## The words of the Congress

## **PRESENCE**

Angelo Pasquini and Raffaella Bencivenga are two young Educational Psychologists, graduates from the Faculty of Educational Sciences «Auxilium».

They will speak with "two voices" at the round table on September 28, presenting a reflection on: «The Adult "Presence" in the Perception of the New Generations».

Welcome! Today we are talking about "Presence", a word at the center of the round table entitled: "Challenges and Resources to Re-Establish today's Salesian Educational "Presence". We talk about it with Raffaella Bencivenga and Angelo Pasquini, Educational Psychologists.

## What adult do today's youth need?

They need an adult who educates the question and therefore instead of giving answers provides a time and space for the big questions and the big desires that inhabit the young. An adult who never stops questioning oneself, who focuses on the person, one's best energy and tries to train as many people as possible in the service of the other.

## The category of the educational presence of the adult presupposes, among other things, trust. In what sense?

When we talk about trust we are talking about an essential element in every person's life. As such it is characterized by a sense of optimism, of willingness to meet others who are different from oneself.

The other is considered not as a threat, but rather as a wealth in the path of one's life.

The adult as an educator relates to the young person by placing their trust in him and, therefore, looks and observes the young person in the "here and now", within one's own limits, but above all in one's own potential, having a look projected into the future and into the moment in which these potentials can take shape ... And it is in this moment that the adult is able to give space and time for growth to the young person, helping him to walk and to become, too, a conscious adult.