

Call for Participation

As societal problems and challenges such as climate change, war and social inequality continue to grow, our political scope for action appears to be shrinking. We are experiencing rising authoritarianism, an erosion of democratic structures, and an increasingly polarized public discourse that fails to produce constructive outcomes. We no longer accept this feeling of powerlessness. This is why we have organised this conference.

Engagiert Denken is an interdisciplinary student conference taking place in Würzburg from 8th to 10th of April, 2026. Its aim is to collate experiences in the sphere of tension between science and activism. We believe that within this sphere we students hold a special capacity to act. As we do not want to limit said capacity, we are open to contributions of any kind. Our conference will create a space - especially for students - in which we tackle current and future challenges, as well as deliver concrete action plans.

Historically speaking, we students have always been involved in the tension between the acquisition of established academic knowledge, the development of personal research interests, and the desire to take the future into our own hands. We therefore find ourselves at the intersection of a driving social force and scientific expertise. To take action, we now must argue and network, get loud and create awareness, define a direction and try new approaches.

As a student conference, *Engagiert Denken* is **created by and for students** and consists of student contributions. Unlike most scientific conferences where newcomers to the scientific process play a subordinate role, here we take center stage.

Approach us with your ideas and put your Thoughts into Action – within the sphere of tension between science and activism.

It is very important to us to ensure that every interested person has access to our conference and that existing barriers are reduced as much as possible. Active participation or attendance should be possible even if you have physical or psychological impairments or rely on childcare. Please feel free to contact us in advance so we can accommodate your needs. Further information on inclusion can be found on our website. (engagiert-denken.de)

What we offer:

(1) Informality

At scientific conferences, contributions usually take the form of a presentation, followed by discussions. With us, it is up to you which form you choose. Would you like to present and discuss your scientific work or paper? Are you part of an initiative that could use more attention? Do you want to raise awareness of a topic and could use a helping hand? You can present alone or as a group; you can act, express yourself artistically, exhibit your work, move the room and everyone in it or involve the audience. Feel free, anything goes!

(2) Mentoring

You do not have to prepare a finished presentation all by yourself. As a student you are not yet a professional, but that should not stand in your way. We offer a mentoring program, in which you can work on your draft with a member of our team and get some feedback and support for unfinished ideas. The sooner you get in touch, the more time we have to finalise your idea together. Of course, you can also submit your finished proposal before November 30th 2025. We will let you know by the end of January, at the latest, whether we could include your contribution to the program.



How it works:

Submit summary of your idea or contribution - either in writing (up to 3,000 characters), as a video, or as an audio recording (max. 5 minutes). Please send it to: programm@engagiert-denken.de. The duration of your contribution can vary depending on its form. We plan with time slots of 20 min of which you take up one or more, so that there is sufficient time for your part of the programme. We will then get in touch with you as soon as possible, and connect you with the mentors if wanted. You can submit your draft by 30 November 2025.

We look forward to your submission!

In short:

- Save the date: 8th to 10th April, 2026 in Würzburg
- Choose your form: Anything goes!
 - lecture, presentation, workshop
 - o performance, exhibition, role play
 - o discussion, podcast, conference-walk
 - screen printing action, founding of an initiative, poster design
 - o ...
- Mentoring: The earlier you get in touch, the better.
- Deadline: 30 November 2025Setting the program: 30 January 2026
- Contact:
 - o programm@engagiert-denken.de
 - Instagram: @engagiertdenken
 - Website: engagiert-denken.de

If you have any questions, requests or suggestions, please don't hesitate to send us an email, or message us on Instagram. We look forward to hearing from you!

Andi, Biene, Freya, Henry, Ingo, Nelly and Marinus

Visit website





