



Workshop and Assembly 2027 - Unseen Wounds.

Mental suffering and Care

On 1–2 March 2027, members of the Pontifical Academy for Life will gather at the Augustinianum Conference Centre for the XXXII General Assembly. An international workshop will examine the growing global challenge of mental distress, exploring its causes and the ethical, cultural and geographical perspectives needed to address it.

The XXXII General Assembly of the members of the Pontifical Academy for Life will take place on 1–2 March 2027 at the Augustinianum Conference Centre in Rome. As part of the Assembly, an international workshop will be dedicated to the theme of mental distress, bringing together experts from different disciplines and cultural backgrounds to reflect on one of the most pressing challenges of our time.

Across the world, available data point to a significant and worrying increase in mental distress, affecting people at every stage of life. From children and adolescents to adults and older persons, the growing prevalence of psychological suffering calls for renewed scientific, ethical and social reflection.

The workshop will explore the principal causes of this phenomenon and examine the different ways in which mental distress is understood and addressed across diverse geographical and cultural contexts. By fostering interdisciplinary and international dialogue, the meeting aims to deepen understanding of the complex factors that contribute to mental health challenges and to identify paths towards more effective and humane responses.

In a world that is increasingly interconnected, competitive and marked by geopolitical tensions, where interpersonal relationships are becoming ever more complex, the Pontifical Academy for Life considers it both timely and necessary to devote its annual General Assembly to a topic that has become an urgent global priority. The initiative reflects the Academy's commitment to promoting an integral vision of the human person and to encouraging dialogue between the life sciences, ethics, the social sciences and faith in addressing the challenges that affect human dignity today.

SAVE THE DATE

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

“Unseen Wounds:
Mental suffering and care”

March 1st – 2nd, 2027
Augustinianum Institute
Via Paolo VI, 25 – Rome (Italy)

THE EVENT PROGRAM IS BEING FINALISED AND WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THIS PAGE IN THE COMING DAYS.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

The Workshop will be accessible in person or remotely.

DATES AND VENUE

The Workshop is organized by the Pontifical Academy for Life (PAV). It will be held on March 1-2, 2027, at the Augustinianum Conference Centre, via Paolo VI, 25, Rome (Italy).

PARTICIPATION FEES

In person: €60. To register in person: [LINK](#)

Remote: €30. To register remotely: [LINK](#)

SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION

Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English, Italian, French, and Spanish for both in-person and online participants.

To receive a headset, you will be asked to leave an ID document, which will be returned when you hand back the receiver.

POSTER SESSION

Poster presentation is admitted during the congress.

For general information and posters submission, please see the "Poster Session" section at the top right.

INCLUDED IN THE IN-PERSON REGISTRATION FEE

Admission to the WorkshopConference materialPersonal badgeSimultaneous interpretation in the specified languagesAbstract bookCoffee breaksCertificate of participationLunch boxes

NOT INCLUDED IN THE IN-PERSON REGISTRATION FEE

Travel and accommodation expenses are not included and must be arranged individually by each participant.

Any costs not explicitly listed under "Included in the in-person registration fee" are not covered.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Here you can find a non-exhaustive list of accommodation options near the venue, mainly religious institutions.

DISCUSSION SESSIONS

During the discussion sessions, participants may ask questions in writing by filling out the question forms found in the conference bags. These forms will be handed to the speakers. Additional forms can be requested from the staff in the room.

Remote participants can submit questions through the chat.

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

Certificates of participation, for both in-person and remote attendees, can be requested by email (events@pav.va) after the Workshop and will be sent as a PDF attachment.

VISA

Participants who need a visa to travel to Italy are kindly asked to notify the organizers well in advance, as visa processing can take time.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN:

POSTER SESSION

Posters may be presented during the Workshop. Submissions on any topic related to mental health are welcome.

Posters may be submitted in English, Italian, French, or Spanish.

Authors should submit an abstract (in MS Word format, maximum 300 words) for evaluation, together with their names, affiliations, and contact email address.

Please send the abstract to: ncomoreto@pav.va.

Deadline for abstract submission: December 31, 2026.

All submissions will undergo a standard review process.

Final notifications of acceptance will be sent by January 31, 2027.

Poster board specification: Printed posters must not exceed 900 mm in width and 1900 mm in height. All photographs, graphics, and text must also fit within this area.

Poster display and removal

Posters should be attached to the boards using pins, which will be provided on site. Posters must be displayed between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 1, 2027, and removed between 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 2, 2027.

Printing and transportation costs

Printing and transportation costs are the responsibility of the authors.

All selected abstracts will be collected in a booklet available during the Workshop.

For any questions, please contact: events@pav.va