

## UCU Global Talks 2026

### *A Mission-Driven Platform for Dialogue, Solidarity & Joint Learning*

Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) invites universities and institutions worldwide to co-organize Global Talks, interactive online sessions that bring together academics and students from diverse countries for meaningful dialogue on today's global challenges. Together, we create a dynamic intercultural space to share perspectives, ask difficult questions, and learn from each other's realities.

Global Talks is consistently an **eye-opening academic activity**, as students gain new perspectives, practice intercultural communication, and experience genuine solidarity with their peers. Faculty and institutions benefit from **fresh ideas, trusted partnerships, and deeper international visibility**, while the global Catholic academic community is strengthened through shared values and dialogue. In short, Global Talks help form **globally minded, ethically grounded citizens and scholars**, and often become a first step toward long-term collaboration.

### **Global Talks is intentionally simple and deeply impactful**

Partner universities co-design an online session, prepare their students locally, and then come together in a shared virtual space to engage in guided conversations, case studies, readings, or thematic reflections. The format is flexible: each Talk can function

- **a standalone** public academic event, or
- **be embedded** into a course, module, or program.

Every session is co-led by faculty from UCU and a partner institution, bringing together complementary expertise, diverse perspectives, and a truly global dialogue. Students engage through pre-readings, moderated discussions, and post-session reflection, making the experience much more than a one-time lecture, it becomes a transformative learning journey.

[UCU Global Talks 2026 catalogue](#) presents the proposed topics and assigned faculty for online sessions that partner institutions can join or co-organize with UCU. It opens a unique window into a country at war, and real-life case studies from Ukraine that highlight questions of:

- War, peace & ethical leadership
- Memory, identity & cultural narratives
- Social innovation, civil society & community resilience
- Mental health, trauma-informed practices & human flourishing
- Technology, data & digital transformation in crisis
- Business, economics & sustainable recovery
- Health sciences, public health & well-being in war
- Theology, philosophy, faith & hope in times of crisis
- Language, culture & intercultural communication

These contributions not only enrich academic debate; they offer firsthand insights into how Ukrainian society responds to disruption with hope, dignity, creativity, and long-term vision.

## Format at a Glance

- **Mode:** Online (Zoom/Teams)
- **Duration:** 60–120 minutes
- **Participants:** students from one course or a mixed group from several related programs; sessions may also be open to a wider audience. *Recommended group size:* usually **20-60 active participants**, but this can vary depending on the chosen format (small seminar-style group, medium-sized class, or larger open public session).
- **Faculty roles:**
  - *UCU lecturer* — proposes topic (the topic can also be suggested by the partner lecturer), prepares students, moderates/co-moderates
  - *Partner lecturer* — brings complementary expertise and international perspective, prepares students from their universities
- **Format:** The structure is fully adaptable, featuring interactive classes, moderated panels, case-study discussions, reading seminars, spiritual-social reflections, or expert Q&As

## How do we get started with a Global Talk?

Getting involved is straightforward. Here's how to set up a session:

### 1. Contact UCU

Send an email to the Global Talks Coordinator, **Olha Chaplia** ([✉ international@ucu.edu.ua](mailto:international@ucu.edu.ua)). Briefly introduce yourself, your course or program, and indicate that you'd like to co-host a Global Talk. The UCU team will get back to you to discuss possible topics and, if needed, help match you with a UCU lecturer.

### 2. Plan the Session Together

In collaboration with UCU Global Talk Coordinator, you and UCU partner will choose a **topic and title**, agree on a **format** (e.g., open dialogue, panel discussion, case study, reading seminar), clarify **roles** (who opens, who moderates, when to use breakout rooms, etc.). UCU will support you in shaping a clear, realistic plan that fits your group size and learning goals.

### 3. Prepare Your Students

Before the session: assign **short readings, cases, or media** (if relevant), provide **basic context** about UCU and Ukraine, and encourage students to come with questions, reflections, or examples. UCU lecturers will be doing the same with their students, so both groups arrive ready for dialogue.

### 4. Set the Date, Co-Host the Session & Build What's Next (Joint Collaborative Design)

Together with UCU partner, you will set the date and platform, co-host an interactive session with shared moderation, and follow up to explore next steps for continued collaboration.

One well-designed Global Talk often becomes the **starting point for a longer-term partnership**.