

COST Action “Connecting Theory and Practical Issues of Migration and Religious Diversity” (COREnet) CA20107

**COST Action COREnet
MASTER’S THESIS AWARD**

**CALL FOR MASTER’S THESES IN RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY AND
MIGRATION**

The COST Action “Connecting Theory and Practical Issues of Migration and Religious Diversity” (COREnet) offers an exciting opportunity to submit master’s theses for a chance to be selected to participate in person at the 38th Biennial ISSR conference “Religion, Migration, and Conflicts in Polarized Societies” conference in Kaunas, Lithuania (June 30 – July 4, 2025, at Vytautas Magnus University). Travel funds will be available for the winner (the author of the best master thesis).

What type of master’s theses can apply?

All master’s theses written between 2021 and 2025, from the European countries, in the field of practice-based research on religious diversity and migration, broadly defined, are eligible. Master theses should be single-authored. There are no limitations regarding the length or grade of the thesis. A precondition is, however, that the author has submitted the thesis. If the master’s thesis has not yet been defended or graded, the applicant must provide documentation confirming its submission.

Should the master’s thesis be in English?

It is the ambition of the COREnet master’s thesis award to allow for theses in any language, but an abstract (max. one page) must be in English. We will try to recruit evaluators in all languages and evaluate theses in any language.

Who can apply?

All authors of master’s theses, or their supervisors, can apply. We particularly encourage master’s theses supervisors to motivate their master’s students to apply, or to submit the application on behalf of their students (if both parties agree). We understand that it is not always easy for master’s theses authors.

Timetable and process

The deadline for submitting the master's thesis is **February 10, 2025**. The master's thesis should be sent to corenet@vdu.lt with an English abstract (max one page) and the required documentation (applicable to those who have not defended/ received the grade for their master's thesis yet). The email should be marked with "COREnet Master's Thesis Contest".

At the beginning of February 2025, the evaluation committee, consisting of experts from different disciplines and (language) contexts, will start the evaluation. The committee will prepare a ranked list of the submitted theses and suggest an award winner by April 15th, 2025. COREnet will officially announce the winner in April 2025.

Evaluation

Master Thesis Award Evaluation Team:

- Goda Cicėnaitė, University of Iceland;
- Jasna Milošević Đorđević, University of Singidunum, Serbia;
- Anita Lunić, University of Split/Croatia;
- Rabia Karakaya Polat, Işık University, Turkey;
- Juan Carlos Martín, Full Professor of Applied Economics at the Institute of Tourism and Sustainable Economic Development of the University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria;
- Alessandro Indelicato, Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria University of Eastern Finland;
- Monica Roman, Professor of Statistics and Econometrics, Bucharest University of Economic Studies;
- Evelyn Reuter, postdoctoral researcher at the University of the Bundeswehr Munich (Germany);
- Duygu Altinoluk joining if there will be a thesis submitted in Turkish; Professor Associate) at Kilis 7 Aralık Üniversitesi;
- Violeta Marković, PhD in Political Science; University of Belgrade, Faculty of Political Science;
- Emira Kalaj, Professor of Economics and Finance, University of Shkodra, "Luigj Gurakuqi".

Evaluation Process

All master's theses will read by at least two evaluators who will give them a score between 1 (weak) and 5 (excellent) with regard to the following five criteria.

Criteria	Weight
Relevance of the thesis for the call	20 %
Clarity and consistency of the methods	20 %
Clarity and consistency of the argumentation	20 %
Relevance of the research and the results for the practice	20 %
Innovation/potential for innovation	20 %

The best three master's theses will be read by the whole evaluation team and ranked after this.

Contacts

- Chair of the Master Thesis Award Evaluation Committee – Prof. Jasna Milošević, jasna.milosevic@fmk.edu.rs
- Chair of the Management Committee of the Action – Prof. Dr. Milda Ališauskienė, milda.alisauskiene@vdu.lt.
- Grant Holder Manager – Dr. Gintarė Poce, gintare.poce@vdu.lt.

About COREnet

COREnet is an interdisciplinary network that aims to produce, exchange, and build knowledge and collaborations across Europe on the topic of migration and religious diversity. COREnet focuses on combining theoretical and practical issues at the intersection of migration and religious diversity with a particular emphasis on bottom-up research. It aims to explain better, understand and analyse the pertinent issues and challenges; moreover, it also aims to explore viable solutions and ways forward to support migrants, migration and religious diversity in an inclusive Europe.

More information about COST Action COREnet is [here](#).

More about the COREnet/ISSR conference is [here](#).

About COST

This call is based upon work from COST Action “Connecting Theory and Practical Issues of Migration and Religious Diversity” (COREnet) CA20107 supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

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