

CODE Forum 2024

Prague, Czechia

17th- 19th September 2024



CODE

Diaconal community development

Community Development and Diaconal Identity
- responding to disruption and uprootedness

Link to the conference web page:

www.jabok.cz/en/events

WHERE? Prague, Czechia, Jabok College of Applied Social Studies.

WHEN? September 17th-19th 2024, (FORUM Sept.18-19, with a Visiting Programme on Sept 17th)

WHAT ARE THE COSTS? The Participation Fee of 120 EUR/1400 NOK will cover all the expenses for the programme including refreshments, lunches and the dinner on Wednesday night.

Travel and Accommodation must be arranged individually.

Invitation We welcome you to the bi-annual **CODE Forum 2024**, by the kind invitation of Jabok College. The CODE Forum brings researchers, practitioners and teachers together around approaches which relate community development and diakonia. It is a space for the exchange and development of research and practice. The emphasis is on sharing experience and the development of ideas rooted in research and practice. The **CODE Forum** has wide international and interregional participation and it is linked to the CODE research group at VID Specialized University, Norway.

Contributions to be presented and shared at the **CODE Forum** can be academic papers, proposals for and interim reports from research. Papers can also be a reflected account of practice. Furthermore, the **CODE Forum** provides a space for a key idea which you would like to present and discuss. We invite any of these forms of contributions which raises issues related to either of the two Main Forum Themes described below.

Information on Travel and Accommodation will be available soon after registration.

Jabok is in Prague city centre, about 50 minutes from the Airport by [public transport](#).

Some early tips for hotels: Hostel Luma Terra (code: lumalove15), <https://www.lumaterra.cz/>,

Novotel (or ibis) Praha Wenceslas, <https://all.accor.com/hotel/3194/index.en.shtml> (or /3195/),

Hotel Alfons (code: directwithus), <https://www.hotelalfons.cz/en/home-en/>,

Botel Racek (breakfast included, code: RACEK10), <https://www.botelracek.com/en>.

Katolicky domov (shared, via email quote: Code Forum), <https://www.kds.op.cz/en/contact/>

Main Themes of the CODE Forum 2024

1. Diaconal Identity and Community Development in Changing Neighbourhoods.

This theme invites the *sharing of experience analysis and theological/theoretical reflections on practice* in relation to participative and inclusive neighbourhoods.

Christian social practice and civil society actors are important *agents for developing participative and inclusive neighbourhoods*. Workers in youth centres, churches and diaconal organisations based in geographical communities reach out to work with people for change and to address issues of loneliness, social exclusion and poverty. They also address rising mental health problems faced by different groups, particularly young people. Local workers are often on the spot *responding to conflict and supporting everyday peace*.

2. Human Agency Facing instability caused by Migration, Camps and Settlements

During these sessions we want to explore together the possibilities of *community development in extreme situations*, and to learn from each-other's experience and research on related topics.

People often seek stability and connectedness within their immediate living environments. Sometimes stability is interrupted because people move willingly. However, in many cases people are forced to move. They must leave their homes due to civil conflict, war or environmental crisis. Others must leave because of a lack of income security or a lack of future prospects. Sometimes people wish to move but are forced to stay. In these paradoxical and conflicting situations, despite the challenges, are there *possibilities for community development* to support people's initiative and work with them for change? Are there *experiences of finding flexible ways to connect people*, for people to receive and provide support and encouragement?

Other Programme Activities

1. Visiting Diaconal Community projects in Prague (17th of September)

On Tuesday the 17th of September visits to diaconal/community projects in Prague will take place. The programme is yet to be announced. It will start at Jabok Campus at around 12.00

2. Reports of CODE Forum Projects and Future Project Planning

At the **CODE Forum** in 2022, delegates decided to collaborate on four projects which are at present ongoing. There will be space for hearing about these projects and for developing other proposals, and the development of common research and learning project(s).

Contacts:

For any questions about the **CODE Forum** Seminar, Programme, and Contributions, please contact:

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