

His Eminence Cardinal Óscar Andrés Rodríguez Maradiaga

Director



His Eminence Cardinal Óscar Andrés Rodríguez Maradiaga, S.D.B., Metropolitan Archbishop Emeritus of Tegucigalpa (Honduras), was appointed to the Food For The Poor (FFTP) Board of Directors in 2008.

A native of Honduras, Cardinal Rodríguez formerly presided as the bishop of Honduras, served as the President of the Episcopal Conference of Honduras, and is the founder of the Catholic University of Honduras, "Our Lady Queen of Peace." In 2001 he became his country's first cardinal, and he went on to serve as coordinator of Pope Francis' Council of Cardinals from 2013 to 2023. Cardinal Rodriguez stepped down as Archbishop in 2023 and currently serves as Archbishop Emeritus of Tegucigalpa.

Considered a rising star of the Latin American church, his campaign for human rights and the poor has won widespread praise. Cardinal Rodríguez is admired as a dynamic pastor who brokered peace accords with rebels and led rebuilding efforts following a natural disaster. He was elected as the 11th President of Caritas Internationalis by the Caritas Confederation members.

He is multilingual, with degrees in philosophy and theology and a diploma in clinical psychology. He was President of the Conference of Latin American Bishops (CELAM) from 1995 to 1999. He has also been a member of several Pontifical Councils, including the Council for Social Communications, the Council for Justice and Peace and the Commission for Latin America.

His Eminence has served as the Vatican's spokesperson to the International Monetary Fund and World Bank on the topic of third world debt.