Principle of Subsidiarity

John Paul II, *Centessimus annus* (on the One Hundredth Anniversary of *Rerum novarum*), 1991, paragraph 48:

"Here again the principle of subsidiarity must be respected: a community of a higher order should not interfere in the internal life of a community of a lower order, depriving the latter of its functions, but rather should support it in case of need and help to coordinate its activity with the activities of the rest of society, always with a view to the common good (cf. QA 25-30)."

*NOTE the positive (should) and negative (should not) imperatives in this principle.