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Netherlands School for Advanced Studies
in Theology and Religion

EU Research Funding for Theology and Religious Studies

Date & Time: Friday, 13 November 2026, 13:30-17:00
Language: English
Location: University of Humanistic Studies, Kromme Nieuwegracht 29, Utrecht, Room 0.38
Audience: NOSTER senior members (postdocs, assistants/associate/full professors); interested junior members are welcome to join.
Description: The goal of this meeting is to deepen our understanding of EU Research Funding for Theology and Religious Studies and share valuable insights and experiences that can improve the success rates of future applications. We will hear from experts on the present and future of EU Research Funding, as well as from successful applicants and members of review panels. There will be time for Q&A as well as for connecting with colleagues over coffee and drinks.

Please register here, preferably by 5 November

13:30 Welcome and Introduction – dr. Matthijs den Dulk (NOSTER)

13:40 Understanding EU Research Funding

Pauline Donders MA (grant officer RU for Theology & Religious Studies) on ERC and other EU funding opportunities.
Dr. **Sebastian Winkler** (ERC) on SH panel descriptors and what to consider when choosing the evaluation panel.
Rian Hesdahl MSc (policy advisor SSH Council) on upcoming developments regarding EU research funding.

14:30 Evaluating EU Research Funding Applications

Professor dr. **René van Woudenberg** (VU), ERC SH5 Panel Member.
Dr. **Edmund Hayes** (UL), ERC SH6 Panel Member.
Professor dr. **Christian Lange** (UU), ERC SH5 Panel Member and Chair.

Short break

15:25 Applying for EU Research Funding

Dr. **Kati Ihnat** (RU), recipient of an ERC Consolidator Grant for REMMINIS, which reconstructs Christian ritual in al-Andalus (2026-31).
Dr. **Anna Dlabacova** (UL), recipient of an ERC Starting Grant for the project 'Pages of Prayer. The Ecosystem of Vernacular Prayer Books in the Late Medieval Low Countries, c. 1380-1550 [PRAYER]' (2023-2029) and Vice Chair of the COST Action PRAYTICIPATE - Participation through Prayer in the Late Medieval and Early Modern World.
Professor dr. **Mladen Popović** (RUG), recipient of an an ERC Advanced Grant for the project 'Tracing Scribes and Scrolls' (2026-31) and an ERC Starting Grant for the project 'The Hands that Wrote the Bible: Digital Palaeography and Scribal Culture of the Dead Sea Scrolls' (2015-2020).

16:15 Concluding Remarks & Drinks