

# Aurora Symposium on Global Citizenship

27 - 29 May, 2026  
Safer-Space Guidelines

**AURORA**



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## Safer-Space Guidelines

Aurora Symposium on Global Citizenship 27-29 May, 2026

First of all, thank you for joining the Aurora Symposium on Global Citizenship. We are delighted to welcome a diverse community of researchers, educators, students, practitioners, and engaged participants from across Aurora and beyond from all over the world.

At the heart of the Symposium is the belief that meaningful academic exchange is built collectively through openness, mutual respect, curiosity, and care for one another. In line with the values of Aurora and VU Amsterdam, we aim to foster a collaborative environment where different perspectives can meet in constructive and thoughtful dialogue, and where all participants feel encouraged to contribute.

The following guidelines are intended to participants in creating a respectful, inclusive, and engaging Symposium experience for everyone.

### Safer-Space Guidelines

The Aurora Symposium on Global Citizenship seeks to cultivate a safer – and where possible, braver — space for dialogue, reflection, and collaboration. We recognize that participants come from diverse social, cultural, disciplinary, and personal backgrounds, and that such diversity enriches academic exchange.

At the same time, we acknowledge that different experiences and perspectives can shape how interactions are perceived and experienced. We therefore invite all participants to contribute actively to creating an environment in which people feel respected, heard, and able to participate meaningfully.

The following five principles are intended as shared commitments rather than strict rules:

#### 1. Mutual Respect

We engage with one another respectfully and in good faith, even when perspectives differ. Critical discussion is welcome, but personal attacks, discriminatory remarks, or dismissive behaviour are not.

#### 2. Openness to Learning

We encourage participants to approach discussions with curiosity, humility, and a willingness to learn from others. Academic dialogue is strongest when it allows room for reflection, questioning, and reconsideration.

#### 3. Mindful and Inclusive Communication

We ask participants to communicate thoughtfully and with consideration for others. Please strive for language that is constructive, accessible, and inclusive, while remaining attentive to how different forms of expression may affect different individuals and communities.

#### 4. Awareness of Context and Impact

Words, examples, and forms of humour may be experienced differently depending on social, cultural, or personal context. We encourage participants to remain attentive to both intention and impact, and to approach misunderstandings with care and openness.

#### 5. Shared Responsibility

Creating an inclusive and respectful environment is a collective responsibility. We invite all participants to contribute actively to a culture of listening, collaboration, accessibility, and mutual support throughout the Symposium.

Finally, thank you for taking the time to read and support these guidelines. Your presence, engagement, and willingness to contribute to respectful and meaningful dialogue are essential to the spirit of the Aurora Symposium on Global Citizenship.

We sincerely appreciate your contributions and hope you enjoy the Symposium.

With best regards,

Organising Committee