

***Ordo Amoris*: Doctrinal Debate or Political Reckoning?**

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This presentation aims to investigate the widespread debates generated by American Vice-President JD Vance's January remarks on the doctrine of *ordo amoris*, and to illuminate some of the theological rationales and political implications at stake in them.

A reconstruction of its context and crucial moments—the late Pope Francis' letter to the American bishops, the posture of then-Cardinal Prevost, the reactions of prominent American intellectuals and international scholars—will accompany a theoretical analysis of how Augustine of Hippo and Thomas Aquinas conceived of the doctrine itself.

This effort will in turn allow for a tentative mapping of the different positions onto their most prominent sources and the relevant exegetical traditions (political Augustinianism, neo-Thomism, integralism). It will also enable a preliminary assessment of their impact on present-day policy issues, such as migration, national identity, and sovereignty.