

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

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### 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

Chair: Jost Gippert

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

Chair: Caroline Macé

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

11:50 – 12:30 Boghos Levon Zekian (Padus-Araxes Cultural Association, Isti-  
tuto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti)  
*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 (Chair

Chair: Anahit Avagyan

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| 2:00 – 2:40 | Gurgen Gasparyan (Matenadaran, Yerevan)<br><i>Digitization as a Bridge to History: The Armenian Palimpsests Project</i> |
| 2:40 – 3:20 | Ara Gasparyan (Matenadaran, Yerevan)<br><i>Digitization Challenges and Solutions in Palimpsest Exploration</i>          |
| 3:20 – 4:00 | Davit Ghazaryan (Matenadaran, Yerevan)<br><i>Armenian Amulet Scrolls on Parchment</i>                                   |
| 4:00 – 4:20 | Coffee break  |

Chair: Eka Kvirkvelia

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| 4:20 – 5:00 | Khatuna Gaprindashvili (KKNCM, Tbilisi)<br><i>Exploring Palimpsestic Layers of the Jerusalem Lectionary at the Georgian National Centre of Manuscripts</i> |
| 5:00 – 5:40 | Dali Chitunashvili (KKNCM, Tbilisi)<br><i>Indexes of the Lessons of the Jerusalem Lectionary in Georgian Manuscripts</i>                                   |
| 5:40 – 6:20 | Maia Matchavariani (KKNCM, Tbilisi)<br><i>Transforming Texts: Scribal Practices in a 13th-Century Georgian Hagiographic Compendium</i>                     |
| 6:20 – 7:00 | Sergey Kim (University of Lausanne, Lausanne)<br><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

Chair: Mariam Kamarauli

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| 9:15 – 9:30 | Sebastian Bosch (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Introduction to the CSMC Laboratory</i> |
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| 9:30 – 10:10            | Ivan Shevchuk, Kyle-Ann Huskin, and Emilio Bonfiglio (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Multispectral Imaging – Background and Results</i>   |
| 10:10 – 10:50           | Hussein Adnan Mohammed, Mahdi Champour, and Hasmik Sargsyan (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Generative Inpainting for Palimpsests – Background and Results</i>  |
| 10:50 – 11:10           | Coffee break  |
| Chair: Olivier Bonnerot |   |
| 11:10 – 11:50           | Sebastian Bosch, Eka Kvirkvelia (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Multi-analytical Material Characterization – Background and Results</i>   |
| 11:50 – 12:20           | Emilio Bonfiglio (University of Hamburg)<br><i>The Vienna Agathangelos: Negotiating Philology and Damaged Cultural Heritage</i>   |
| 12:20 – 12:50           | Erich Renhart (University of Graz), Jost Gippert (University of Hamburg), Samaneh Ehteram and Philipp Paetzold (University of Hamburg / Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron Hamburg)<br><i>Material Analysis of the Graz and Leipzig Collections – Summary</i> |
| 12:50 – 1:30            | Irka Hajdas (ETH Zürich)<br><i><sup>14</sup>C Dating of Manuscripts, the Method, and Applications with a Focus on the Graz Collection</i>   |
| 1:30 – 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**

Chair: Emilio Bonfiglio

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| 9:15 – 9:55 | Zara Pogossian (University of Florence, Florence)<br><i>Matenadaran Ms. 947: The Eventful Life and Codicology of a Manuscript as a Witness of Cultural Entanglements</i> |
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| 9:55 – 10:15  | Aram Topchyan (Matenadaran, Yerevan)<br><i>Corrections in the Greek Original and Armenian Version of the<br/>Alexander Romance on the Basis of Two Armenian Recensions</i> |
| 10:15 – 10:35 | Gohar Muradyan (Matenadaran, Yerevan)<br><i>Medieval Armenian Philosophical Literature: Manuscripts and<br/>Studies</i>  |
| 10:35 – 11:15 | Tamar Otkhmezuri (KKNCM, Tbilisi)<br><i>Medieval Georgian Readers</i>  |
| 11:15 – 11:40 | Coffee break   |

## **Section 6: Caucasian Manuscripts and the DeLiCaTe Project**

Chair: Hasmik Sargsyan

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| 11:40 – 12:10          | Eka Kvirkvelia (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Palimpsested Gospels: The History of the Georgian Text<br/>Translation</i>                      |
| 12:10 – 12:40          | Anahit Avagyan (University of Hamburg)<br><i>The Armenian Gospel Palimpsest M 10362</i>  |
| 12:40 – 1:10           | Daniel Stökl ben Ezra (EPHE, Paris) and Mariam Kamarauli<br>(University of Hamburg)<br><i>HTR with eScriptorium – Background and Results</i> |
| 1:10 – 2:30            | Lunch break  |
| Chair: José Maksimczuk |  |
| 2:30 – 3:00            | Mariam Kamarauli (University of Hamburg)<br><i>The Gospel of John in Georgian and Caucasian Albanian</i>                                     |
| 3:00 – 3:30            | Hasmik Sargsyan (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Gospel Transmission in Armenian Lectionaries</i>   |
| 3:30 – 4:00            | Sandro Tskhvedadze (University of Hamburg)<br><i>Georgian Gospel Lectionaries of the Constantinopolitan Rite:<br/>Membra Disiecta</i>        |
| 4:00 – 4:20            | Coffee break   |

## **Section 7: Caucasian Manuscripts – Future Prospects**

Chair: Jost Gippert

4:20 – 5:30

Round table: Towards a Common Enterprise

5:30 – 6:00

Closing remarks