

COMSt Team 1 - Palaeography and Codicology
1st EDITORIAL MEETING 2013
Roma Sapienza (Sapienza University of Rome), 8 July 2013
Final report

PROPOSAL TITLE

COMSt Team 1 2013 first editorial meeting

APPLICATION REFERENCE N°

4864

1. SUMMARY

A COMSt Team 1 2013 editorial meeting , organised by Marilena Maniaci (Università di Cassino del Lazio meridionale, Team 1 leader) and Paola Buzi (Sapienza – Università di Roma, team 4 co-leader), took place in Roma, Sapienza – Università di Roma, on July, 8, 2013, as the first of two **‘purely’ editorial meetings that Team 1 will convene in 2013.**

As stated in the application, the meeting was aimed at the discussion and revision of the drafts of the contributions to the planned *Introduction to Oriental Manuscript Studies*, produced by team members and their collaborators and circulated among the contributors by the beginning of July. General issues were also discussed, such as the length of the final chapter, the number and typology of images required, the terminology to be used for the description of common materials, techniques and codicological facts. Concrete ways and fields of cooperation with Team 5 (book materials, bookbinding) were also more closely defined.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE SCIENTIFIC CONTENT OF AND DISCUSSIONS AT THE EVENT

The discussion was organized according to the following points:

1. General issues concerning the chapter’s preparation
2. Discussion on chapter’s drafts
3. Cooperation with Team 4 and 5
4. To-do-list and deadlines
5. Planning of next meeting
6. Final COMSt conference

1. General issues concerning the chapter’s preparation

A list of general issues was illustrated by M. Maniaci and analysed with the participants. After a long and detailed discussion, unanimous decisions were taken concerning the following points:

- *Length and structure of the individual contribution (and of the whole chapter).*
 - o The ca. 300 collected pages (3000 words per page, ca. 900.000 signs) will be reduced by ca. one third. Each contributor will have max 25 pages/3000 characters at his/her

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disposal (i.e. 75.000 sign without spaces). In a few cases (Arabic, Hebrew), some extra space might be allowed (not exceeding 20%, i.e. max 90.000 signs without spaces).

- All the contribution would follow more or less the same structure (with minor variations), to be as much as comparable as possible
- Generalities (i.e. the initial paragraph of each sub-chapter, with data on chronology and geography of each book cultures, number of mss, main collections, etc.) will be moved to the handbook's general introduction, under the responsibility of Alessandro Bausi (but with attribution to individual authors);
- General data on materials, book types, manufacture, layout... will be briefly summarized in the chapter's introduction (with references to recent handbooks), under the responsibility of Marilena Maniaci
- Info on decoration 'as a codicological element' will be added where missing
- Suggestions for further study and research will be included in all subchapters
- Minutiae concerning single manuscripts or specific details has to be avoided were not absolutely essential
- The contribution by I. Rabin on scientific analysis will be moved to chapter 4, together with technical details on palimpsest analysis (Albrecht – Gippert)
- Each subchapter's paragraph on bookbinding will be revised and integrated by Team 5's members (Sarris, Scheper), who will also provide a brief general overview for the chapter's introduction
- As already agreed in last Team 4's meeting, a short independent chapter on palaeography will be added after chapter 1 – Codicology, under the joint responsibility of Paola Buzi and Marilena Maniaci (authors have been already recruited)

- *Terminology*

- The need of a certain standardization, which is hampered by the lack of English repertoires and the diversity of scholarly traditions, was strongly emphasized. The use of J. P. Gumbert's *Words for codices* was recommended, whenever possible; a selected glossary will be provided, to be included at the end of the volume (authors are invited to highlight the words they would like to include in it)

- *Footnotes, bibliography, other editorial issues*

Decisions were taken concerning a series of points which were then included in the *Guidelines to the authors*. Among them:

- No footnotes will be admitted
- Essential references will be quoted within the text, in "author-data" format
- Each contributions will be accompanied by a list of references, strictly limited to the works mentioned in the text (see *Guidelines* for quotation rules). The list will be submitted separately and is not included in the calculation of the assigned space
- General bibliography should remain available on line, also after the end of COMSt (or be published separately?)
- Only paragraph headings (no subheadings) will have to be used to structure the text
- Mentions of single manuscripts will always be accompanied by their shelfmarks
- Manuscript shelfmarks, use of quotations and abbreviations, style of bibliographic references, and other editorial issues will be normalized according to the *Guidelines*

- *Images*
 - o Preference should go to ‘copyright free images’ or to images available on the web, provided that they possess a stable permalink
 - o The choice of copyrighted images will be limited to really essential ones

2. Discussion on chapter drafts

Chapter 1 will include independent sub-chapters on the following book cultures: Hebrew, Greek, Coptic, Syriac, Christian-Palestinian Aramaic, Ethiopic, Arabic, Georgian, Armenian, Slavonic. Christian Arabic, Persian and Turkish manuscripts will be included within the ‘Arabic’ section. Remarks and suggestion on individual subchapters, were collected during the meeting, will be sent to the authors by the team leader in the course of the following weeks.

3. Cooperation with Team (3), 4 and 5

Team 1 will cooperate with Team 4 in coordinating the section on palaeography, with Team 5 for contribution on bookbinding (both described above) and with Team (3) and % for scientific methods applied to palimpsest reading.

4. To do-list and deadlines

Revised texts will have to be submitted **not later than September 30, 2013**. The final version will have to follow exactly the above summarized recommendations and the *Guidelines for the Authors*.

5. Planning of next 2013 editorial meeting

A second 2013 editorial meeting, open only the authors who will have delivered their text within the announced deadline, should be held in Jerusalem on October 21th (October 20-22). Provided that an adequate number of participants is achieved, the organization of the meeting should start within mid-August at the latest.

6. Final COMSt conference

The announcement that a final general meeting of COMSt project has been planned for the 25-27 March 2014 was given and approved by the participants.

3. ASSESSMENT OF THE RESULTS AND IMPACT OF THE EVENT ON THE FUTURE DIRECTIONS OF THE FIELD

The discussion was very lively and fruitful, and helped to improve the contributions, to clarify the doubts and to define the common framework for the completion and revision of the chapter.

ANNEXE 4A. - PROGRAMME OF THE MEETING

COMSt Team 1 editorial meeting

1. General issues concerning the chapter's preparation
2. Discussion on chapter's drafts
3. Cooperation with Team 4 and 5
4. To-do-list and deadlines
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ANNEXE 4B - FULL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The meeting was attended by the following team members and handbook contributors:

Ewa Balicka-Witakowska
Alessandro Bausi (Chair of the Steering Committee)
Malachi Beit-Arié
Pier Giorgio Borbone
Claire Bosc-Tiessé
Paola Buzi
Françoise Briquel-Chatonnet
Ralph Cleminson
Stephen Emmel
Jost Gippert
Dickran Kouymjian
Caroline Macé
Marilena Maniaci (Team 1 leader)
Ira Rabin
Valentina Sagaria Rossi
Nikolas Sarris
Karin Scheper

Dr. Denis Nosnitsin (University of Hamburg) and Dr. Laura Parodi (independent scholar), who originally intended to participate, were unable attend the meeting, sent their contribution sent their contributions within the established time and were kept informed of the discussions. Dr. Sever Voicu (Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana) took part to part of the meeting as an invited guest.