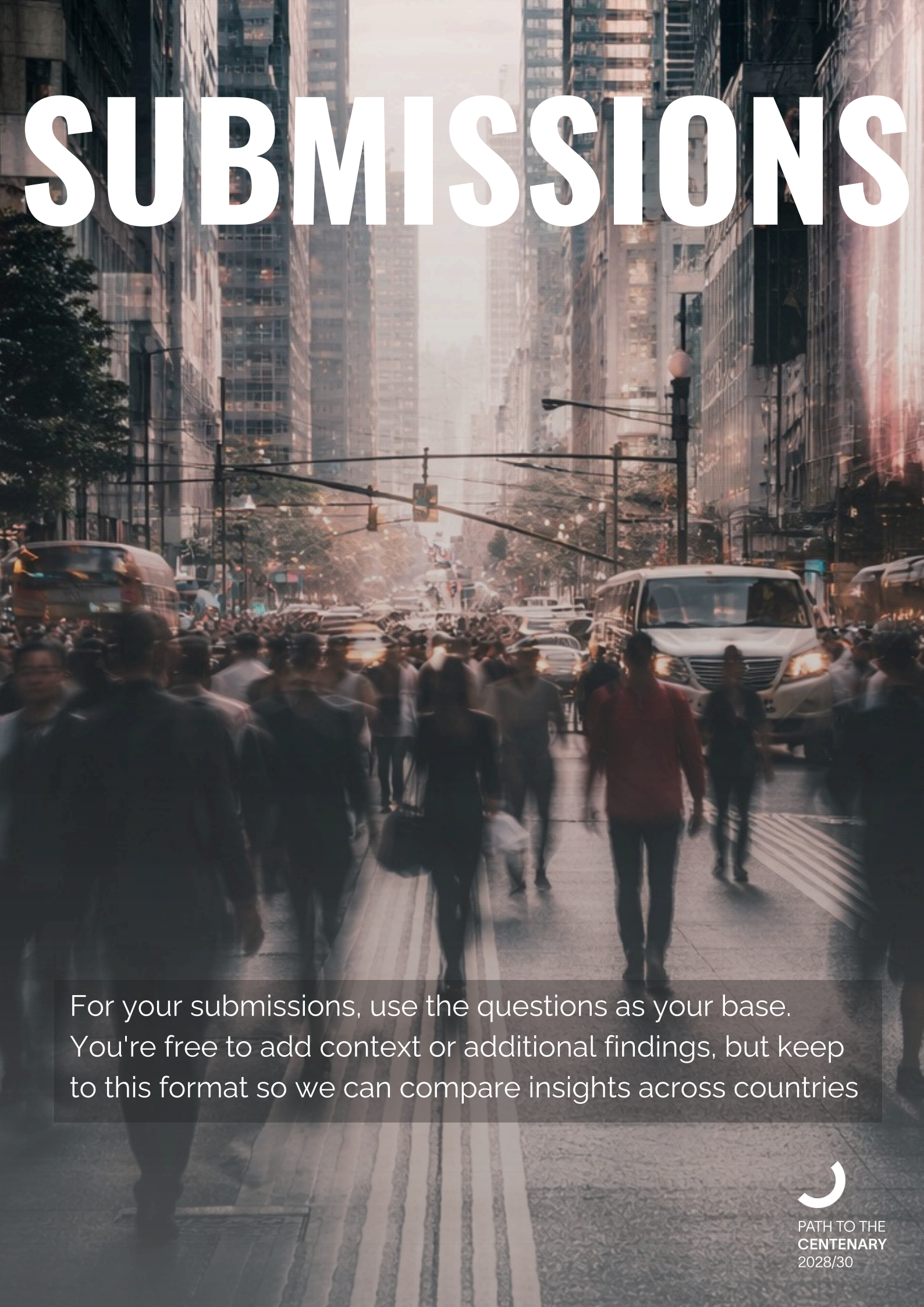
There are 3 parts to this:

1. **Themes to investigate :** key questions to hold whilst you read and look for information
2. **Where to look :** a list of broad trusted sources for you to start with (not Google)
3. **What to do with it :** reference the summary sheet at the end.

The process:

1. Read the themes for your country (these are broad guides). You can choose to explore all the themes or focus only on a few of them.
2. Go to the recommended sources. Skim, there's no need to read everything.
3. Note 3-5 nuggets of information that stand out, including any that surprise you.
4. Fill in the Country Summary Sheet

SUBMISSIONS



For your submissions, use the questions as your base. You're free to add context or additional findings, but keep to this format so we can compare insights across countries

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INSIGHTS



Complete one submission for each group, Families and Young People.

1. What did the sources tell you about the real situation of families/young people? *(List your key findings below. Include the source next to each one)*

2. What was the finding that surprised you the most or challenged what you assumed?

3. What gaps emerged ? What is needed to address them?

4. What initiatives could be relevant?