

The Cluster of Excellence
Understanding Written Artefacts
at the Centre for the Study of Manuscript Cultures (CSMC)
cordially invites you to the workshop

Manuscript Cultures in the Caucasus

Monday, 24 March 2025, 9:15 am – 7:00 pm CET

Tuesday, 25 March 2025, 9:15 am – 6:00 pm CET

Wednesday, 26 March 2025, 9:15 am – 6:00 pm CET

Warburgstraße 26, 20354 Hamburg

Organised by Jost Gippert (University of Hamburg)

Registration:

<https://www.csmc.uni-hamburg.de/register/workshop66>

The workshop brings together specialists in the three manuscript cultures that developed in the course of the Christianisation of the southern Caucasus during the first millennium of our era, Armenian, Georgian, and Caucasian Albanian, with a view to discuss their spread, their scopes, their shapes, and their peculiarities. Special attention will be paid to the material analysis of the manuscripts and the insights that can be gained from it for determining their provenance and dating.

Programme

Monday, 24 March 2025, 9:15 am – 7:00 pm

9:15 – 9:30 Konrad Hirschler (University of Hamburg)
Welcome

Section 1: Caucasian Manuscripts and their Whereabouts

9:30 – 10:10 Ara Khzmalyan (Matenadaran, Yerevan)
The International Context of the Matenadaran

10:10 – 10:50 Zura Samarghanishvili (KKNCM, Tbilisi)
*Legacy and Future of the Korneli Kekelidze Georgian National
Centre of Manuscripts: Collections, Cataloguing, and Strategic
Vision*

10:50 – 11:10 Coffee break

11:10 – 11:50 Bernard Outtier (Bibliothèque du Caucase, Lavau)
Georgian Manuscripts Outside of Georgia

11:50 – 12:30 Boghos Levon Zekiyani (Armenian Catholic Church, Istanbul)
Armenian Manuscripts Outside of Armenia

12:30 – 1:00 Jost Gippert (University of Hamburg)
Caucasian Manuscripts in Germany

1:00 – 2:00 Lunch break

Section 2: Studying Caucasian Manuscripts – Problems and Solutions I

2:00 – 2:40 Gurgen Gasparyan (Matenadaran, Yerevan)
*Digitization as a Bridge to History: The Armenian Palimpsests
Project*

2:40 – 3:20 Ara Gasparyan (Matenadaran, Yerevan)
Digitization Challenges and Solutions in Palimpsest Exploration

3:20 – 4:00	Davit Ghazaryan (Matenadaran, Yerevan) <i>Armenian Amulet Scrolls on Parchment</i>
4:00 – 4:20	Coffee break
4:20 – 5:00	Khatuna Gaprindashvili (KKNCM, Tbilisi) <i>Exploring Palimpsestic Layers of the Jerusalem Lectionary at the Georgian National Centre of Manuscripts</i>
5:00 – 5:40	Dali Chitunashvili (KKNCM, Tbilisi) <i>Indexes of the Lessons of the Jerusalem Lectionary in Georgian Manuscripts</i>
5:40 – 6:20	Maia Matchavariani (KKNCM, Tbilisi) <i>Transforming Texts: Scribal Practices in a 13th-Century Georgian Hagiographic Compendium</i>
6:20 – 7:00	Sergey Kim (University of Lausanne, Lausanne) <i>Apocrypha of Mary's Dormition in Armenian and Georgian Manuscripts</i>

Tuesday, 25 March 2025, 9:15 am – 6:00 pm

Section 3: Material Analysis of Caucasian Manuscripts

9:15 – 9:30	Sebastian Bosch (University of Hamburg) <i>Introduction to the CSMC Laboratory</i>
9:30 – 10:10	Ivan Shevchuk, Kyle-Ann Huskin, and Emilio Bonfiglio (University of Hamburg) <i>Multispectral Imaging – Background and Results</i>
10:10 – 10:50	Hussein Adnan Mohammed, Mahdi Champour, and Hasmik Sargsyan (University of Hamburg) <i>Generative Inpainting for Palimpsests – Background and Results</i>
10:50 – 11:10	Coffee break

- 11:10 – 11:50 Sebastian Bosch, Eka Kvirkvelia (University of Hamburg)
Multi-analytical Material Characterization – Background and Results
- 11:50 – 12:30 Daniel Stökl ben Ezra (EPHE, Paris) and Mariam Kamarauli (University of Hamburg)
HTR with eScriptorium – Background and Results
- 12:30 – 1:10 Erich Renhart (University of Graz, Graz) and Jost Gippert (University of Hamburg)
Material Analysis of the Graz and Leipzig Collections – Summary
- 1:10 – 2:30 Lunch break

Section 4: Internal Meeting of Organisers, Speakers, and Chairs (2:30 – 6:00)

Wednesday, 26 March 2025, 9:15 am – 6:00 pm

Section 5: Studying Caucasian Manuscripts – Problems and Solutions II

- 9:15 – 9:55 Zara Pogossian (University of Florence, Florence)
Matenadaran Ms. 947: The Eventful Life and Codicology of a Manuscript as a Witness of Cultural Entanglements
- 9:55 – 10:35 Aram Topchyan and Gohar Muradyan (Matenadaran, Yerevan)
The Greek-Armenian Literary Relations through Centuries
- 10:35 – 11:15 Tamar Otkhmezuri (KKNCM, Tbilisi)
Medieval Georgian Readers
- 11:15 – 11:40 Coffee break

Section 6: Caucasian Manuscripts and the DeLiCaTe Project

- 11:40 – 12:10 Eka Kvirkvelia (University of Hamburg)
Palimpsested Gospels: The History of the Georgian Text Translation
- 12:10 – 12:30 Anahit Avagyan (University of Hamburg)
The Armenian Gospel Palimpsest M 10362

12:40 – 1:30	Emilio Bonfiglio (University of Hamburg) <i>The Vienna Agathangelos: Negotiating Philology and Damaged Cultural Heritage</i>
1:30 – 2:30	Lunch break
2:30 – 3:00	Mariam Kamarauli (University of Hamburg) <i>The Gospel of John in Georgian and Caucasian Albanian</i>
3:00 – 3:30	Hasmik Sargsyan (University of Hamburg) <i>Gospel Transmission in Armenian Lectionaries</i>
3:30 – 4:00	Sandro Tskhvedadze (University of Hamburg) <i>Georgian Gospel Lectionaries of the Constantinopolitan Rite: Membra Disiecta</i>
4:00 – 4:20	Coffee break
Section 7: Caucasian Manuscripts – Future Prospects	
4:20 – 5:30	Round table: Towards a Common Enterprise
5:30 – 6:00	Closing remarks