## **Translation – Transgression – Transformation**

The "European Society of Women in Theological Research" (ESWTR) explores borderline situations in biblical, ethical and interreligious terrain.

Women in Europe have been and continue to be border crossers concerning religion. Voluntarily or involuntarily they leave their familiar environment and dare to venture into the unknown. These border crossings by female migrants (wanderers) are an impulse for movement and change of traditional thinking patterns and habits within the European societies and among religions. To "translate" something from one time and culture into another means to widen horizons and that contains undreamt potentials of hope. But "translation" is also risky: Borderlands can become a place for the experience of God as well as for the remoteness of God.

The ESWTR's ("European Society of Women in Theological Research") congress questions the inclusions and exclusions that are connected to the transformation processes in a religiously plural Europe. With its deliberately *theological* perspective it wants to make a contribution to the public debate on migration in Europe.

Within the process it marks **three borderlands**, which are to be sounded out and explored through border crossings:

- 1.) **Biblical** border crossings: Translation as bridge building between the familiar and the foreign.
- 2.) Ethical border crossings: Migration as a borderline experience.
- 3.) **Interreligious/interdenominational** border crossings: Dialogue between the religions and denominations as impulse for change.

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