

PARTICIPANTS

Nikoloz Aleksidze | Free University of Tbilisi
Tara Andrews | University of Vienna
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Adrian C. Pirtea | Austrian Academy of Sciences
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Andreas Rhoby | Austrian Academy of Sciences
Anahit Safaryan | University of Vienna
Paolo Sartori | Austrian Academy of Sciences
Sara Scarpellini | University of Florence
Lioba Theis | University of Vienna
Kevin Tuite | University of Montréal
Boghos L. Zekryan | University Ca' Foscari Venice (Emeritus)

VENUE:

3 October: The Embassy of Armenia to Austria
Hadikgasse 28, 1140 Vienna

4-5 October: Austrian Academy of Sciences
Institute of Medieval Research
Department of Byzantine Research
5th Floor, Conference Room 8
Georg-Coch-Platz 2, 1010 Vienna

CONVENERS:

Benedetta Contin | Austrian Academy of Sciences
Lewis Read | University of Vienna
Anahit Safaryan | University of Vienna
Adrian C. Pirtea | Austrian Academy of Sciences

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION:

Philipp Abel | Austrian Academy of Sciences

HOST INSTITUTIONS:

Austrian Academy of Sciences, University of Vienna

PARTNERS:

Armenian Embassy to Austria, Austrian-Armenian Studies Society (ÖASG),
Mekhitarist Congregation in Vienna

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Cover Image: Church of St. Gregory the Illuminator and Chapel of the Invention of the True Cross. W757, f. 20r © The Armenian Mekhitarist Monastery of Vienna



INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

PLACES OF FAITH, PLACES OF MEMORY

SACRAL TOPOGRAPHY IN THE PRE-MODERN CAUCASUS

3-5 OCTOBER 2024
VIENNA



PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 3 OCTOBER

18:00 **Welcome Address**

H.E. Mr. Armen Papikyan | Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Armenia to Austria

18:15–18:40 **Opening Remarks**

Benedetta Contin, Lewis Read, Anahit Safaryan

18:45–19:45 **Keynote Address**

Introduction: Benedetta Contin

Boghos L. Zekiyan

The Relationship between Architectural Space and Liturgy in Armenia and its Later Developments in the Overall Subcaucasian Region: A Theological Insight

19:45 **Wine Reception**

FRIDAY, 4 OCTOBER

9:30–9:45 **Welcoming Address**

**Claudia Rapp
Andreas Rhoby**

9:45–10:00 **Opening Remarks**

Benedetta Contin, Adrian C. Pirtea

10:00–11:30 **SESSION 1: HOLY LIVES, HOLY OBJECTS, HOLY LANDSCAPES**

Chair: Claudia Rapp

Nikoloz Aleksidze

Saints, Objects, and Landscape in Highland Svaneti

Benedetta Contin

Saints, Pilgrims, and Shrines: The Making of a Sacral Geography in Late Medieval Subcaucasia

11:30–12:00 COFFEE BREAK

12:00–13:30 **SESSION 2: MOBILE SAINTS AND NEW CULT SPACES**

Chair: Adrian C. Pirtea

Lewis Read

Commemorating Saint Eudoxius: Armenian Hagiography and the Byzantine Empire

Sara Scarpellini

On the Footsteps of Saint George: Tracing a Cult

13:30–14:45 LUNCH BREAK

14:45–16:15 **SESSION 3: MEMORIALISING SACRED SITES**

Chair: Tara Andrews

Valentina Calzolari

Relics, burials and places of worship in the Armenian Christian apocryphal literature

Anahit Safaryan

Faith and Memory in Colophons: Christianity as a Fundamental Pillar of Armenian Identity in the 17th Century

16:15–16:45 COFFEE BREAK

16:45–18:15 **SESSION 4: THE EMERGENCE AND CONSTRUCTION OF SACRED SITES BETWEEN ARMENIA AND GEORGIA**

Chair: Johannes Preiser-Kapeller

Mariam Chkhartishvili

At the Origins of Georgian Christian Hierotopy

Nazenie Garibian

Designing a New Sacred Topography: The Great Sanctuary of Ashtishat in the 4th–5th centuries

19:15 **Dinner for Invited Guests**

SATURDAY, 5 OCTOBER

9:30–11:00 **SESSION 5: LOCAL RELIGION AND ENTANGLED SACRED LANDSCAPES**

Chair: Paolo Sartori

Victoria Arakelova

Sacral Topography of Cross-Cultural Zones: Armenians, Alevi Zazas, Yezidis.

Kevin Tuite

Saints, Iconography, and Ritual space: Vernacular Religion and Georgian Orthodoxy

11:00–11:30 COFFEE BREAK

11:30–13:00 **SESSION 6: APPROACHING CAUCASIAN SACRAL TOPOGRAPHY THROUGH MATERIAL CULTURE**

Chair: Lioba Theis

Eve MacDonald

Of men, mountains and gods: High Alpine Landscapes, Spatial Construction of the Divine and the Realpolitik of the Dariali Fort in the Late Antique and Early Medieval Caucasus

Samvel Grigoryan

The Armenian Monasteries of Cilicia: Problem of Localisation

13:00–13:15 **Closing Remarks**

13:30 **Farewell Lunch** (at own expense) – Optional

15:00 **Visit to the Museum and Library of the Mekhitarist Congregation of Vienna** – Optional