

CfA: Kant's Concept of Freedom: Transcendental, Moral, Political (Mainz, Germany, 28–29 September 2026)

We are pleased to announce the call for abstracts for the **5th International Doctoral Colloquium of the Kant-Gesellschaft** for 2026, on *Kant's Concepts of Freedom: Transcendental, Moral, Political*. The workshop will take place at the Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, 28-29 September, in collaboration with the Kant-Forschungsstelle Mainz.

Keynote Speakers:

Prof. Pauline Kleingeld (University of Groningen)

Dr. Joe Saunders (Durham University)

The workshop will examine Kant's multifaceted conception of freedom across his critical and pre-critical works, investigating its transcendental, moral, and political dimensions. Submissions are invited to engage with the following aspects of Kant's concepts of freedom:

- Metaphysical and cosmological debates: spontaneity and free causality versus empirical temporality.
- Moral-ethical debates: autonomy and the ability-to-do-otherwise; the possibility of free immoral willing; *Willkür/Selbstbestimmung*.
- Political and juridical debates: external freedom, the *Doctrine of Right*, and coercion as protection.
- Ethical-theological debates: freedom as a postulate of practical reason; God, immortality, and radical evil.
- Sources and reception: historical influences and transmission of Kantian ideas.
- Debates in the secondary literature and contemporary interpretative controversies.

The call for abstracts is open to all **doctoral students working on Kant's theory of freedom**. The abstracts should be suitable for a **30-minute presentation**, with 15 minutes for discussion, and they should be about **500 words** in length. The workshop languages are English and German. Abstracts should be prepared for anonymous refereeing and be sent to **henning.kirschbaum@uni-mainz.de**. In the same message, please, include your name, institutional affiliation, email address, and paper title.

We will cover travel expenses up to a maximum of €200 and accommodation costs for the doctoral students giving presentations. Details to follow after decisions.

Deadline for abstracts is 15 January 2026.

We aim to send decision letters by mid-February 2026.

For any further queries, please contact Henning Kirschbaum,
henning.kirschbaum@uni-mainz.de, or Lucia Volonté, lvolont@uni-mainz.de.