



MELCom International
The European Association of Middle
East Librarians
<http://www.melcominternational.org>

FIRST CIRCULAR - Call for Papers and ONLINE Registration Form

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

The Board of MELCom International is pleased to announce that its 42nd annual conference will take place on **Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th May 2021 from 1pm to 6pm CET** (please use a [timezone converter](#) ahead of time to find out what time the conference takes place in your country). The conference will be held remotely, via [Zoom](#).

As in previous years, the conference sessions will be dedicated to the following topics dealing with library material from and on the Middle East:

- Librarianship, collection development and acquisition policies
- Cataloguing policies and practices
- Catalogues and bibliographies
- Electronic resources and digitisation projects
- Digital humanities & Middle Eastern collections
- Cooperation projects between libraries holding Middle Eastern collections
- History of libraries, ownership and readership
- Manuscripts, rare books and documents
- Current issues of information science in Middle East area studies

...and any other aspects within related fields of Middle Eastern librarianship.

This year we would particularly welcome presentations on Middle Eastern collections in Europe and on the book market in the Middle East including possible impact caused by the pandemic.

Due to time and organisation constraints associated with running a conference entirely online, **this year we will accept a maximum of 20 papers in total, i.e. maximum 10 on each day.**

ONLINE REGISTRATION & PAPERS PROPOSALS:

All those interested in participating in the conference as speakers are required to **register online by Wednesday 14th April 2021** : the registration form is available [here](#) as well as on

the MELCom International's website under the Conferences' tab ([Conferences > Forthcoming \(2021\)](#)). For attendees, the registration **deadline is Friday 14th May 2021**. As in previous years, **all registrations will ONLY be processed through this online form**.

Those wishing to present a paper during the conference are invited to insert an abstract (10-15 lines) in the box available for that purpose on the online registration form. Please note that the working languages of MELCom International are **English and French only**.

For any further information about the registration process, please send your enquiries to the Secretary at melcomintl.secretary@gmail.com

MELCom International is an organisation open to all those interested in its scope. For more details, please visit our [Website](#).

PRACTICALITIES:

The second circular with the **programme** and the link to the online conference **will be addressed only to those who have expressed their interest in joining the event by pre-registering online**. The information and programme communicated by the subsequent circular will also be posted on the MELCom International website which you are kindly asked to check regularly.

Conference fees: The conference is **free of charge** for everyone this year.

Looking forward to seeing many of you, albeit virtually, at the conference.

Andreas Drechsler, President

MariaLuisa Langella, Secretary

Anne-Sylvie Cathelineau, Treasurer