

Ars Electronica Festival 2026

Negotiating Humanity

For delegates of the 21st International Conference on Wirtschaftsinformatik (WI 2026)

9.–13. SEPT. 2026 · LINZ, AUSTRIA · OK QUARTER / MED CAMPUS / DANUBE TRIANGLE

From Wednesday, 9 to Sunday, 13 September 2026, the Ars Electronica Festival turns downtown Linz into a five-day stage for art, technology and society. Three festival hubs — **OK QUARTER**, **MED CAMPUS** and **DANUBE TRIANGLE** — host exhibitions, performances and an extensive conference programme under this year's theme, ***Negotiating Humanity***: art as an infrastructure for negotiation, a space in which certainty can become a question again.

As WI 2026 takes place alongside the Festival, the three highlights below make an inspiring side programme for conference delegates — from a self-guided exhibition visit to the free festival opening and the parallel conference track at the **Ursulinensaal**.

AT A GLANCE

- 01 Theme Exhibition — Negotiating Humanity**
Lentos Art Museum, Ursulinenhof attics & the Festival Walk
- 02 Festival Opening**
Wed 9 Sept, St. Mary's Cathedral (Mariendom) — free admission
- 03 Conference Programme**
Ursulinensaal, Ursulinenhof, OK QUARTER — five days of talks & symposia

Negotiating Humanity

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This year's theme exhibition understands art as an infrastructure for negotiation — a space in which certainty can become a question again. Across three parts, it explores our systems of belief, how realities are produced, and what forms of coexistence become possible when we expand our understanding of the human.

Negotiating Humanity

LENTOS ART MUSEUM • DANUBE TRIANGLE

Award-winning works from Prix Ars Electronica & the STARTS Prize.

Negotiating Beyond Humanity

ATTICS OF URSULINENHOF • OK QUARTER

A site for more-than-human encounters.

Festival Walk: Negotiating the Real

ACROSS THE OK QUARTER

An invitation to dive deeper into the festival theme while exploring the city.

GOOD TO KNOW

Exhibition access is included in every festival ticket. To go deeper, book a guided **WE GUIDE YOU** tour (from €6 on top of your ticket) — [book tickets here](#).

Ars Electronica Opening

Wednesday, 9 September, evening — St. Mary's Cathedral (Mariendom), Linz. 19:00

The official festival opening combines classical orchestral culture with contemporary technology in and in front of Austria's largest cathedral. **Free admission** — a relaxed, no-ticket-required entry point for delegates arriving for the start of the conference.

Ursulinensaal at Ursulinenhof

OK QUARTER

A FESTIVALPASS+, FESTIVALPASS or DAY PASS is required to attend (a KONFERENZ Tagesticket also works for single-day conference access) — [see ticket options & purchase](#).

DATE	SESSION
WED 09.09	Negotiating Reality — Conflict Culture, AI and Democracy in the Digital Public Sphere
THU 10.09	Contested Futures — Europe Negotiating Power, Machine, Labour
FRI 11.09	AI for Social Impact — Negotiating Humanity in Times of Crisis
FRI 11.09	Symposium: Tech-Bro-Topia. A Dystopian Shift of Politics, Economics and Culture?
SUN 13.09	Negotiating with Water