

# M5 chooses to find new ways of understanding economy and politics

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## To find new ways of understanding economy and politics

To be committed to finding new ways of understanding the economy, politics, growth, and progress that can truly stand at the service of the human person and the entire human family, within the context of an integral ecology.



**Grade M5 at Gonzaga International school chooses to make human persons the centre. In the months leading up to the Jesuit Education Network's audience with the pope, M5 students have dedicated their time to studying the Global Compact on Education as set forth by Pope Francis. From the '7 Commitments', they have chosen the sixth one as their object of inquiry and investigation. Reflecting on their understanding of economy and politics, students aimed to pinpoint aspects of our political system that are in need of change.**

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My understanding of politics is the people who govern countries within a defined system. They decide and make the laws and choose different people to control the country through elections which are carried out by the government while the population votes. Politics can also be outside of a country with international politics that concern many countries about the economy and money and relations. Politics doesn't only include the economy, it also includes various aspects of life which the world needs in order to thrive. I would change the way people come into power through connections in the government which leads to bad leadership and shameless self-promotion. Since they are in power they are able to control almost everything and are ultimately able to load their pockets. I would change this because throughout history corrupt countries have severely suffered and still continue to suffer today due to people who are at the top only for their own interest.

In politics I would like to change corruption. Now, obviously that's almost impossible to achieve, but what I mean is doing away with unlimited terms for representatives and senators. I am also concerned with democracies not following democratic processes (Macron being autocratic with his latest law) and voting being completely rigged or changed. I am also concerned about the situation in economics where prices are constantly rising, but most people are not able to keep up with this price increase. As such, the rich are thriving at the poor's expense.

Taxes and food prices are higher than ever before and it affects the living of less fortunate people. If an economy is defined as a social domain that emphasizes the practices, discourses, and material expressions associated with the production, use, and management of scarce resources, we must ask who has the right to influence this social domain. Politics is the set of

activities that are associated with making decisions in groups, or other forms of power relations among individuals, such as the distribution of resources or status. It should be the job of politicians then to make sure the people's voices are heard regarding a country's economic management. There is a problem because politicians are no longer held responsible! I do not have the answer but this is a dilemma that needs to be addressed.