



IACESR 2026 Conference Guide

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Brno, the Czech Republic's second largest city, is home to a thriving academic community and several major research institutions, with **Masaryk University** at its center. Within the university, **LEVYNA (Laboratory for the Experimental Research of Religion)** is based at the **Department for the Study of Religions**, an interdisciplinary hub studying religion from multiple methodological angles, since 2011. LEVYNA brings together scholars from religious studies, psychology, anthropology, and cognitive and evolutionary sciences to understand religious beliefs and behaviors using experimental and quantitative methods. As a long-standing member of the IACESR community, LEVYNA is pleased to welcome participants to Brno for this year's conference.

Instructions for speakers

- Presentations should be uploaded 2 hours before your presentation to the corresponding repository via the link below or provided in the email.
- For the video recordings, please aim to upload no later than 29 June, so that we can check that everything is working and have some time to troubleshoot any problems.
- Presentations should be uploaded as **Powerpoint**, or **PDF** files (not Keynote).
- As a backup, presenters may bring their presentation on a USB drive or present from their own laptop via HDMI. Please note that we cannot guarantee compatibility with Apple devices. As connection issues are common and can disrupt the session schedule, we strongly recommend using the conference computer whenever possible.

Keynotes

The keynote talks should last 45 minutes with around 15 minutes of Q&A afterwards (60 minutes total). Please upload your presentation slides [here](#).

John McGraw Award talks

The JMGA talks should last 20 minutes with around 10 minutes of Q&A afterwards (30 minutes total). Please upload your presentation slides [here](#).

Talks & panels

The session or panel talks should last 15 minutes with around 5 minutes of Q&A afterwards (20 minutes total). Please upload your presentation slides [here](#)

Lightning talks

The lightning talks should last 5 minutes with around 2 minutes of Q&A afterwards (7 minutes total). Please upload your presentation slides [here](#).

Posters

- Please find guidelines, templates and suggestions on our website: iacesr.com/poster-guidelines-and-resources.
- The posters can be printed at the [PowerPrint \(Gorkého 3, Brno\)](#) or [Planotisk \(Kounicova 17, Brno\)](#).
- Presenters are responsible for setting up their own posters - in the morning of Thursday 2nd July.
- Boards and materials for mounting posters will be supplied.
- Posters will be displayed in the backyard near the B2.foyer space and the main lecture theatre where coffee and tea will be served or in the room B2.21 in case of bad weather.
- Posters can remain up for the entire conference to allow for continuous viewing outside the designated poster session.

Instructions for Chairs

The last presenter in each session serves as the Session Chair.

- Please arrive in the room before the session starts and check in with the student assistant, who will provide technical support.
- As Session Chair, you are responsible for keeping presentations on time and ensuring the session runs according to schedule.
- Moderate the discussion following each presentation.
- Allow a brief pause after each talk to give participants time to formulate their questions.
- When selecting questions, it is not necessary to call first on the person who raises their hand earliest. Consider diversity among questioners, including gender, career stage, and other relevant characteristics, and actively encourage questions from junior and underrepresented scholars.
- Please ensure that the session concludes on time.

General Assembly

IACESR will hold our general assembly during lunch on Thursday 2nd July (room B2.13). All members are cordially invited to participate.

Conference Code of Conduct

We are committed to providing a welcoming, inclusive, and respectful environment for all participants.

All participants are expected to:

- Treat others with courtesy and respect.
- Foster constructive and inclusive discussion.
- Support the participation of junior and underrepresented scholars.
- Respect privacy and obtain permission before recording or sharing presentations.

Harassment, discrimination, intimidation, bullying, unwelcome sexual attention, and other disruptive or inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.

Participants who violate this Code of Conduct may be asked to leave the conference. If you experience or witness inappropriate behaviour, please contact a member of the organizing committee.

Travel within Brno

Brno has an extensive and reliable public transport network (trams, trolleybuses, and buses). Tickets can be purchased directly in vehicles using a contactless payment card. Find more info here: www.pipniajed.cz.

Brno night public transport ("Night buses") operates from around midnight until early morning using designated night bus and tram lines marked with "N" (e.g., N89, N90), with all routes typically converging at the main hub at Hlavní nádraží (Main train station). Services run at regular intervals (usually 30–60 minutes), allowing transfer between lines at the central interchange even when daytime trams and buses are not operating.

Conference locations



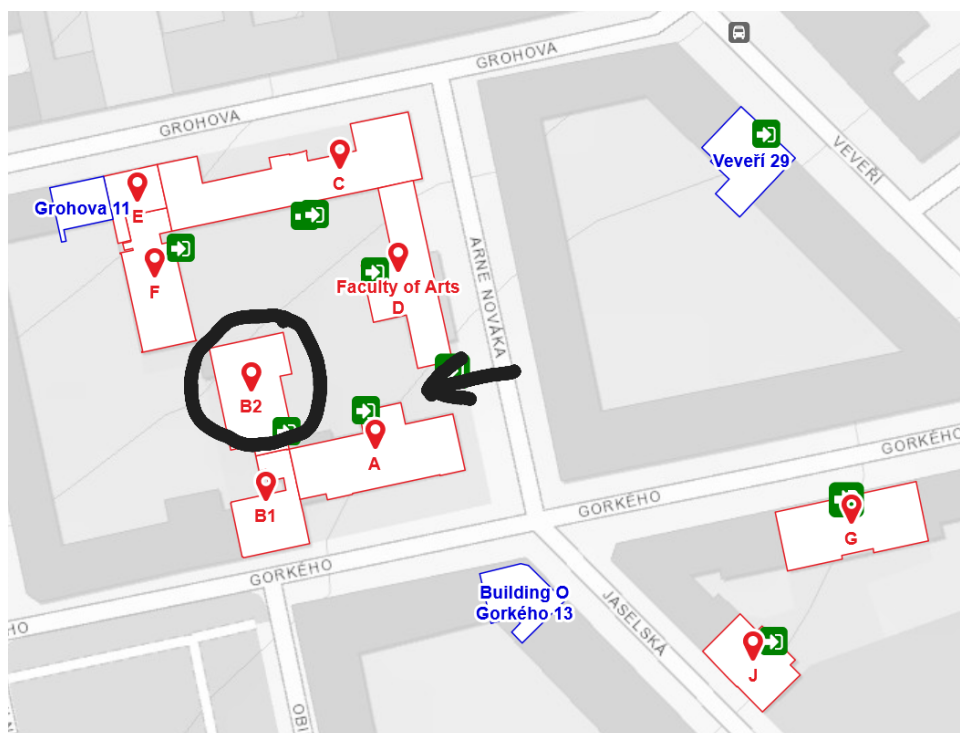
The opening of the conference on 1st July will take place at the **Mendel Museum** (Mendlovo náměstí 1a).

Nearest stop: **Mendlovo náměstí** (1–2 minutes on foot)

Main connections to Mendlovo náměstí:

- Trams: 1, 2, 5, 6, 9
- Trolleybuses: 25, 26
- Buses: 44, 52, 67, 84

Google Maps - Mendel Museum



The rest of the conference will take place at the Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University (Arna Nováka 1).

Nearest stop: **Grohova** (1–2 minutes on foot) Main connections to Grohova:

- Trams: 3, 10, 12

Google Maps - Faculty of Arts

Internet access

Eduroam network is available at all locations.

Alternatively use the following wi-fi in building B2, Faculty of Arts:

NETWORK: g-iacesr

PASSWORD: iacesr7136

Local recommendations

A map of all the recommended places can be found here.

Specialty coffee places

Monogram

Au Lait espresso bar

Hodně někde

Jaga: *the conference catering (reception and lunches) is from here*

Diwa

Skog: *brunches & snacks!*

Pikola: *coffee just before or after visiting the Ossuary*

Industra: *a little farther away, but check the conference merch to understand its inclusion*

Take5

Kimono

Dezertina: *check their croissants!*

Cafe Friedrich: *sometimes plant based pastries*

Typika

KÝNO: *100% plant based café*

Punkt

WafflecZBrno

Pubs

Zastávka (Úvoz 78): *microbreweries special*

U Bláhovky

U Poutníka

Bar, který neexistuje: *if you prefer cocktails to beer*

Whiskey Bar, který neexistuje: *if you prefer whiskey to beer*

Axiom

Craft beer Solniční

Pivovar Harry

Pivovarnický dům Poupě

Super Panda Cirkus

Pivnice Pegas

Stopkova Plzeňská pivnice

Restaurants

vilgain® fast food

Siddhartha: *Indian, close to the faculty*

Pho Eden: *probably the best Vietnamese in Brno*

Vegan AF Ramen

Panksy: *savoury and sweet crepes/pancakes*

Eggo: *best brunch!*

Steakhouse Let's STEAKing

The Immigrant Pub

U Tomana

Fryends: *vegan burger place*

Paprika: *Mediterranean cuisine*

Zaza: *best pizza in Brno according to some*

Ice-cream

Ještě jednu: *the name is literally "one more"*

Božský kopeček: *vegan, also sold from mobile ice cream carts*

Bakery & Pastry

Chleba Brno: *bread! (but not only)*

William Thomas: *bread and other baked goods!*

Carlini

Martiňák: *traditional pastries and desserts*

Cukrář Jíša: *another option for anyone with a sweet tooth*

Kobliha Brno: *fancy doughnuts*

Etažér: *afternoon tea*

Touristy things to do in Brno

Brno Reservoir: *on the 1st July evening, there is a fireworks show scheduled, accessible from Mendlovo náměstí by tram 1 (direction Bystrc)*

Cathedral of St. Peter and Paul: *a nice panorama view of Brno*

Špilberk Castle: *pleasant park for a walk around*

Brno Dragon and the Old Town Hall

Brno astronomical clock: *don't ask us how to use it to tell time, yes, we know what it looks like*

St.James' + Ossuary

Villa Tugendhat

Villa Stiassni: *there are more named villas than just Tugendhat in Brno*

Water Tanks

Labyrinth Under the Vegetable Market

Capuchin crypt: *mummies!*

Nuclear Shelter 10-Z

Vila Wittal: *urbex*

Myth of the Great Goddess exhibition

Touristy things to do around Brno

Rosa Coeli Dolní Kounice: *a medieval monastery (ruin)*

Punkva caves: *karst caves, an abyss and a boat ride*

Pernštejn castle: *dramatic high Gothic castle*

Lednice–Valtice Cultural Landscape: *large estate with Baroque and Romantic buildings and scenic landscaping*

Active recovery from conferencing

Interested in running with a local guide? Get in touch with Honza (+420 737 645 897), who can show you the best local routes and tailor the run to your pace and experience.

Packed a swimsuit? Several swimming pools are open if you'd prefer a refreshing dip instead of a run. Or, if you enjoy open-water swimming, head to the reservoir for a swim in nature.

Conference convenors & organising team

Aiyana Willard - President of IACESR, Brunel University London

Eva Kundtová Klocová - President-Elect of IACESR & local organising committee, Masaryk University

Ryan McKay - Secretary General of IACESR, Royal Holloway, University of London

Connor Wood - Treasurer of IACESR

Martin Lang - Member-at-large of IACESR & Local organising committee, Masaryk University

Kristýna Čížmářová - Local organising committee, Masaryk University

Jana Gryc - Local organising committee, Masaryk University

Ivona Vrzalová - Local organising committee, Masaryk University

Emergency contacts

The number for emergency services in the Czech Republic is 112