

“Facing Inequalities – Strategies for Change” – Call for Papers

**International Conference
6-7 November 2025
University of Graz, Austria**

Organised by the *Cluster In/Equalities in the Context of Social Transformation Processes* of the Field of Excellence *Dimensions of Europe*, University of Graz

In an era marked by profound social, political, and economic transformations, inequalities—whether based on race, gender, class, ethnicity, age, or other dimensions—remain pervasive challenges globally. While the complex mechanisms of inclusion and exclusion are constantly at play, we are also witnessing the development of alternative strategies and practices that challenge these inequalities.

The conference **“Facing Inequalities – Strategies for Change”** focuses on the intersections of multiple inequalities and questions how mechanisms of exclusion and inclusion are (re)produced, negotiated, and challenged through alternative imaginations and practices. It aims to foster a deeper understanding of these complexities and explore strategies to promote equality, inclusivity, and justice.

Conference Theme:

This interdisciplinary conference seeks to bring together diverse historical and contemporary perspectives from a range of academic disciplines, providing a platform for scholars, researchers, and practitioners to engage in insightful discussions on addressing exclusion, discrimination and socio-political inequalities.

We invite contributions that address (but are not limited to) the following themes:

- Legal mechanisms and frameworks on societal cohesion, empowerment and inclusion/exclusion in national and transnational contexts
- Intersectional dimensions of inequality
- (Im)mobilities, migration, and inequalities
- Social movements and political activism in contesting inequalities
- (Collective) feelings of (in)equality and (in)justice and their respective political and/or societal consequences
- The role of educational environments and language in reinforcing stereotypes and exclusion or function as a tool for inclusion
- Inequalities in later life, ageism, and intergenerational dynamics in transforming societies
- Translating inequalities: cultural, linguistic, and institutional mediation
- The impact of technological developments on inequalities, notably in terms of exacerbation or mitigation
- Psychological and neuroscientific approaches to the origins of exclusionary mechanisms and the necessary support for victims of discrimination
- Alternative perspectives for diversity and inclusion of minorities and marginalized communities in public spaces, health- and social care
- Inequalities in the access to public resources and infrastructures
- Inequalities in the labor market, poverty, and discrimination in employment opportunities
- Ecological dimensions of inequalities and injustices
- Cultural Representations of (in)equalities, ex/inclusion and discrimination in cinema, literature, art, etc.

Submission Guidelines:

We welcome abstracts from scholars at all career stages working in disciplines such as sociology, law, political science, economics, history, anthropology, cultural studies, gender studies, human rights, and beyond. Contributions with interdisciplinary and comparative approaches are particularly encouraged.

In addition to theories and methodologies of research on inequalities, we aim to have case studies and best practices of the strategies for dealing with inequalities in every aspect of our life. We therefore also invite practitioners, activists and NGOs to bring their expertise into conversation with academic discussions, aiming to develop alternative imaginaries and solutions to multiple inequalities and injustices.

We invite proposals for both individual contributions that address the conference theme and panels with 3–4 speakers and a discussant. We also welcome book panels with the participation of the author(s) and discussants.

Please submit a **300-word abstract** along with a **short biographical note** (max. 150 words) to europa@uni-graz.at by **April 30, 2025**.

We plan to publish a selection of contributions in a special issue of an international peer-reviewed journal or an edited volume following the conference.

Important Dates:

Abstract Submission Deadline: **April 30, 2025**

Notification of Acceptance: **June 30, 2025**

Paper Submission Deadline: **September 30, 2025**

Conference Dates: **November 6-7, 2025**

Funding:

We offer financial support to a limited number of participants. Independent scholars and early career researchers will receive priority. Please indicate your interest in financial support when submitting your application.

Contact Information:

For inquiries, please contact **Assoc.-Prof. Dr. Emma Lantschner** (emma.lantschner@uni-graz.at) and **Dr. Derya Özkaya** (derya.oezkaya@uni-graz.at).

We look forward to your contributions to this important and timely discussion.

Sincerely,

Assoc.-Prof. Dr. Emma Lantschner

Dr. Derya Özkaya

Speakers of the Cluster “In/Equalities in the Context of Social Transformation Processes”