




5th ARDIT International Congress
Centre or Periphery
Shaping relations during the Middle Ages
Barcelona, 11-13 May 2022

CALL FOR PAPERS

During the Cold War, the notion that resources flowed from a “periphery” of poor and underdeveloped states to a “core” of “central”, wealthy states and, thus, determined national economic development or underdevelopment, gained sway among scholars and theorists of inter-regional relations. Although most Dependency theory scholars traced the roots of this “world system” to the first global expansion of European capitalism in the 16th century, these ideas soon inspired new approaches to central–local relations in different disciplines and chronologies. Such perspectives often leave the more strict confines of Dependency theory behind, and, in more general terms avoid the dichotomic understanding of a dominant centre and a subordinated periphery, but make use of these concepts because of the promises they entail: its inherent comparative nature, the chance to go beyond hyper-localism to structure geographic and political systems, construct inter-regional hierarchies and connections and, after all, achieve a more holistic view of past societies. We believe Medieval societies, territories, and cultures are especially suited to these types of approaches. The fragmentary and highly localised nature of power, the development of different languages and cultural systems, or the exploitative nature of economic relations constitute a fertile ground for a perspective that has the notions of hierarchy in inter-regional and inter-personal relations at its core.

The organisers of the VARDIT International Conference welcome the presentation of papers on a wide array of topics conveying this perspective for the Middle Ages. We encourage proposals regarding Medieval History, History of Art, Archaeology, Philology, and Philosophy.




The proposals might relate to the main conference topic through the following themes:

- Centre and Periphery: ways of seeing.
 - Reflection of the centre/periphery perspective.
 - Methodology: spatial, network analysis, etc.
 - Reflections around political and territorial hierarchies.
- Centre and Periphery: models, ideas, and styles.
 - Examples of cultural, technological, writing systems and artistic diffusion and reception.
 - Contacts between linguistic, cultural, and religious systems.
 - Circulation of models: political, economic, religious, welfare, and warfare reform.
- Centre and Periphery: spatial relations.
 - Territorial centres and their hinterlands.
 - Relations between peripheries beyond centres.
 - The evolution of territorial centres and peripheries over time.
 - Micro perspectives: inside buildings, ships, towns, and villages.
- Centre and Periphery: institutional relations.
 - Relations of power and authority: courts, bureaucracies, offices, diplomacy.
 - Political divisions and hierarchies: forms of personal and territorial power.
 - Economic centres and peripheries: markets, production, exchanges.

Call for papers

Proposals should be submitted in Word format to the following address: congress.ardit@ub.edu. All proposals will be reviewed by the scientific committee and presenters will be notified by the end of January 2022 if their proposal has been accepted.

Paper proposals should include:

- Title
 - Summary (150-200 words)
 - Keywords (maximum 5)
 - First and last name of the author
 - Academic affiliations
 - Contact details (email, phone)
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Important Information:

The preferred language of the congress is English. Nevertheless, proposals can be submitted in Catalan or Spanish, provided that the PPT presentation is in English. The allotted time for the speakers will be 20 minutes.

The congress will be held in Barcelona, at the Faculty of Geography and History of the University of Barcelona. There will be a registration fee of 10€ per participant. The registration will be included for members of ARDIT.

Scientific Committee:

Dr. Raquel Alonso, Dr. Ana Echevarria, Dr. Antoni Furió, Dr. Marina Gazzini, Dr. Ana Gómez Rabal, Dr. Jonathan Jarrett, Dr. Rosa Lluch, Dr. Carles Mancho, Dr. Daniel Piñol, Dr. Marta Sancho, Dr. Lluís To, and Dr. Mercè Puig.

Organizing Committee:

Dr. Pol Bridgewater Mateu, Dr. Xavier Costa Badia, Sr. Jaume Marcé Sánchez, and Dr. Laura Miquel Milian.

Supported by:

ARDIT, Associació de Recerca Interdisciplinar en Cultures Medievales; Universitat de Barcelona: IRCVM, Institut de Recerca en Cultures Medievales; Màster en Cultures Medievales; Doctorat en Cultures Medievales; Facultat de Geografia i Història, secció d'Història Medieval, Història Moderna, Paleografia i Diplomàtica.

Contact

congress.ardit@ub.edu

<http://www.ub.edu/ardit/>

We will send a follow up email shortly with information on how to register for the congress, and other useful information for your stay during the congress.



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