



Palacký University
Olomouc



UNIVERSITY
OF LODZ

Call for Papers

International Conference

Digital Religion V: Interfaces of Discourse, Society, and Politics

November 19–21, 2026

University of Lodz, Department of Pragmatics, Poland

Positioned within contemporary struggles over public meaning, social affiliation and political legitimacy, digital religion is articulated through mediated practices in which claims about faith, community, authority and truth become resources for negotiating belonging, morality, identity and power.

Digital Religion V invites papers that examine these practices at the interfaces of discourse, society and politics, with a focus on digital religious discourse both as product and as practice: as a textual and multimodal form, and as situated action involving the production, distribution, and consumption of religious meanings across platforms, publics and institutional contexts.

The interfaces are approached as sites of contact and tension, with religious doctrine informing everyday moral judgement, ritual participation intersecting with activism, institutional authority being negotiated alongside influencer charisma, and private spirituality assuming sociopolitical significance. Central to these processes are conceptualization, representation, recontextualization and affect: religious meanings are made cognitively accessible, salient, and invested with the emotional force. Digital affordances, in turn, enable their circulation across genres, platforms and publics, attaching them to causes and conflicts and intensifying the interplay between religious expression, social affiliation and political positioning.



We invite papers

Digital Religion V: Interfaces of Discourse, Society, and Politics

We invite papers addressing, but not limited to, the following questions and areas:

- How does digital religious discourse shape public debates, legitimise authority or mark the limits of belonging?
- How do social and political conflicts become legible through religion in platformed public communicative practice?
- Under what conditions do digital religious practices sustain care, solidarity, memory and participation, or produce antagonism, exclusion and radicalisation?
- What happens when politics borrows religious repertoires, when religious actors adopt platform tactics, and when platforms order religious visibility?
- How are institutional religion, lived religion, spirituality, atheism and anti-religious discourse brought into contact in digital environments?
- How are religious authority, expertise, authenticity, charisma and credibility established, challenged or displaced under conditions of platformed visibility?
- How do religious symbols, narratives, values and moral vocabularies enter nationalism, populism, conspiracy cultures, extremism and culture-war discourse?
- How do metaphors organise the affective and moral intelligibility of digital religious discourse, shaping how publics recognise threat, victimhood, duty, crisis, hope or belonging?
- How are religious identities politicised, and how are social or political conflicts religionised, across digital platforms?
- How do digital religious discourses construct publics, counter-publics, minorities, moral communities, dissent and exclusion?
- How are gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, migration, diaspora, class, generation and disability articulated through religious and anti-religious discourse online?
- How does digital religious communication respond to war, displacement, ecological crisis, violence, inequality, insecurity and social change?
- How does affect shape the public force of digital religion, from fear, hope and compassion to resentment, moral outrage, grief and collective grievance?
- How do digital affordances, algorithms, metrics, moderation, recommendation systems and visibility regimes condition religious discourse and participation?



We welcome theoretical, methodological and empirical papers from media and communication studies, discourse studies, religious studies, theology, sociology, anthropology, political science, linguistics, cultural studies, digital humanities and related fields. Contributions may focus on particular platforms, communities, traditions, controversies or media genres, as well as on comparative, transnational or historical perspectives.



The conference will be organised in a hybrid format, with the possibility of both on-site and online participation. While the main conference language is English, a limited number of papers in Polish may also be accepted.



Conference information

Digital Religion V

Keynote speakers

Prof. Elizabeth Poole, Keele University, UK

Dr. Stephen Pihlaja, Aston University UK

Conference date

November 19–21, 2026

Conference venue

Faculty of Philology
University of Lodz
Pomorska 171/173
90-236 Lodz, Poland

Conference website

<https://www.ethicsinmedia.eu/digital-religion-2026>

Conference email

digital.religion@uni.lodz.pl

Submissions and deadlines

Abstracts in English, along with a short bio including full name, email address and affiliation, should be submitted by **September 30th, 2026** via the conference submission form at:

<https://www.ethicsinmedia.eu/digital-religion-2026>

Notifications of acceptance will be sent to authors by **October 7th, 2026**.





Fees, publication and organising committee

Digital Religion V



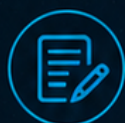
Conference fee

- The conference fee is EUR 80, and the payment deadline is November 3rd, 2026.
- A reduced fee for PhD students and participants from low-income countries is EUR 50.
- Bank transfer and exchange costs are paid by participants.
- Conference fees should be transferred to the following bank account:
- Please ensure that the participant's name and "Digital Religion 2026" are included in the payment reference.



The bank account holder:

University of Lodz
PL 26 1240 3028 1111 0011 7022 1640
BIC/SWIFT: PKOPPLPW
Bank: Bank Polska Kasa Opieki S.A., II Oddział w Łodzi
ul. Piotrkowska 270, 90-361 Łódź



For participants from Poland – additional financial information

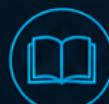
Osoby, które będą potrzebowały faktury, prosimy o dokonanie płatności przelewem do 03.11.2026 i wpisanie danych do faktury w formularzu zgłoszeniowym.

Dane do faktury dla uczestnika konferencji "Digital Religion 2026":

- Imię i nazwisko:
- Nazwa i adres instytucji:
- NIP Instytucji:
- Upoważniam Uniwersytet Łódzki w Łodzi do wystawienia faktury VAT bez mojego podpisu:
- Data i czytelny podpis



Any inquiries and questions regarding the conference should be sent to
digital.religion@uni.lodz.pl



Proceedings

Selected papers will be considered for publication in Lodz Papers in Pragmatics (De Gruyter-Brill) and an edited volume with an international publisher.



Organizing committee

- **Monika Tosik**, Department of Pragmatics, University of Lodz, Poland
- **Jaroslav Franc**, Department of Communication, Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic
- **Renata Sedlakova**, Department of Communication, Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic
- **Damian Guzek**, Center for the Study of the Digital Public Sphere, University of Silesia in Katowice
Department of Communication, Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic
- **Veronika Müllerová**, Department of Communication, Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic