



**MONKS AROUND THE MEDITERRANEAN**  
*Contacts, exchanges and influences in East and West*  
*from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages (4th-15th century)*

**I. TRAVELS AND CONTACTS AT LOCAL AND REGIONAL SCALES**  
**ROME, 17-19 SEPTEMBER 2014**

**Call for papers**

Dear Colleagues,

The French Institute of Eastern Archaeology in Cairo (Ifao), the European Centre for Research on Congregations and Religious Orders (CERCOR-LEM UMR 8584, Saint-Etienne), the joint research unit The East and the Mediterranean (Sorbonne University-CNRS, UMR 8167, Paris), the Laboratory of Excellence RESMED (Religions and societies in the Mediterranean world, Sorbonne University, Paris), with the support of the French School in Rome (EFR) and the French School in Athens (Efa), have launched a research program for 2012-2016 called: ***Monks around the Mediterranean. Contacts, exchanges and influences in East and West, from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages (4th-15th century)***<sup>1</sup>, a continuation of the program ***The daily life in Eastern and Western monasticisms (4th - 10th century)***<sup>2</sup>.

This program aims at studying the mobility of monks, the transmission of monastic ideas, the influences and exchanges of experience between monastic communities around the Mediterranean during the late Antiquity and the Middle Ages. Contacts are considered either locally (within the same community or within the same region) or on a long distance-scale (between monks and communities located in different regions and countries).

This program is intended for historians, art historians, philologists and archaeologists studying monasticism around the Mediterranean, both Eastern and Western, on a long time-period (4th-15th c.). It consists of several events: a conference in Rome (2014), another in Cairo (2016), a round table in Saint-Etienne (2015) and a field seminar for PhD candidates in Athens (2015).

**THE ROME CONFERENCE**

The first conference of the program *Monks around the Mediterranean* will take place at the French School in Rome from September 17 to 19, 2014. It will focus on monastic contacts and exchanges at local and regional scales. Monks going from one monastery to another, monks traveling for business or pilgrimage, will be studied. Motivations for traveling will be searched, as well as practicalities and monastic hospitality. Wandering monks will also be considered. All monastic relationships may be presented, including communication through letters dealing with daily life, economy, monastic organization or spirituality.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ifao.egnet.net/axes-2012/espaces-pouvoir/2012-moines-mediterranee/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ifao.egnet.net/ifao/recherche/anciens-programmes/axes-2008/artistique-religieux/quotidien-moines/>

Papers will be arranged in four workshops:

1. Visiting, traveling and wandering monks
2. Changing monastery, rule, or monastic order
3. Letters written by monks: daily life and spirituality
4. Structures for guests, places to shelter

Communications, lasting **20 minutes**, will be presented in French or English. The results of this conference will be published in co-publication between the partner institutions.

We hope you will be interested in this call for papers. If you wish to participate, please send us, before the **Monday 20 February 2014**, the title of your paper, a short abstract, and the workshop you would like to attend, at the following address:

**[programme-moines@ifao.egnet.net](mailto:programme-moines@ifao.egnet.net)**

Yours sincerely,

**The Organizing Committee**

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