

CENTRE FOR SAFEGUARDING MINORS AND VULNERABLE PERSONS

Call for papers

“Save Our Souls! Psychological, Ideological and Spiritual Safeguarding”

International Conference May, 13-17, 2024

Abuse has many faces and occurs in sports clubs and military circles, in business, in schools and religious communities. Spiritual and psychological abuse, which mostly affects individuals, has its roots in the abuse of power and relationships; ideological abuse in such forms as racism or colonialism affects certain groups and even peoples. Psychological, ideological and spiritual abuse may leave "no visible bruises", but it is deeply destructive. Abusive relationships and abusive actions affect victims of all kinds of crime, injustice or ideological systems, but also family members and relatives. We see this abuse in all structures that do not respect the individual, such as in cult-like communities or in narcissistic contexts. Abuse takes place both in real life and online and takes the form of intimidation, oppression, isolation, character assassination and arbitrariness. We invite you to consider the possible protective measures in all of these areas through three key areas:

- Awareness-raising (Day 1, May 14, 2024): Exposure of all forms of (hidden) abuse;
- Changing attitudes (Day 2, May 15, 2024): Changing attitudes towards the victims and the helpers who stand up as human beings for those who have lost their dignity;
- Finding solutions (Day 3, May 16, 2024): Overhaul legal systems, pastoral care, social and religious structures to effectively and efficiently address abuse.

Submission Guidelines

Presenters will be allocated maximum 20 minutes for their presentations in a paper-session with two other speakers, followed by a Q&A of 30 minutes with participants. Presenters can use PowerPoint and other audio/visual aids, including handouts. Please submit an abstract (500 words excluding references) indicating clearly how your paper addresses the themes and the areas of the conference outlined above. We strive for publishing an extended version of approved papers after the congress.

Submission Deadline

Email your **abstract** to CPCS@ustpaul.ca by **January 29, 2024**. Please include “International Conference 2024” in the subject line of your email. We will confirm acceptance or otherwise by January 31, 2024. Speakers needing their full paper to be reviewed for acceptance to the conference and for getting funding, please send the full paper no later than by **February 26, 2024**, indicating “review needed by [date]”.

Poster-session

Individuals or organizations may inform about their work and their ideas by bringing posters. There will be time to present the posters to the other participants and to discuss it. Please send a photo of the poster by **March 31, 2024** to CPCS@ustpaul.ca.

The bilingual conference is organized by the [Centre for Safeguarding Minors and Vulnerable Persons](#), situated at the [Faculty of Canon Law](#) at [Saint Paul University](#), Ottawa, Canada. It is offered in a hybrid-mode.



For more information,
please visit the Centre's [webpage](#)
or send an Email to CPCS@ustpaul.ca.



To contact us:
CPCS@ustpaul.ca

Saint Paul
University
223 rue Main
Street
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada
K1S 1C4

+1 613 236-1393