

Pope Francis Is Not Judging Donald Trump, but He Does Have Concerns

Pope Francis declined to give a personal judgment on U.S. President-elect Donald Trump in an interview on Friday, saying he was interested only in the impact of politicians' choices on the poor.

Asked what he thought of the real estate mogul who won Tuesday's U.S. presidential election, the Argentine pontiff was quoted in Italian newspaper *La Repubblica* as saying: "I do not make judgments on people and political men, I only want to understand what suffering their behavior causes to the poor and the excluded."

Francis went on to say that his greatest concern at the moment is for refugees and migrants, declaring: "We must knock down the walls that divide."

Earlier this year, the pope suggested Trump's stance on immigration, which included a campaign pledge to build a wall on the border to keep out illegal immigrants, was "not Christian".

A papal spokesman later said this was not a personal attack. The Vatican's highest-ranking diplomat wished Trump well in government on Wednesday, saying he would pray for the President-elect's "enlightenment." {eoa}

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