



"...by rejoicing in the good of others as in our own"

Third Annual Franciscan Connections Virtual Conference

Sponsored by The Franciscan Study Center at Tilburg University
and The Franciscan Institute at St. Bonaventure University

Rules, Regulations, and Regimes in Franciscan Spirituality



Thursday, June 22, 2023 9.00 am – 14.00 pm (NY time) / 15.00-20.00 (CET)

Friday, June 23, 2023 9.00 am – 14.00 pm (NY time) / 15.00-21.00 (CET)

Zoom Virtual Conference

www.franciscanconnections.com

Rules, Regulations, and Regimes in Franciscan Spirituality

Zoom Virtual Conference

Theme

This interdisciplinary conference takes the 800th anniversary of the Franciscan Rule (1223) as a point of departure for a reflection on the value as well as the limitations of rules, regulations, and regimes, either given or self-made, for Franciscan spirituality. Historically, the change from unofficial Rule (1221) to official Rule (1223) and the process of rule-making itself should be taken into consideration. Conversely, the question may be answered as to how rules, regulations, and regimes mirror not only the realities of religious observance in domestic contexts but also in a broader discourse, and must thus be seen in their wider – ideological, cultural, legal – context. To what extent are rules, regulations, and regimes (and their historical interpretations) artifacts of their own social currents? Theologically, the relation between authority, supervision, coercion, autonomy, choice, grace, and intuition in the spiritual life needs further clarification. A reflection on the interaction of these realities and their stability-shaping/thwarting consequences in both regulated religion and private piety seems particularly relevant for today's world, in which institutional authorities are falling apart and rules are being debated, degraded, and redefined.

Themes to be addressed may include, but are not limited to:

Written and Unwritten Rules	Supervision, Correction, and Regulation
Rule-Making and Rule-Giving	Freedom, Intuition, and Autonomy
Ideological, Cultural, and Legal Aspects	Spiritual Progress in Regulated Life
Authority, Coercion, and Obligation	Direction and Duty, Guidance and Grace

Practical Matters

The editors of *Franciscan Connections* welcome paper proposals submitted in English. Abstracts should be kept as close to 100 words as possible. Each paper should last 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes of discussion. Papers may be published in our *Rules, Regulations, and Regimes in Franciscan Spirituality* volume or on our international Franciscan blog *Franciscan Connections*.

Paper proposals must be submitted by 15 February 2023 to

Dr. Dr. Krijn Pansters: k.pansters@tilburguniversity.edu
Fr. David B. Couturier OFM Cap: dcouturi@sbu.edu

For more information, go to

www.franciscanconnections.com