

COMSt Launching Conference

1-3 December 2009

Conference Report

Summary

The Launching conference of the ESF RNP Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies took place from 1 to 3 December 2009 in Hamburg, Germany. It was convened by the Chair of the COMSt Steering Committee Siegbert Uhlig (Hamburg University, Germany) and the Coordinator of the COMSt network Evgenia Sokolinskaia (Hamburg University, Germany). It was attended by 65 scholars from 13 different countries.

The Conference was composed of three main parts: project presentations; team workshops; presentation of team workshops results and discussion of activity planning.

During the first part, twenty two national and international ongoing projects, all in direct relationship to COMSt thematic scope were briefly presented, mostly with the help of Power point or Internet.

During the second part, the five thematic teams of COMSt (Codicology, Philology, Digital Approaches to Manuscript Studies, Cataloguing and Preservation) had the opportunity to meet and define for themselves the COMSt concepts and ideas as suggested by the concept brochure and application as well as elaborate short and long-term activity planning.

During the third part, the five team leaders summarized for the conference participants the results of the parallel workshops, gathering significant input from the audience. The work plan has been further specified and the desiderata and the questions that should be answered during the COMSt work have been formulated.

As a result of the conference, the COMSt network received the necessary impetus to unfold its activities. The scientific material presented during the Conference will form the bulk of the first COMSt Newsletter. Besides, several inter-project contacts have been established and cooperations that will probably continue beyond COMST activity period have been envisaged.

Launching conference report. Description of the contents and the discussions.

The conference was inaugurated at 14:30 on December 1 by the welcome of the Chair of the COMSt Steering Committee Siegbert Uhlig (Hamburg University, Germany) who also read the official address of the Vice President of Hamburg University Hans Siegfried Stiehl. Arianna Ciula's (ESF Science Officer, Humanities Unit, Strasbourg) presentation of the structure and the goals of the European Science Foundation (www.esf.org) was followed by a brief presentation of the main ideas behind the Research Networking Programme in Comparative Oriental Manuscript Studies (www1.uni-hamburg.de/COMST) by Alessandro Bausi (Hamburg University, COMSt Steering Committee member for Germany). Team leaders then presented the specific scope and the initial members of their respective teams: Team 1: Codicology (Marilena Maniaci, University of Cassino, Italy), Team 2: Philology (Johannes den Heijer, Catholic University Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium), Team 3: Digital approaches to Manuscript Studies (Jost Gippert, Frankfurt University, Belgium), Team 4: Cataloguing (Witold Witakowski, Uppsala University, Sweden), Team 5: Preservation and Conservation (Stéphane Ipert, Centre de Conservation du Livre, Arles, France; this part of the presentation took actual place later during the day). The opening part was concluded by a brief summary of key targets and products envisaged by the RNP; in this presentation Coordinator of the COMSt network Evgenia Sokolinskaia (Hamburg University, Germany) mentioned the existing interactive platforms calling on all participants' active contribution.

After a coffee break, the plenary meeting resumed with a series of project presentations. Due to a large number of talks, the allocated time could not exceed fifteen minutes for each speaker. As the first presenter, Michael Friedrich (Hamburg University) reported on the activities within the Research Group Manuscript Cultures in Asia and Africa (http://www.manuscript-cultures.uni-hamburg.de/index_e.html), established since two years at Asia-Africa Institute of Hamburg University and currently incorporating ten distinct research projects in different Oriental cultures, whereas the geographic scope is usually more to the East than that of COMSt and includes research into Chinese, Japanese, Indian and Tibetan cultures.

Christian Brockmann (Hamburg University) presented another Hamburg-based project, in digital classical humanities – TEUCHOS Zentrum für Handschriften- und Textforschung (<http://www.teuchos.uni-hamburg.de>). A successor of the Rinascimento Virtuale project, TEUCHOS develops digital means for philological research and creates an online platform for Greek and Latin text and manuscript studies.

Jost Gippert (Frankfurt University) spoke about the project TITUS (<http://titus.uni-frankfurt.de/indexd.htm>) as well as on current developments in the work upon Georgian palimpsests and other manuscript fragments from Mount Sinai (cp. <http://armazi.uni-frankfurt.de/framed.htm>).

Ina Hegenbarth (Hamburg University /Göttingen Academy of Sciences) presented a summary of the activities of the Union Catalogue of Oriental Manuscripts in German Collections (Katalogisierung der Orientalischen Handschriften in Deutschland, KOHD, <http://kohd.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/frameuk.htm>). She listed languages and cultures covered and provided additional information on the cataloguing of Coptic manuscripts, one of the main foci of Hamburg cataloguing team.

Ira Rabin (Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing, Berlin) reported on what her research on Qumran scrolls has revealed as to how a chemical material analysis (ink, parchment) can give information on the manuscript history, from dating to its geographic storage, and what relationship there may be between the manuscript preparation technique and the actual text (s. also http://www.bam.de/en/aktuell/aktuelle_meldungen/qumran.htm).

The last Germany-based project presented in this plenary session was the Islamic Manuscripts Database (www.islamic-manuscripts.net, but also www.refaiya.uni-leipzig.de and www.manuscripts-aceh.org) by Verena Klemm (University of Leipzig). The extent and the search options of the electronic catalogue were demonstrated.

A most impressive unique quantitative electronic database for codicology, SfarData, was presented by Malachi Beit-Arié (Hebrew University, Jerusalem). The system, which allows retrieval of a large number of measurable codicological attributes of most of the extant dated Hebrew manuscripts (currently 6694 in total), could eventually also be adapted to other manuscript traditions. SfarData is about to go online, and a test run of the website, now under construction (www.sfarData.nli.org.il), was offered to the conference participants.

Willy Clarysse (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium) summarized the achievements of TRISMEGISTOS: An interdisciplinary portal of papyrological and epigraphical resources dealing primarily with Egypt and the Nile valley between roughly 800 BC and AD 800 (<http://www.trismegistos.org/>). The online platform contains databases on persons in Greco-Roman Egypt, on papyrus archives and papyrus collections, on places where texts were written, found or even just mentioned in texts, merging the metadata of several databases – some based in Leuven, such as the Leuven Database of Ancient Books (LDAB, <http://www.trismegistos.org/ldab/>, which also includes Latin and Syriac manuscripts), Hieroglyphic and Hieratic Papyri (HHP, <http://www.trismegistos.org/hhp/>), Demotic and Abnormal Hieratic Texts (DAHT, <http://www.trismegistos.org/daht/>), Aramaic Texts from Egypt (ATE, <http://www.trismegistos.org/ate/>) and TM Magic (<http://www.trismegistos.org/magic/>), but also from elsewhere, e.g. Heidelberger Gesamtverzeichnis der griechischen Papyrusurkunden Ägyptens (<http://aquila.papy.uni-heidelberg.de/gvzFM.html>), Arabic Papyrology Database (<http://orientw.uzh.ch/apd/project.jsp>), Brussels Coptic Database (<http://dev.ulb.ac.be/philo/bad/copte/>). It enables search for multiple criteria, provides information on places and persons, as well as a possibility of quantitative analyses of the retrievable data.

Zdeněk Uhlíř (National Library of Czech Republic, Prague) presented the Manuscriptorium (<http://www.manuscriptorium.com>), a platform conceived for a European digital library of manuscripts, as an offspring of ENRICH project (<http://enrich.manuscriptorium.com/>). In addition to manuscripts in Czech collections, Manuscriptorium offers access to and search in manuscripts from collections in Sweden (Lund University Library), Russia (Holy Trinity St. Sergius Lavra), Poland (Wrocław University Library), Germany (Heidelberg University Library) and others. Full-text and complex search options are available; access to metadata is free without restriction. The encoding used is TEI P5 (<http://enrich.manuscriptorium.com/index.php?q=partner-area-wp3>).

Finally, Nikolai Serikoff (Wellcome Trust Library, London) made a brief report on a new partnership between the Wellcome Library and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (Egypt), which will result in the Wellcome Library's making its collection of materials related to Egypt, from papyri to medieval manuscripts, available in digital form. A TEI-based catalogue will emerge, continuing the work already done for Haddad manuscripts (<http://catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk/search/o?SEARCH=digarabic&searchscope=8>). Informal discussions continued during the dinner.

The plenary resumed at 9:00 AM on 2 December with the presentation of Matthew Driscoll (Copenhagen University) on the possibilities the Text Encoding Initiative (<http://www.tei-c.org/index.xml>) in its P5 version offers for digitalization of texts and particularly for catalogue descriptions of manuscripts. TEI P5 has introduced the new encoding feature, <msDesc>, with its submodules, precisely for the needs of scholars working in manuscript studies (s. <http://www.tei-c.org/release/doc/tei-p5-doc/en/html/MS.html>). Examples were provided for the use of this and other relevant features, such as the new module, Gaiji, with whose help one can encode characters or glyphs which do not appear in Unicode.

Stéphane Ipert spoke about the MANUMED: Des Manuscrits et des Hommes (<http://www.manumed.org/>), a project network dedicated to preservation and study of manuscripts in the Mediterranean region, and introduced its new electronic platform E-Corpus (<http://www.e-corpus.org/>), a collective digital library that catalogs and disseminates documents, including manuscripts. The Virtual Library of the Mediterranean Sea, e.g., (<http://data.manumed.org/>) aims at establishing a corpus of digital documents, free of copyright, resulting from libraries, archives and museums, public or private collections relative to the Mediterranean countries.

Athanasios Velios (the University of the Arts, London) presented the works conducted by the research unit LIGATUS (<http://www.ligatus.org.uk/>). In the centre of attention are the bookbinding techniques as seen in the manuscripts of St. Catherine's Monastery on Mt Sinai. Among the project goal is a detailed glossary of bookbinding that could possibly be adapted to different languages to create a terminological standard.

Marilena Maniaci (University of Cassino) provided an insight into the recently launched project *MaGI*. *Manoscritti greci d'Italia* which aims, in cooperation with numerous Italian libraries, to produce a shared electronic open catalogue for over six thousand Greek manuscripts they preserve. Old existing catalogues will be updated, digitized and supplied with images and additional palaeographical, codicological and art historical details. The platform of Nuova Biblioteca Manoscritta (<http://www.nuovabibliotecamanoscritta.it/index.html>) will be used to incorporate MaGI (<http://www.nuovabibliotecamanoscritta.it/Greci/index.html?language=it>).

Wido van Peursen (Peshitta Institute, Leiden University) spoke on the project of the Revision of the List of Old Testament Peshitta Manuscripts (<http://www.hum.leiden.edu/religion/research/research-programmes/antiquity/12-revision-of-the-list-of-old-testament-peshitta-manuscripts.html>). The goal of the project is to both further elaborate the list as a tool for Old Testament criticism but also, and most importantly, to provide a valid instrument for Syriac manuscript studies. An electronic edition will be prepared in the framework of the Peshitta Electronic Text Project (<http://www.hum.leiden.edu/religion/research/research-programmes/antiquity/peshitta-electronic-text-project.html>). Textual and linguistic analysis will also be possible with the help of the TURGAMA project (<http://www.hum.leiden.edu/religion/research/research-programmes/antiquity/turgama.html>).

Denis Nosnitsin (Hamburg University) presented the project that has been launched on the same day of the beginning of the conference: ETHIO-SPARE: Cultural Heritage of Christian Ethiopia: Salvation, Preservation and Research (<http://www1.uni-hamburg.de/ethiostudies/ethiospare.pdf>). The project primarily aims at exploring, securing, digitizing and cataloguing manuscript collections in churches and monasteries of Ethiopia. Text editions and electronic access tools shall also be developed.

After a coffee break, the plenary resumed with Ewa Balicka-Witakowska's (Uppsala University / COMSt SC representative for Sweden) presentation of the Mazgaba Seelat: a database for the recording of Ethiopian art, architecture and culture (<http://128.100.218.174:8080>, username *student*, password *student*). The database, containing many hundreds of thousands of images, is under continuous development. It is searchable for various criteria (Boolean search) as well as by keywords. While its focus is on Ethiopian art, it is relevant for manuscript studies as far as manuscript binding, decoration and illuminations are concerned; besides, numerous manuscripts have been digitized and are viewable in full.

The meeting was continued by a series of presentations connected with Syriac manuscript studies. Kristian Heal (Brigham Young University) spoke about the projects of the Center for the Preservation of Ancient Religious Texts (<http://cpart.byu.edu/>), in particular the Syriac Electronic Corpus, which is envisaged to contain as large a number of the works of Syriac literature as possible.

Françoise Briquel-Chatonnet (CNRS, Paris; COMSt SC member for France) continued the topic speaking about current projects in Syriac manuscript cataloguing (libraries of Charfet, Lebanon). The envisaged Syriac Manuscript Database should include information on all known Syriac manuscripts, connecting the already existing databases and incorporating the collections which yet lack an electronic catalogue.

Margherita Farina (University of Pisa) then spoke about a particular Syriac manuscript cataloguing effort: the creation of an electronic catalogue/database for the Syriac manuscripts of the Laurenziana library of Florence. In addition to providing standard up-to-date catalogue descriptions, the descriptions from the classical catalogue by Assemani (1724) as well as the library fiches are included, in PDF format, for record and comparison.

Tito Orlandi (University of Rome "La Sapienza") presented the Corpus dei Manoscritti Copti Letterari (<http://cmcl.let.uniroma1.it/>), an electronic database which includes (1) *Clavis Patrum Copticorum*: list of the

authors and works of the Coptic literature with information on manuscripts, content, and critical problems; (2) Manuscripts: list (a) of the individual collections, (b) of the Coptic codices either materially preserved or virtually reconstituted, especially from the Monastery of St. Shenoute, Atripe (White Monastery); (3) Texts: electronic edition of Coptic texts with Italian translation. A full edition consists of: reproduction of the manuscripts, diplomatic edition of the manuscripts, critical edition of the text, with translation, index of the words with grammatical explanation, linguistic analysis; (4) History of literature: chronological description of the development of the Coptic literature in 12 parts (only parts 1, 4, 7 are currently available); (5) Grammar: a computational grammar of Sahidic with a list of words according to the grammatical categories; and (6) Bibliography: Complete bibliography for Coptic studies (under development). The database is only accessible to subscribers.

The plenary session was concluded by the presentation by Dickran Kouymjian who gave an overview on the State-of-the-art in Armenian manuscript studies. His summary was structured into blocks corresponding to the inner structure of COMSt: ongoing studies on material aspects (e.g., Kouymjian's computer database on Armenian bindings; studies such as Thomas F. Mathews and Avedis K. Sanjian, *Armenian Gospel Iconography. The Tradition of the Glajor Gospel*, with contributions by Mary Virginia Orna (on pigments) and James R. Russell, *Dumbarton Oaks Studies*, vol. 29, Washington, D.C.: Dumbarton Oaks, 1991); philological research (e.g., Alexander Hakopyan, *Book of Canons*, based on 76 manuscripts with the digital technology of M. Karapetyan and H. Kizoghian); digital philology (e.g., <http://www.sd-editions.com/LALT/index.html>); cataloguing (e.g., *General Catalogue of Armenian Manuscripts of the Mashtots Matenadaran*, 4 vols. (in Armenian), nos. 1-1500, Erevan, 1984-2008); and manuscript preservation (e.g., the activities of the HMML, <http://www.hmml.org/>).

In the afternoon, each team had the opportunity to have an independent workshop. In most cases, the parallel team sessions were a combination of personal project presentations and brainstorming round table discussions as far as future COMSt activities are concerned. Among the presentations, one could mention, in the Philology group, Zuzana Gažáková's (University of Bratislava) presentation on her work on editing an Arabic folk epic on Sayf b. Dhi Yazan; Denis Searby's (Stockholm University) talk on the Ars Edendi Research Programme (<http://www.arsedendi.org/>), Wido van Peursen's paper on Dilemmas and Choices in the Preparation of the Leiden Peshitta Edition (<http://www.hum.leiden.edu/religion/research/research-programmes/antiquity/peshitta-electronic-text-project.html>) as well as Alessandro Mengozzi's (University of Bergamo) insight into the Editions of Late East Syriac and Modern Aramaic Hymns.

The Digital Approach to Manuscript Studies group discussed basic issues that resulted later in assuming as more appropriate the present name instead of the original Digital philology. Jost Gippert and Tito Orlandi discussed at length about limits of – and needs for – digital standards (e.g., UNICODE), confronting shared information with standard constraints. Caroline Macé stressed the importance of developing automatic devices for disentangling very rich manuscript traditions (stemmatology).

The conference continued on 3 December with the plenary session, during which team leaders were asked to summarize the results of the parallel workshops (s. section Assessment of the results and impact of the event for details); the presentations of the team leaders were followed by an open discussion.

The conference was closed at 13:00 with an appeal to all participants who made a presentation to place, wherever possible, their powerpoint file at public disposal by placing it online, and to submit a short project summary to be published in the forthcoming Newsletter. Finally, the meeting was adjourned with the indication that the specific work plan would be subsequently approved by the Steering Committee and communicated to the COMSt participants by the Coordinator and the Team Leaders.

Assessment of the results and impact on the future direction.

The intermediate conference and workshop results were already assessed and future direction was suggested by the team leaders during the final presentations.

Marilena Maniaci (Team Leader Codicology) spoke of the challenges (such as a standard multilingual terminology – too difficult to achieve; approach to choose: decide who the target audience are) and concrete team work steps. A reasoned bibliography of comparative codicology and palaeography, for all cultures presented in COMSt is envisaged. In addition, a directory of ongoing projects shall be created. Workshop schedule was also proposed: Year 1 (November/December 2010, probably Pisa): Material aspects (paper, parchment, papyrus, ink, etc.); Year 2: Book technique (binding, ruling, etc.); Year 3: Page layout (including questions of manuscript illumination); Year 4 (eventually): Palaeography. Every team member would be preparing a contribution on their respective manuscript culture. Synthesis of the workshop results can be used for introductions to future book chapters.

Johannes den Heijer (Team Leader Philology) and Jost Gippert (Team Leader Digital Approaches to Manuscript Studies) made a joint report on their groups' half-day workshops. Among the main questions the group discussed, departing from the concept paper of COMSt (in the brochure), was the understanding and the meaning of text criticism, which eventually depends on the category, nature, purpose and context of the text as well as on the readership of the edition. Textual criticism and textual history were suggested as complementary approaches within a unitary philology.

Another question was the place of the digital approach to humanities in general and to manuscript studies in particular. The relevant team of Digital Approaches to Manuscript Studies (originally titled Digital Philology), should be working in constant cooperation with other teams, not only that on philology (esp. online editions), but also those on codicology/palaeography (esp. inasmuch the palaeographic computer-assisted analysis is concerned, thus dating of manuscripts, prosopography of scribes, historical orthography), cataloguing (organization and encoding of catalogue metadata) as well as preservation (digitalization). Possibilities offered in online editions (hyperlinking, etc.) should be explored and the edition approach reconsidered. A major issue in discussion was the meaning and the necessity of standards – whether in terminology or in method; it is better to operate with such concepts as “best practice” and “necessary prerequisites”. To this end, inventories should be created, both of methods and of instruments available. “Standards” is a more appropriate term when one talks about Internet/Digital world: it is necessary to take into consideration such standards as the UNICODE.

A discussion emerged when the presenters mentioned the limits and limitations of their scope. Thus, a definition was needed as to what to consider a manuscript under study – whether to include inscriptions or not, and in case whether to include, besides the monumental ones, also those on smaller objects, glass, metal, wood, textile, or on wall paintings. The preliminary answer was to focus primarily on “*liber manuscriptus*” but keep other handwritten texts at least in the peripheral attention field. Unanswered questions concerned chronological limit (though cuneiform and hieroglyphic writing was considered beyond the scope) and the regional boundaries (the main focus remains the “codex” in the Mediterranean area and connected cultures).

The main points summarized were (1) “new philology” as applied to text criticism, (2) cross-language approach: seek inspiration from other language disciplines (esp. the better developed Classical, Romance and Medieval philologies), (3) access problem to be addressed as collective responsibility, (4) online vs paper editions, (5) ideas on technical matters (e.g., OCR, stemmatology, corpus linguistics). The book chapters for the handbook should not be the only output: the COMSt wiki can continue life and be constantly updated even after the handbook publication.

Witold Witakowski (Team Leader Cataloguing) admitted that the progress in discussions on cataloguing was not yet considerable. The necessity in standard was strongly felt, but there seemed to be a disagreement as to what a catalogue should actually be and what the readership is. Depending on whether a manuscript is seen as primarily a source of historical information and a text carrier or primarily an artefact to be stored and preserved in a library/museum there may be two types of catalogues: classical, with main focus on textual contents, and the one more focusing on the "artefact" description. In the subsequent discussion it was suggested that the best would be to cater to both needs, and provide both the extensive description of manuscripts as objects without giving up a detailed philological description. A repertory of all features useful for cataloguers should be conceived. An electronic standard should be envisaged, and the extendible TEI P5, or other XML, could be a good basis format, as XML-structured text can be easily transferred to offline and online databases, CDs and printed books. A decision has to be taken as to what the necessary minimum of a manuscript description is, in consideration of the catalogue function. Another discussion point was that catalogues should clearly connect the structure of the text(s) and that of the carrier, something missing from most existing catalogues (e.g., if there are several original quires, maybe written by several hands, and several texts, it should be clear whether different texts belong or not to the same codicological units).

Bibliography of recent catalogues should be compiled for all Oriental languages and domains, including miscellanea describing one or few manuscripts.

Stéphane Ipert (Team Leader Preservation) first spoke on group development and strategy: the necessity to enlarge the team; to determine preservation action plan and strategies, both short- and long-term; to enhance ethical approach to conservation. The next meeting is envisaged in April 2010 in London. The group work plan includes a selected bibliography (classified by both thematic and geographical areas and including information on digital preservation); a survey of good practice in conservation and digitization projects, whether of large or small scale; development of guidelines for preservation action plan, as well as for an education plan and for digitization procedures; guidelines for condition survey model forms, depending on available time and surveyors' expertise; for the security of manuscript collections, including basic information for security as well as worldwide information network on illicit traffic; continuing the work on a multilingual glossary of relevant terms (bookbinding, cp. LIGATUS). In the course of discussion it was suggested that a survey could be envisaged as to what happens, in term of security and attractiveness to public, to those libraries who put their collections online. Attention should be paid to intellectual property questions, especially when dealing with manuscripts in Oriental archives.

On the whole, the discussion showed that the Conference reached its aim of bringing the COMSt concept message across to all COMSt participants and of getting the COMSt members start the disciplinary discussions necessary for the Network success.

The Conference enabled activity planning for the COMSt Network in the coming years as well as has provided impetus for both further research into manuscript studies in general and for the raising up of quality standards in Oriental manuscript studies in particular.

COMSt Launching Conference
Hamburg, 1-3 December 2009

Final Programme

1.12.2009		arrival
	14.30-14.45	opening speeches and welcome addresses
	14.45-15.15	presentation of the ESF, its goals, objectives, projects
	15.15-16.00	presentation of the COMSt project: problems, state of research and preliminary goals (COMSt chair and team leaders)
	16.00-16.30	coffee break
	16.30-19.00	plenary session I: presentations of ongoing major projects in COMSt-related fields (15-18 minutes each) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. M. Friedrich: Manuscript Cultures in Asia and Africa2. Ch. Brockmann: TEUCHOS3. J. Gippert: TITUS4. I. Hegenbarth: KOHD5. I. Rabin: Material analysis of Qumran scrolls6. V. Klemm: Islamic Manuscripts Database7. M. Beit-Arie: SfarData8. W. Clarysse: Trismegistos9. Z. Uhlír: Manuscriptorium10. N. Serikoff: Wellcome Library and Bibliotheca Alexandrina
	19.00-20.30	dinner

2.12.2009	9.00-10.30	<p>plenary session II: presentations of ongoing major projects in COMSt-related fields (I continued) (15-18 minutes each)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. M. Driscoll: TEI 2. S. Ipert: MANUMED 3. A. Velios: LIGATUS 4. M. Maniaci: MaGI 5. W. van Peursen: TURGAMA 6. D. Nosnitsin: ETHIO-SPARE
	10.30-11.00	coffee break
	11.00-12.30	<p>plenary session III: presentations of ongoing major projects in COMSt-related fields (II continued) (15-18 minutes each)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. E. Balicka: Mazgaba Seelat 2. K. Heal: Syriac Electronic Corpus 3. F. Briquel-Chatonnet: Syriac manuscript cataloguing (France) 4. M. Farina: Syriac manuscript cataloguing (Italy) 5. T. Orlandi: Corpus dei Manoscritti Copti Letterari 6. D. Kouymjian: Projects in Armenian mss studies
	12.30-14.30	lunch
	14.30-16.30	parallel group sessions (programme defined by team leaders)
	16.30-17.00	coffee break
	17.00-19.00	parallel group sessions (programme defined by team leaders)
3.12.2009	9.00-10.30	plenary session IV: group presentations of results
	10.30-11.00	coffee break
	11.00-12.30	plenary session V: group presentations of results (IV continued)
	12.30-13.00	Organizers' summary and indications for further work Closure

COMST Launching Conference

1-3 December 2009

Participants

Convenors

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|----|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. | Evgenia Sokolinskaia | Hamburg, DE |
| 2. | Siegbert Uhlig | Hamburg, DE |

Speakers

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 3. | Ewa Balicka-Witakowska | Uppsala, SE |
| 4. | Malachi Beit-Arie | Jerusalem, IL |
| 5. | Francoise Briquel-Chatonnet | Paris, FR |
| 6. | Christian Brockmann | Hamburg, DE |
| 7. | Willy Clarysse | Leuven, BE |
| 8. | Matthew Driscoll | Copenhagen, DK |
| 9. | Margherita Farina | Pisa, IT |
| 10. | Michael Friedrich | Hamburg, DE |
| 11. | Jost Gippert | Frankfurt, DE |
| 12. | Kristian Heal | Provo, UT , US |
| 13. | Ina Hegenbarth | Hamburg, DE |
| 14. | Stéphane Ipert | Arles, FR |
| 15. | Verena Klemm | Leipzig, DE |
| 16. | Dickran Kouymjian | Paris, FR |
| 17. | Marilena Maniaci | Cassino, IT |
| 18. | Denis Nossnitsin | Hamburg, DE |
| 19. | Tito Orlandi | Roma, IT |
| 20. | Ira Rabin | Berlin, DE |
| 21. | Nikolai Serikoff | London, UK |
| 22. | Zdenek Uhlir | Prague, CZ |
| 23. | Wido van Peursen | Leiden, NL |
| 24. | Athanasios Velios | London, UK |

Participants

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|-----|----------------------|----------------------|
| 25. | Felix Albrecht | Göttingen, DE |
| 26. | Alessandro Bausi | Hamburg, DE |
| 27. | Pier Giorgio Borbone | Pisa, IT |
| 28. | Antonella Brita | Napoli, IT |
| 29. | Paola Buzi | Ostia Lido, IT |
| 30. | Alberto Camplani | Roma, IT |
| 31. | Arianna Ciula | Strasbourg, FR |
| 32. | David Cooper | Oxfordshire , UK |
| 33. | Daniel Deckers | Hamburg, DE |
| 34. | Johannes den Heijer | Louvain-la-Neuve, BE |
| 35. | Stephen Emmel | Münster, DE |
| 36. | Zuzana Gazakova | Bratislava, SK |

37. Charles Genequand	Geneve, CH
38. Antonia Giannouli	Nicosia, CY
39. Ingvild Gilhus	Bergen, NO
40. Andreas Görke	Hamburg, DE
41. Alessandro Gori	Firenze, IT
42. Carl Griffin	Provo, UT, US
43. Oliver Hahn	Berlin, DE
44. Hubert Kaufhold	München, DE
45. Paolo La Spisa	Louvain-la-Neuve, BE
46. Hugo Lundhaug	Oslo, NO
47. Caroline Macé	Leuven, BE
48. Michael Marx	Potsdam, DE
49. Manfred Mayer	Graz, AT
50. Alessandro Mengozzi	Bergamo, IT
51. Tamar Pataridze	Louvain-la-Neuve, BE
52. Irmeli Perho	Copenhagen, DK
53. Michael Phelps	Rolling Hills Estates, US
54. Simone Pratelli	Canzo Como, IT
55. Stig Rasmussen	Copenhagen, DK
56. Christoph Rauch	Berlin, DE
57. Erich Renhart	Graz, AT
58. Joshua Sabih	Copenhagen, DK
59. Karin Scheper	Leiden, NL
60. Andrea Schmidt	Louvain-la-Neuve, BE
61. Denis Searby	Uppsala, SE
62. Veronika Six	Hamburg, DE
63. Annie Vernay-Nouri	Paris, FR
64. Witold Witakowski	Uppsala, SE
65. Ugo Zanetti	Chevetogne, BE