

## I Annual meeting of the Forgiveness Institute



*The entire team of academics, researchers and collaborator gathered at the I Annual meeting of the Forgiveness Institute.*

The Forgiveness Institute has concluded its Annual Meeting with an extensive review of the achievements in 2024 and a broad projection for 2025. This event, held at the Francisco de Vitoria University, brought together leading researchers and collaborators of the Institute to focus on forgiveness as a transformative value in various social and educational contexts.

### **A year full of milestones**

Since its official inauguration on February 27, the Institute has hosted a wide range of activities and events. In March, it co-organized, alongside the John Henry Newman Institute, the II Restorative Justice Conference. This event reunited prominent mediation and reconciliation experts in Spain. In June, the Institute participated in the II RIU Researchers' Meeting, where it presented its main research findings and fostered collaboration networks with other universities.

Another significant milestone was attending to the “Forgiveness: Gift and Task” Congress in Ávila, where presentations focused on forgiveness training as a preventive tool for health, forgiveness-based penitentiary therapy, and reconciliation between opposing groups as a path to peace were held.

## **Outreach and education**

During the Science Week, the Institute reinforced its commitment to sharing knowledge about forgiveness in front of a general public through an event at CaixaForum (Madrid). Results from educational projects, such as the university students’ initiative and forgiveness training workshops for primary school children, were also presented. Additionally, findings from the interpersonal forgiveness project conducted in prisons were highlighted.

The Institute has made progress in international collaboration projects, such as its partnership with the Catholic University of Venezuela. It is also developing research in areas such as intrafamily forgiveness, gratitude, and spirituality. Among its achievements there are also some highlight publications and doctoral theses focused on forgiveness by various research-ers affiliated with the Institute.



For 2025, the University will host an International Congress about Forgiveness and reconciliation, of which the Institute will be an important sponsor. This congress will allow strengthening international alliances.

The meeting ended remaining the participants all the different supports the Institute may offer to its researchers, such as financial, administrative, or logistic support. It also looks forward to implementing new educational programs, offering opportunities for researchers to study abroad, attend conferences, and publish extensively in the scientific field.