



## PRESS RELEASE

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**For immediate release**

### Statement from the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors

We would like to acknowledge and applaud the bravery and witness of all those who have suffered abuse in the Church and who have been left empty-handed when seeking justice.

The Holy Father's decision to allow a canonical trial to proceed in the Rupnik case is crucial, not only for the victims but for the whole Church. As a Commission, we remain concerned about the Church's disciplinary processes and its inadequacies. We will remain watchful in ensuring the adequate administration of justice.

There is no room in ministry for those who would violate so profoundly those entrusted to their care. We urge all those who exercise any form of leadership to ensure that our Church is a place of welcome, understanding and care for everyone, with a preference for those who are marginalized in our Church.

As the Synod comes to a close, we repeat the important role that a culture of safeguarding should play in any theology of ministry, leadership or worship. The core of the Church's mandate is to render everyone safe, to protect the vulnerable from whatever threatens them, and to lead them to the fullness of life known through God's own promises.

Building a culture of safeguarding carries the Gospel into people's lives, bringing comfort to those who suffer and showing a broken world God's promise that all be saved.

ENDS