

# Asiac 2021

*yearly conference  
programme*



in collaboration with



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UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



**UnitelmaSapienza**  
Università degli Studi di Roma

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**OACC**  
OSSERVATORIO ASIA  
CENTRALE E CASPIO

The conference is organised by ASIAC board of directors, in cooperation with Gabriele Natalizia (Sapienza Università di Roma), Carlo Frappi (OACC) and “Russia and post-soviet space” Desk of the Center for Geopolitical Studies [Geopolitica.info](http://Geopolitica.info).

The registration to the conference is mandatory to be enabled to attend the Virtual Sessions. For registering to the conference, please send an email to [info@asiac.net](mailto:info@asiac.net) specifying your name/surname and affiliation before October the 22nd 2021.

The time of each session is set according to the Rome time zone (GMT+1)



**Monday 25 October**

**9.00 Registration**

**9.30 Opening of the conference**

**Aldo Ferrari**, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, President of ASIAC

**Antonello Biagini**, Rettore UNITELMA Sapienza and President of Fondazione Roma Sapienza

### Philological and linguistic insights into the Caucasus - 9.45

**Chair: Vittorio S. Tomelleri & Elisabetta Ragagnin**

**Velizar Sadovski**, Austrian Academy of Science, *Armenian Personal Names of Iranian Origin as a Source for Indo-Iranian and Indo-European Phraseology and Dichtersprache*

**Gilles Authier**, École Pratique des Hautes Études, *Linguistic diversity in East Caucasian: on the renewal of verbal forms*

**Paolo Ognibene**, University of Bologna, *Remarks on Ethnic Diversity within Herodotean Scythia and in the Lands North of the Caucasus*

**Andriy Danylenko**, Pace University, *From 'Great' to 'Black': The Naming of the Black Sea in the Turkish and Arab-Muslim Traditions*

**Coffee break 11.15**

### Formal linguistic approaches - 11.30

**Chair: Gilles Authier & Viacheslav Chirikba**

**Gulshen Sakhatova**, University of Cyprus, *Multi-valued units in Turkmen and Kazakh*

**Revaz Sherozia & Natia Putkaradze**, Shota Meskhia State Teaching University; Caucasus University, *Phonemic Portrait of the Kartvelian linguistic Sub-systems. On the example of glotal stop /ʔ/*

**Gasangusen Sulajbanov & Nina Sumbatova**, École Pratique des Hautes Études; Russian State University for the Humanities, *Causative in Tsugni Dargwa*

**Silvie Strauss & Emine Şahingöz**, Goethe University Frankfurt, *Eastern Armenian and Ossetic – Two special cases of Differential Object Marking in the Caucasus*

**Nodar Ardoteli**, Tbilisi State University, *Towards the problem of borrowed compounds in the Georgian, Dido and Bezhita Languages*

**Lunch 13.00**



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## Education, culture, and geopolitics in Central Asia and the South Caucasus - 14.00

Chair: **Paolo Sorbello & Filippo Costa Buranelli**

**Irina Chernykh**, Kazakh-German University, *Educational Migration from, to and within Central Asia: Trends, Drivers, Life Strategies*

**Silvia Grandi, Sandy MacDonald, Aliya Tankibayeva**, University of Bologna, University of Northampton, al-Farabi Kazakh National University, *Cultural heritage and rural tourism in Kazakhstan*

**Tommaso Aguzzi & Talshyn Tokyzhanova**, Tallin University of Technology, *Informality in Central Asia: A Literature Review*

**Coffee break 15.30**

## Conflict in the South Caucasus - 15.45

Chair: **Giorgio Comai & Michele Brunelli**

**Cesare Figaris Barberis**, The Graduate Institute of Geneva, *Ideology and the Grip of Emotions: A Comparison of Post-Conflict Attitudes in Georgia and Azerbaijan*

**Beatrice Paris**, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, *The Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: hate speech in media and in testimonies*

**Daniel Pommier**, Sapienza Università di Roma, *The role of Azerbaijani diaspora in the 44-days war*

**End of session 17.15**

**Asiac Association Meeting (in Italian) 17.30**



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**Tuesday 26 October**

**Regionalism and Security in Central Asia - 9.30**

Chair: **Stefano Ravagnan & Gabriele Natalizia**

**Rustam Burnashev**, Kazakh-German University, *Michel Foucault's concept of 'dispositif of security': Central Asian weak states*

**Filippo Costa Buranelli**, University of St. Andrews, *Regionalism or Order? Assessing the International Relations of Central Asia*

**Fabio Indeo**, NATO Defense College Foundation, *Reshaping Central Asia security architecture: old challenges, new partners?*

**Coffee break 11.00**

**Navigating a West-East nexus: Identity, ordering and agency in the South Caucasus - 11.15**

Chair: **Carlo Frappi & Paolo Sorbello**

**Laura Luciani**, Ghent University, *Re-thinking gender from the 'shared neighbourhood': EU interventions and feminist agency in Armenia*

**Louise Amoris**, Ghent University and United Nations University – CRIS, *Liminality and Armenia: a bridge between the EU and Russia?*

**Shota Kakabadze**, Georgian Institut of Politics, *Is the EU's normative power still relevant in the Eastern Partnership? The case of Georgia's political crisis*

**Veronika Pfeilschifter**, University of Jena, *Ideology, utopia and resilience - The new post-Soviet left in the South Caucasus*

**Lunch 12.45**



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## History of alphabets and etymology 14.15

Chair: **Paolo Ognibene & Elisabetta Ragagnin**

**Aleksey Andronov**, St. Petersburg State University, *Some details of Evgenij Polivanov's contribution to creation of alphabets for the peoples of the USSR: Dungan and Kyrgyz*

**Viacheslav Chirikba**, Institute of Linguistics, Moscow, *Soviet Policy of Romanization and Abkhaz Alphabets*

**Vittorio S. Tomelleri**, University of Torino, *On the latinisation of Ossetian viewed from inside and outside*

**Coffee break 15.45**

## Iranian and Armenian studies - 16.00

Chair: **Velizar Sadovski & Anna Sirinian**

**Laura Massetti**, University of Oxford, *When Syrdon invented the fændyr: a "Nartic Hymn to Hermes"?*

**Davide Procaccino**, University of Pisa, *Ossetic funeral laments: an overview of their ritual, textual and linguistic features*

**Michele Salvatori**, Liceo Scientifico "E. Medi", Montegiorgio (FM), *The Lord's Prayer in Ossetian. Some remarks*

**Francesco Moratelli**, University of Bologna, *The "Righteous Among the Nations" for the Armenians: Their Stories and Context*

**Nairi Mercadanti**, University of Teramo, *Nerkaght and the concept of homeland. The Armenian community in Beirut and the repatriation movement 1946-1948*

**End of session 17.30**



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Wednesday 27 October

**Democracy in decline in Eurasia. Disentangling its causes and consequences**  
[in presence only] - 8.45

Chair: **Andrea Carteny**

Participants: **Gabriele Natalizia, Carlo Frappi, Elena Tosti Di Stefano, Mara Morini**

**Sociolinguistics and communication - 9.45**

Chair: **Daniele Artoni & Vittorio S. Tomelleri**

**Tamari Lomtadze & Irakli Tskhvediani**, Akaki Tsereteli State University, *The Influence of Englishization and Russification on the Georgian Linguistic Standard*

**Tamar Guchua**, Akaki Tsereteli State University, *Performatives within the Framework of the Ethnography of Communication: A Case of Georgian*

**Irine Chachanidze**, Akaki Tsereteli State University, *Assessing the phenomena of Diglossia in the City of Kutaisi: Sociolinguistic Studies of Non-Georgian Population*

**Coffee break 11.00**



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## History and material culture in the Caucasus and Central Asia - 11.15

Chair: **Aldo Ferrari & Fabio L. Grassi**

**Davit Merkviladze**, Independent Researcher, *Arcangelo Lamberti, an Italian Missionary – Activity in Georgia and his Work the Sacred Colchis*

**Michele Brunelli**, University of Bergamo, *Give me 4 million gold scudi and I will restore Constantinople to Christianity”. Discourse on the present state of the Turk and ways of waging a real war on him. A 1585 war plan*

**Stefan Williamson-Fa**, University of Birmingham, *Husayn’s Flag Will Never Fall: Ritual Resilience Amongst Shi’i Muslims in the Caucasus*

**Dinara Dubrovskaya**, Russian Academy of Science, *The Xinjiang Sino-Anglo-Russian Ili Crisis of 1781–1881 According to Rare Russian Archival Sources*

**Ana Cheishvili**, École des hautes études en sciences sociales, *Iconographic heritage of the Caucasus: the photographic collections of Baron de Baye*

**Lunch 13.00**

## Foreign policies, cooperation and myths - 14.30

Chair: **Carlo Frappi & Paolo Sorbello**

**Frank Maracchione**, University of Sheffield, *Multivectoral? A quantitative analysis of Uzbek foreign policy communication in the 21st century*

**Marco Alvi & Leonardo Zanatta**, University of Bologna, Corvinus University of Budapest, *The role of Syrian mercenaries in the current Turkish foreign policy: a view from the Regional Security Complex Theory*

**Giorgio Cella**, NATO Defense College Foundation, *Between rivalry and cooperation, Russia and Turkey in the light of the conflict in Nagorno Karabakh. The Caucasus and its disputed future*

**Fabio L. Grassi**, Sapienza University, *Between pride and humiliation: Caucasian Diaspora and the myth of Circassian beauty*

**Coffee break 16.00**



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**Connectivity in the Caucasus through Georgia after the 2020 Karabakh War - 16.15**

Chair: **Andrea Carteny & Fabrizio Vielmini**

**Archil Sikharulidze**, Tbilisi State University, *Georgia's dilemma between geopolitics and economy*

**Zalina Plieva & Zhanna Tarkhanova**, State University "K.L. Khetagurov, *The role and Potential of North Ossetia (NOA) as a Transport Hub in the Greater Caucasus Region*

**Fabrizio Vielmini**, Webster University in Tashkent, *South Ossetia (SO) as the Missing Link of the North-South connection Axis*

**Eugenia Fabbri**, University of Bologna, *Energy crisis in Abkhazia: fuel for annexation?*

**End of session 17.45**



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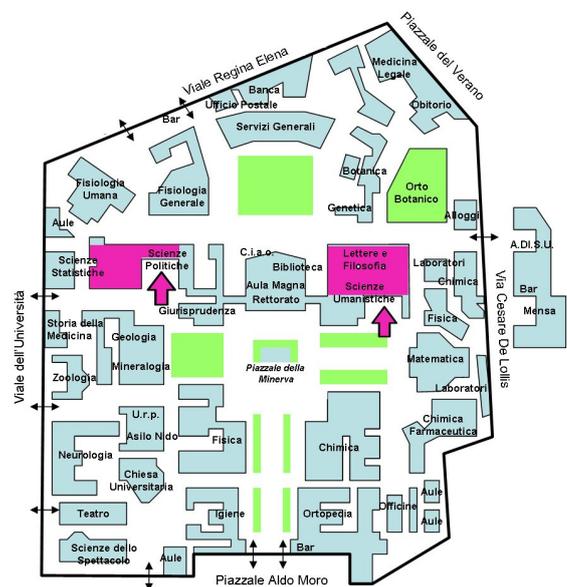
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## Practical information

The conference will be held at Sapienza University of Rome.

Sapienza's Campus main entrance, in Piazzale Aldo Moro, is located approximately 1,500 meters away from Rome "Termini" central station. The Campus is easily reachable by Metro, being approximately 500 meters away from metro stops "Castro Pretorio" and "Policlinico" (Metro B).

On October 25-26 the conference will be held at the Facoltà di Lettere (see attached map). The room (Sala Tesi) is located on the first floor. On October 27 the conference will be held at the Facoltà di Scienze Politiche. The room (Sala Studio 2) is located on the second floor.



## Accessing the venue

Access to the University is allowed only with the EU Digital COVID Certificate - [https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/safe-covid-19-vaccines-europeans/eu-digital-covid-certificate\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/safe-covid-19-vaccines-europeans/eu-digital-covid-certificate_en)

In addition, those who wish to attend will have to fill in a contact-tracing form for each of the days they wish to attend and hand it in to security at the gate: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFC1083nvtACVNR4BfB1ylifXRUussX4ysKm4QZR04y9kLA/viewform>



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