



Crossing Borders – Building Bridges

**1st International Doctoral Conference for Theology, Religious Studies, and Ethics
September 24–26, 2026 | Faculty of Catholic Theology, University of Graz**

Early-career researchers face a wide range of challenges during their research process. In particular, the visibility of their results and the establishment of academic networks are two crucial aspects that often require external support.

For the first time, the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Graz is hosting an interdisciplinary conference, and invites young scholars to present their doctoral projects (or specific aspects thereof) in a 20-minute presentation and receive constructive peer feedback in a collegial academic setting. The conference also offers the opportunity to exchange ideas with colleagues from different disciplines and nations.

The aim is to create an innovative and international platform for young researchers in the fields of Theology, Religious Studies and Ethics that promotes academic dialogue and builds bridges across disciplinary and geographical boundaries – following the motto:

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We welcome doctoral projects with various methodological approaches from all areas of Theology, Religious Studies, and (Applied) Ethics.

In addition to the presentation and discussion, all participants will have the option to publish their contribution in a conference volume (in print and subsequently Open Access), which will be published in the faculty series "Theologie im kulturellen Dialog" (Theology in Cultural Dialogue).

The focus of our joint conference is not only on academic exchange but also on cultural encounter. For this reason, an attractive social program will be offered, featuring both cultural and culinary highlights.

Application

Please submit your application for this conference by June 14, 2026, via email to forschungsdekan.theol@uni-graz.at.

Application Documents:

- Abstract of the presentation topic (approx. 5,000 characters)
- Short CV (max. 2 pages) including: academic career, research interests, and list of publications.

Applications will be evaluated in a review process and selected for participation in the conference.

The final decision on your participation will be communicated by July 2026.

The Faculty of Catholic Theology endeavors to provide affordable room contingents; further information will be communicated upon acceptance of your presentation in July 2026. In addition, participants may receive financial support from the Faculty of Catholic Theology in Graz in the form of a grant or reimbursement for travel and accommodation costs if required. In this case, please include a written explanation for the necessity of a subsidy and a cost calculation for your travel and accommodation expenses with your application.

Conference Languages: German and English

For questions, please contact: forschungsdekan.theol@uni-graz.at