



Summer Symposium 2026 in Oriental Christian & Armenian Studies

Department of Oriental Christian & Byzantine Studies and
MESROP Center for Armenian Studies

Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg

June 1–3, 2026

Conference Venue: Leucorea, Wittenberg

DAY 1: Monday, June 1, 2026

08:50 – 09:00: Opening of the Conference

Welcome & Introductions— **Prof. Dr. Cornelia Horn** (Chair of the Dept. of Oriental Christian & Byzantine Studies and Director of the Mesrop Center for Armenian Studies, Martin-Luther- University Halle-Wittenberg)

09:00 – 10:30: Section I: Multilingualism in Armenian Manuscripts and Epigraphy



Chair: Dr. Robert Phenix

09:00 – 09:20: “Armenian-Script Manuscript Copies of Verse Dictionaries ‘Tuḥfe-i Şāhidī’ and ‘Luġat-i Ferišteoġlū’ as Samples of Interrelationship between Armenian and Turkish Lexicography” - **Dr. Ani J. Avetisyan** (Researcher Matenadaran; Lecturer, Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University; Yerevan, Armenia)

09:20 – 09:40: “Multilingualism in the Medical Terminology of a Fourteenth-Century Armenian Manuscript” - **Gayane Tshagharyan** (PhD Student, Junior Researcher, Matenadaran; Yerevan, Armenia)

09:40 – 10:00: “The Phenomenon of Bilingual Inscriptions within the Framework of Armenian Epigraphic Heritage” - **Dr. Arsen Harutyunyan** (Head of the Department of Epigraphy, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of National Academy of Sciences; Senior Researcher, Matenadaran; Lecturer, Yerevan State University; Yerevan, Armenia)

10:00 - 10:30: Discussion





10:30 – 10:45: Refreshments

10:45 – 12:35: Section II: Armenian-Georgian Cultural Interactions

Chair: Dr. Eka Tchoidze

10:45 – 11:05: “The Interactions of Armenian and Georgian High-Nobility Costume during the Period of the Zakaryan Principality” - **Ashkhen Yenokyan** (Researcher, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of National Academy of Sciences; Yerevan, Armenia) [online]

11:05 – 11:25: “The Eighteenth-Century Georgian-Armenian Translational Relations and the Georgian Translation of the Commentary on *De Interpretatione* by Nikoloz Qhizikheli” - **Tornike Goginashvili** (PhD student, Ilia State University; Assistant researcher, Savle Tsereteli (Institute of Philosophy; Tbilisi, Georgia)

11:25 – 11:45: “Forest as a Symbolic and Transitional Place in the Context of Armenian and Georgian Fairy Tales” - **Prof. Dr. Hasmik Matikyan** (Researcher, Shirak Center for Armenological Studies of the National Academy of Sciences; Gyumri, Armenia)

11:45 – 12:05: “The 17th century work of Fazli Beg Khuzani Ishpahani as a source on celebrating Epiphany in Farahabad among Armenians and Georgians” - **Dr. Tamar Lekveishvili** (Associate Researcher, Ilia State University; Tbilisi, Georgia)

12:05 – 12:35: Discussion

12:35 – 14:00: Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:30: Section III: Oriental Christianity and the Other

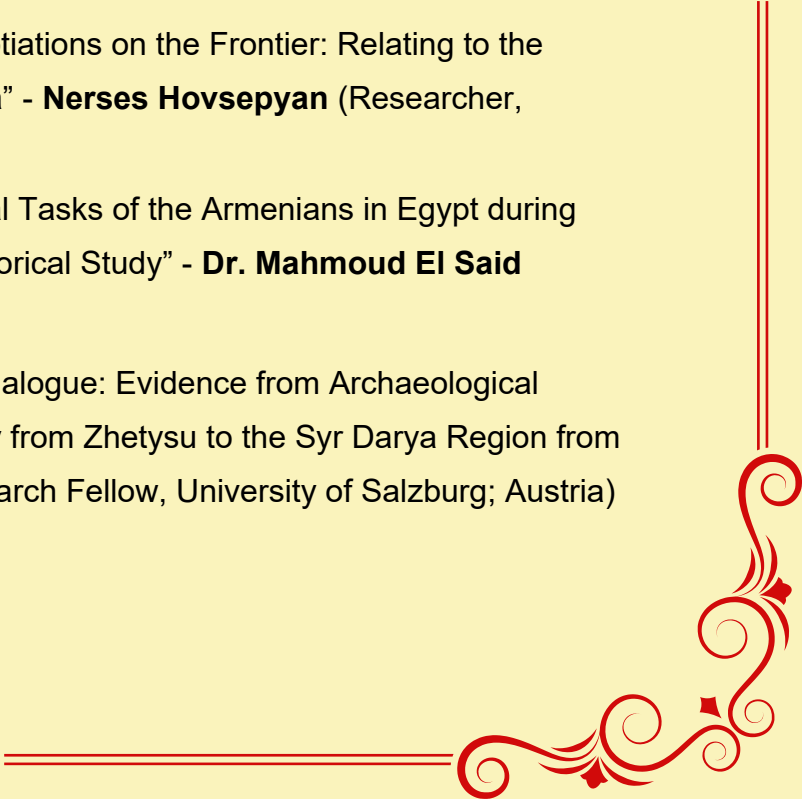
Chairs: Prof. Dr. Cornelia Horn and Lisa-Marie Massanneck

14:00 – 14:20: “Armenian Identity Negotiations on the Frontier: Relating to the Muslim Other in Late Medieval Armenia” - **Nerses Hovsepyan** (Researcher, University of Amsterdam; Netherlands)

14:20 – 14:40: “The Military and Political Tasks of the Armenians in Egypt during the Fatimid and Ayyubid periods: a Historical Study” - **Dr. Mahmoud El Said** (Suez Canal University; Ismailia, Egypt)

14:40 – 15:00: “Intercultural Religious Dialogue: Evidence from Archaeological Discoveries of Syro-Aramaic Christianity from Zhetysu to the Syr Darya Region from Late Antiquity” - **Dr. Kevin White** (Research Fellow, University of Salzburg; Austria)

15:00 – 15:30: Discussion



15:30 – 16:00: Coffee

16:30: Visit to Halle



DAY 2: Tuesday, June 2, 2026

09:00 – 10:30: Section IV: Armenian and Georgian Art

Chair: Dr. Ani Shahnazaryan

09:00 – 09:20: “Visualizing the Rose and Nightingale: the transfixion of Persian motifs into Armenian manuscript art” - **Dr. Sayedehnasim Fatemi** (Junior Researcher; Matenadaran; Senior Researcher, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of the National Academy of Sciences; Yerevan, Armenia) and **Prof. Dr. Davit Ghazaryan** (Senior Researcher, Matenadaran; Associate Professor, Yerevan State University; Yerevan, Armenia)

09:20 – 09:40: “Early Armenian Miniature Art: Newly Discovered Canon Table Fragments” - **Seda Manukyan** (Researcher, Matenadaran; Yerevan, Armenia)

09:40 – 10:00: “Stone Pillars Ornamented with Christological Scenes and Crosses” - **Dr. Erga Shneurson** (Senior Research Associate, Martin-Luther-University-Halle-Wittenberg; Halle [Saale], Germany) [online]

10:00 - 10:30: Discussion

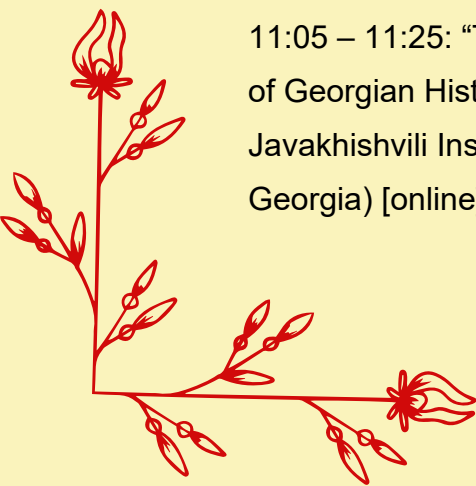
10:30 – 10:45: Refreshments

10:45 – 12:35: Section V: Georgian and Armenian History and Intellectual Traditions

Chair: Dr. Tamar Lekveishvili

10:45 – 11:05: “The ‘Book of Epistles’ as a Source for the Political History of Early Seventh- Century Kartli” - **Prof. Dr. Mariam Chkhartishvili** (Professor, Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University; Ivane Javakhishvili Institute of History and Ethnology; Tbilisi, Georgia) [online]

11:05 – 11:25: “The Representation of the Middle Ages in the Soviet Era: The Case of Georgian History” - **Dr. Zurab Targamadze** (Reserach Fellow, Ivane Javakhishvili Institute of History and Ethnology; Caucasus University; Tbilisi, Georgia) [online]



11:25 – 11:45: “Aristotelianism in Georgia: Anton Bagrationi’s Philosophical Project”

-Prof. Dr. Tamar Tsopurashvili (Professor, Ilia State University; Tbilisi, Georgia)

11:45 – 12:05: “Queen Maria of Georgia: An Armenian Princess and Diplomatic

Mediator with Byzantium in the Eleventh Century” - **Prof. Dr. Eka Tchkoïdze**

(Research Associate, Martin- Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg; Halle [Saale],

Germany; Associate Professor, Ilia State University; Tbilisi, Georgia)

12:05 – 12:35: Discussion

12:35 – 14:00: Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:30: Section VI: Armenian Church and Oriental Christian Identity

Chair: Dr. Zohrab Gevorgyan

14:00 – 14:20: “From the ‘Polojenie’ to the Current Charter of the Armenian

Apostolic Church: History, Reception and Consequences” - **Samvel Poghosyan**

(PhD student, University of Göttingen; Germany)

14:20 – 14:40: “From Nicaea to Malankara: Oriental Christian Conciliar Memory

and the Making of St. Thomas Christian Identity” - **Aaron Joshua John** (M.Th.,

United Theological College; Bangalore, India) [online]

14:40 – 15:00: “The Georgian Life of Peter the Iberian Revisited” - **Dr. Robert**

Phenix (Lecturer, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg; Halle [Saale],

Germany)

15:00 – 15:30: Discussion

15:30 – 16:30: Coffee



16:30 – 17:30: Greetings

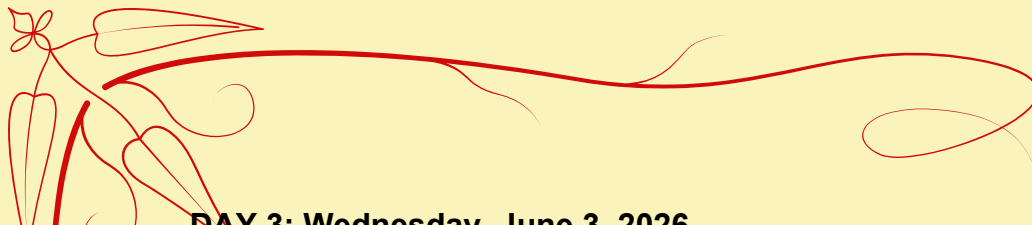
Prof. Dr. Claudia Becker, Rector, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg

**Viktor Yengibaryan, Ambassador of the Republic of Armenia to the Federal
Republic of Germany**



18:00: Networking Dinner at the Leucorea





DAY 3: Wednesday, June 3, 2026

09:00 – 10:30: Section VII: Medieval Trade, Urban Elites, and Social Transformation in Armenian Contexts

Chair: Dr. Ani Shahnazaryan

09:00 – 09:20: “The ‘Floating’ Finances of the Middle Ages: The ‘Art’ of Mediterranean Trade in Cilician Armenia” - **Dr. Zohrab Gevorgyan** (Head of the Department of Medieval History, Institute of History of National Academy of Sciences; Adjunct Lecturer, American University; Yerevan, Armenia)

09:20 – 09:40: “Tiflis as a Frontier Imperial City: Armenian Urban Elites and the Implementation of European Governance Models in the 19th Century Caucasus” - **Irina Badalyan** (PhD Student, Yerevan State University; Yerevan, Armenia)

[online]

09:40 – 10:00: “Population Movements and Problems of Identity: On the Example of the Migrations of the First Third of the 19th Century” - **Prof. Dr. Mkhitar Gabrielyan** (Associate Professor, Yerevan State University; Senior Researcher Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of National Academy of Sciences)

[online]

10:00 - 10:30: Discussion

10:30 – 10:45: Break & Refreshments

10:45 – 12:15: Section VIII: Cross-Linguistic Studies

Chair: Dr. Robert Phenix

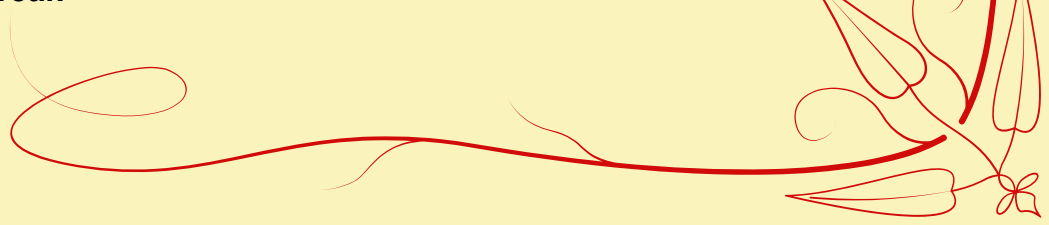
10:45 – 11:05: “Der Infinitiv im Wandel: Deutsch und Armenisch” - **Dr. phil. Armine Lederer (Gaginyan)** (Lecturer, Volkshochschule Meppen; Germany)


11:05 – 11:25: “Linguistic analysis of the Modern Armenian (ashkharabar) books printed in the first half of the 18th century in Venice” - **Dr. Tamara Poghosyan** (Researcher, Matenadaran; Yerevan, Armenia)

11:25 – 11:45: “Persian Scripture, Armenian Transmission” - **Dr. Ali B. Langroudi** (Researcher, Cluster of Excellence “Cross-Cultural Philology,” Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich; Germany)

11:45 – 12:15: Discussion

12:15 – 13:45: Lunch Break





13:45 – 14:45: Section IX: Armenian Manuscript Catalogues and Digital Transformation

Chair: Prof. Dr. Cornelia Horn and Armine Muradyan

13:45 – 14:05: “Beyond the Catalogue: Rethinking the Presentation of Armenian Manuscripts in the Digital Age” - **Knar Harutyunyan** (Researcher, Matenadaran; Yerevan, Armenia), **Dr. Tatevik Manukyan** (Senior Researcher, Matenadaran; Yerevan, Armenia), and **Dr. Ara Gasparyan** (Digitization Infrastructure Specialist, Matenadaran, Yerevan, Armenia)

14:05 – 14:25: “Armenian Medieval Manuscripts in the Pages of the Armenian Press” - **Dr. Tatevik Manukyan** (Senior Researcher, Matenadaran; Yerevan, Armenia)

14:25 - 14:45: Discussion

14:45 - 15:15: Coffee Break

15:15 - 16:45: Section X: Armenian Literary Traditions: Colophons, Translations, and Early Print

Chair: Dr. Eka Tchkoidze

15:15 – 15:35: “The Function of Model and Subsequent Colophons, Marginal Notes and Scribe Experimentation in Armenian Manuscripts” - **Dr. Ovsanna Khachatryan** (Researcher, Matenadaran; Yerevan, Armenia)

15:35 – 15:55: “The Barlaam and Josaphat Legend Adaptation in Latin and Armenian Exempla Traditions” - **Dr. Ani Shahnazaryan** (Research Associate, Martin-Luther-University Halle- Wittenberg; Halle [Saale], Germany)

15:55 – 16:15: “Women’s History: Armenian Novellas in Early Modern Print Media”

- **Prof. Dr. Cornelia Horn** (Chair of the Dept. of Oriental Christian & Byzantine Studies and Director of the Mesrop Center for Armenian Studies, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg; Halle [Saale], Germany) and **Armenuhi Muradyan** (PhD Student, Martin-Luther-University Halle- Wittenberg; Research Assistant, Mesrop Center for Armenian Studies; Halle [Saale], Germany)

16:15 - 17:00: Discussion and planning further steps

18:00: Networking Dinner at Leucorea

20:00 End of the Conference

Please contact us at info@mesrop.uni-halle.de
by May 27 to attend in person, by May 29 to attend online.

