



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 the 43rd annual conference will take place over three days, from **Tuesday 17h to Thursday 19th May 2022** (inclusive) in Germany, at the **Philipps-Universität Marburg Library** (<https://www.uni-marburg.de/de/ub>). It will be organised by our colleague Dr. Susanne Saker (Subject Librarian). Our host is also planning to organise an excursion (optional) on Friday 20th May 2022.

As previously, 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
- The book market in the region

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

ONLINE REGISTRATION & PAPER PROPOSALS:

All those interested in participating in the conference either as a speaker or as an attendee are required to **fill the Pre-registration Form online before Friday 11th February 2022** : this form is available on the MELCom International's website under the Conferences' tab ([Conferences > Forthcoming : 2022](#)). As in previous years, all preliminary 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 melcomintl.secretary@gmail.com

Requests for grants: MI can afford to provide a couple of modest grants every year in order to help colleagues, either new to it or unable to get financial support from their institutions, to attend the conference. If you wish to apply, please forward your request to melcomintl.secretary@gmail.com **no later than Friday 11th February 2022**. Your request will be examined by an independent Grants committee. Grantees are requested to present a paper at the conference.

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

PRACTICALITIES:

The second circular and firm booking form, to be released in February 2022, will contain more details with regard to accommodation, travel and other practical information, the academic programme and visits to institutions. **They will be addressed only to those who have expressed their interest in joining the event by pre-registering online before 11th February 2022.** The information communicated by the subsequent circular may be available earlier and if so, it will be posted on the MELCom International website which you are kindly asked to check regularly.

Note regarding entry visa to Germany: Those who need letters of invitation to obtain an entrance visa to Germany should write to the local organiser (Susanne Saker, saker@staff.uni-marburg.de) as early as possible.

Germany is in the Schengen Zone. Currently the citizens of 62 countries can enter Germany visa free for the purpose of tourism / visiting and business doing, for periods shorter than 90 days within a 180-day period. If you are not a national of any of these 62 countries that have established a visa-free regime with the European Union, then you will need to obtain a visa first, in order to be permitted to enter Germany. You will find more information here: <https://www.germany-visa.org/do-i-need-a-visa/> .

Conference fees: The conference fee is €35 for individuals and €80 for commercial participants. Students enjoy free admission, as well as those who join the conference online.

Please bear in mind that participants have to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements and meet their own expenses.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Marburg next May,

THE MELCom International Board