

# TOPIC

Wouldn't you like to have a superpower? A power that makes things easy? Learning how to fly instead of feeling held down to earth?

The current transitions and crises in society make it hard to feel light and shape society in a positive way. The conference calls participants to reflect together on the art of empowerment in Religious Education. What does this art of empowerment consist of? Is it a hard or a soft power, bringing raw energy or more subtle competences? What is its role in creating community with others – among students or teachers – to provide a space for learning together, navigating complexity, finding new orientation and inspiration?

**Programme details &  
registration**



# THE ART OF EM POWER MENT IN RE

**C** | MUNITY  
**O** | PLEXITY  
**M** | PASSION  
MITMENT

**CONFERENCE 2025**




Lutheran  
Theological University  
1557




## Thursday, 21 August

12.30 Registration

2.00 **Welcome & speed dating**  
EFTRE staff

2.45 **Questioning empowerment, empowering questions: existential challenges for Religious Education**  
 Eszter Kodascy-Simon

4.00 break


4.30 **Workshops at choice**  
 Circling around identity  
Empowerment of teachers  
Children as theological researchers  
Active listening as empowerment

6.30 **Informal Supper**  
Campus Gardens


## Friday, 22 August

9.00 **'What's up in RE?'**  
**Country presentations**  
 RE curricula (Finland/Northern Ireland)  
Minorities in RE (Romania/Finland)  
Teacher training (Hungary/Lithuania)


10.15 break

10.45 **Child in time: supporting children and youth in worldview construction and existential resilience**  
 Arniika Kuusisto

12.00 Lunch (until 1.00)

1.30 **Workshops at choice**  
 Controversial issues in RE  
Empowerment through participation  
Boardgame  
Human dignity and virtuous living

2.45 break

3.15 **'I wonder..'**  
**Collegial counseling**  
 submissions on site


5.00 **EFTRE General Assembly**

6.00 **Free evening**

## Saturday, 23 August

9.00 **'What's up in RE?'**  
**Country presentations**  
 RE models (Switzerland/Sweden)  
Teaching in times of crisis (Ukraine/Netherlands)  
Didactical ideas (Estonia/Netherlands)

10.15 break


10.45 **Bridging histories, empowering futures: Jewish-Muslim relations in Religious Education**  
 Fahimah Ulfat

12.00 Lunch (until 1.00)

1.30 **Group visits at choice**  
Places of worship in Budapest  
Muslim Turkish heritage  
House of Terror  
National Gallery/Buda Castle

7.00 **Conference Dinner**  
Danube boat trip

## Sunday, 24 August

9.00 **Empowerment in and through vulnerability? 'Weak Religious Education' for a 'strong Europe'**  
 Bert Roebben

10.00 **Conference reflections - What's next?**

11.00 **Closing of Conference**

11.15 break

11.45 **EFTRE board meeting**

1:00 travel to Synagogue (optional)

2:00 **Synagogue visit**  
(optional, until 3.00)

