

## Project Participants

The Marie Curie ITN “The History of Human Freedom and Dignity in Western Civilization” is a collaboration between six universities and nine non-academic partner organizations across Europe:

- Aarhus University, Denmark
- University of Kent, England
- Münster University, Germany
- Charles University, Czech Republic
- Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany
- Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy
- Franckesche Stiftungen zu Halle, Germany
- Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, England
- Walter de Gruyter, Germany
- Etikos Aps, Denmark
- Lutheran Church of Middle Germany
- Diocese of Pécs – Christian Heritage Institute, Hungary
- Mohr Siebeck, Germany
- Dar al-Kalima College of Arts and Culture, Palestine
- Aschendorff Verlag, Germany



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Horizon 2020 research and  
innovation program

[www.itn-humanfreedom.eu](http://www.itn-humanfreedom.eu)

**The History of Human  
Freedom and Dignity in  
Western Civilization –**

**A Marie Skłodowska-Curie  
Innovative Training Network**

**ITN-HHFDWC-676258**

*We are inviting  
applications  
for 14 PhD  
scholarships*

***Deadline:  
January 10, 2016***



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## We are hiring ...

The ITN invites applications for 14 full-time, three-year Early Stage Researcher (ESR) positions. The ITN offers an interdisciplinary environment and an innovative training program that allows the ESRs to obtain specialist knowledge of a specific research topic as well as transferable skills that can be used in non-academic institutions.

The research project will trace the historical roots and transformations of the modern conception of the human being and the human values of dignity and freedom, especially in theological and philosophical traditions. In modern western societies, the ideal human being has the right to think, believe, and express itself freely without fearing retribution and to be treated as an autonomous and dignified individual. But such a conception is not shared by all – and never was. Its long history has been formed through a continuous battle between two theological and philosophical traditions going back to Origen of Alexandria and Augustine of Hippo, respectively. Origen saw humans as free, valuable, and dignified beings, while Augustine saw them as predestined, sinful, and bound to servitude. The project's research will continuously circle around this battle between the opposing negative and positive views on humanity that we encounter in various contexts from antiquity to modern times. Thereby, the project will raise awareness of how ancient philosophical and

religious tenets still shape political, moral, and anthropological categories and modes of thinking as well as principles of human conduct.

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The candidates who are awarded a fellowship must commence their PhD degree program on August 1, 2016, at the latest. Eligible candidates must have an internationally recognized Master's or equivalent degree (or evidence of its completion before beginning the PhD program) in theology, history, philosophy, classics, religious history, or a related field. They must hold less than four years of research experience after their candidate degree and have not resided more than 12 of the last 36 months in the country where the PhD is located for which they apply. ESRs are required to undertake transnational mobility as they will complete secondments in other countries. See [www.itn-humanfreedom.eu](http://www.itn-humanfreedom.eu) for further details on required skills, application link, and selection procedures.

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### The ITN invites applications for the following PhD projects:

1. Origenian ideas in Augustine (Charles University, Czech Republic)
2. Origen in the early medieval period (University of Kent, England)
3. Origen and Bernard of Clairvaux (University of Kent, England)
4. The debate on human freedom and dignity between Renaissance and Reformation (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany)
5. Origen's ideas of human freedom and dignity in 17th-century England (Münster University, Germany)

6. Origenian influence on the Dutch Arminianism (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)
7. The debate on human freedom and dignity in the German strand of Radical Pietism (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany)
8. Origen reception in Danish and German Pietistic devotional literature (Aarhus University, Denmark)
9. Human freedom and dignity in late 18th-century debates on revelation, religion, and the human (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany)
10. Origenism, Pietism, and Kant's religious philosophy (Münster University, Germany)
11. The reception of Origenian ideas in modern Catholic theology (Münster University, Germany)
12. Origen and the modern Protestant tradition (Aarhus University, Denmark)
13. The values of individual freedom and dignity in contemporary religious movements (Aarhus University, Denmark)
14. The values of individual freedom and dignity in modern organizations (Aarhus University, Denmark)

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For further information on the ITN and the subprojects, please visit our website: [www.itn-humanfreedom.eu](http://www.itn-humanfreedom.eu), or contact the project coordinator Birgitte Bøgh, [bb@cas.au.dk](mailto:bb@cas.au.dk) or +45 50 56 54 66.