

Call for Papers

International Medieval Congress, Leeds, UK, 5th-8th July 2021

Caucasian Climates

Concepts of 'climate' and the Caucasus are intimately linked. Whether associated with Alexander's Wall or the Amazons, the Caucasus mountains served an important cosmological function, defining both boundaries and self-conception among their neighbours. More recently, scholars have sought to apply environmental approaches to Caucasian history, whether explaining historical processes through climate or studying Caucasian conceptions of and interactions with the natural world. The creation of more contextualised and cross-border histories of the Caucasus can also be aided by examining the human social or political 'climates' in which actors operated.

In order to promote interdisciplinary dialogue on these issues, *The Medieval Caucasus Network* proposes a series of panels at the International Medieval Congress- Europe's largest gathering of medieval scholars. We welcome papers in the fields of History, Art History, Archaeology, Medieval Studies, Literature, Historical Linguistics or Climatology on the cultures of the Caucasus (broadly defined).

Possible paper subjects may include, but are not limited to:

- Environmental and climatological approaches to Caucasian history;
- Medieval conceptions of climate and their connections with Caucasian history and cosmology;
- Human interactions with the landscape, such as modifications of the environment, pastoralism, migration, or agriculture;
- Approaches to Caucasian history that use concepts of socio-political climate to contextualise historical action and provide transnational perspectives.

Travel funding may be available, but we cannot guarantee this; if travel funding does become available, scholars travelling from Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, the Russian Federation, Iran or Turkey will be given priority. The International Medieval Congress expects that the conference will take place in person; however, in the event that travel becomes impossible, the conference will take place online.

For further information, please see the full conference CFP at <https://www.imc.leeds.ac.uk/2021-climates/>.

Deadlines for Expressions of Interest

Please submit an expression of interest to John Latham-Sprinkle at John.LathamSprinkle@ugent.be or James Baillie at james.baillie@univie.ac.at by **11th September**. Please send a paper title, academic affiliation, and a 100-word abstract. Please also indicate whether you will require travel funding in order to attend, and if so, approximately how much you estimate will be necessary.