

Schwerter Arbeitskreis

> Katholizismusforschung

40th Annual Conference (November 20–22, 2026, Schwerte)

Call for Papers

The Annual Conference of the Schwerter Arbeitskreis (Schwerte Working Group) is an open forum for scholars from theology, history, cultural studies, and related disciplines to engage in collaborative dialogue. Participants have the opportunity to present and discuss their current projects, research questions, and findings in the field of Catholicism studies within a collegial atmosphere. In addition to scholarly exchange, the conference offers numerous opportunities for personal conversation and professional networking. This year's conference will take place from **November 20–22, 2026**, in cooperation with the **Katholische Akademie Schwerte** (Catholic Academy Schwerte).

We warmly invite scholars to submit proposals for project presentations and thematic contributions that examine **Catholicism within the contexts of modernity and contemporary history** from diverse perspectives. Submissions may include empirical case studies, multifaceted methodological and theoretical approaches, interdisciplinary perspectives, or critical engagement with specific research theses. We enable contributors to critically examine historical sources and their interpretations in varied ways, while also addressing existing methodological and theoretical challenges. Furthermore, we invite participants to transcend disciplinary boundaries and reflect on their findings in relation to established research frameworks. **Submissions from doctoral candidates and early-career researchers are especially welcome.**

Each presentation will be allocated 50 minutes within the conference schedule. We kindly request speakers to limit their talks to 20–25 minutes to allow sufficient time for discussion. The Catholic Academy Schwerte will cover accommodation and meal expenses for all speakers.

Please submit your proposal, including a half-page abstract and a brief CV, by **April 30, 2026**, via email to Ringo Müller (ringo.mueller@uni-erfurt.de). Conference papers may be considered for publication. For any inquiries, please contact the coordinators of the Working Group. We look forward to receiving your contributions.

Those interested in learning more about previous conferences and recent participant projects are welcome to visit our website (<https://www.katholizismusforschung.de>).

Participation in the Schwerte Working Group conference is open to all interested scholars, even without submitting a formal presentation. Both the coordinators and members of the Working Group warmly welcome new participants. The official invitation, including the program and registration materials, will be distributed prior to the summer break.

Coordinators

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