



Third Itinerant Conference on Medieval Studies Program and Book of Abstracts



Third Itinerant Conference on Medieval Studies

Pécs, 28–29 August 2025

Program and Book of Abstracts

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28 AUGUST 2025 (THURSDAY)

UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
(7624 PÉCS, IFJÚSÁG STREET 6.)

OPENING WORDS

(UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
BUILDING B, ROOM 407)

13.00–13.20	Prof. Dr. Fedeles, Tamás vice-rector – Opening Words Dr. habil Bene, Krisztián dean – Opening Words
13.30–14.00	Plenary Session I. – Dr. Zsoldos, Attila (member of the hungarian academy of sciences): <i>Half- exploited Sources</i>
14.00–14.10	Discussion

Zsoldos, Attila, DSc, HUN-REN Research Centre for the Humanities, Institute
of History

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Half-exploited Sources

The paper will present three case studies, each of which attempts to introduce new aspects of the analysis of a frequently studied source that have not been considered before. The application of this method has long been well known. The analysis of the three sources discussed in this presentation – in chronological order, Fulco's will of 1146, the revenue register of the reign of Bela III and the Treaty of Cassa of 1311 – is not without relevance when the results are not conclusive, but when the sources under examination can be justified in their association with much earlier historical events, because they contribute to the knowledge of these events.



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ENGLISH SPEAKING SESSION

14.20–15.40	SESSION I: MEDIEVAL CANON LAW AND NARRATIVE SOURCES CHAIR: DR. HABIL BARABÁS, GÁBOR (PTE) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B, ROOM 403
14.20–14.40	Rusu, Căţalin Babeş-Bolyai University, Faculty of History and Philosophy, Doctoral School "History. Civilization. Culture" <i>Canon law disputes and papal intervention: the controversial election of the archbishop of Esztergom (1204) in the interpretation of 13th century glossators</i>
14.40–15.00	Pihovska, Marija Higher School of Economics, Russian and Comparative Literature <i>Roland's genealogy in Karlamagnús saga</i>
15.00–15.20	Stefanescu, Tudor Tor Vergata University of Rome, History, Philosophical and Social Sciences Doctoral School <i>The teaching of canonist Damasus Hungarus on Secret Marriages</i>
15.20–15.40	Horváth, Terézia University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, Medieval and Early Modern Doctoral Program <i>The composition of the collegiate chapter of Vasvár during the reign of King Sigismund of Luxemburg</i>
15.40–15.50	Discussion



Rusu, Căţalin

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Doctoral supervisor(s): Dr. Ioan-Aurel Pop, PhD, Babeş-Bolyai University, Faculty of History and Philosophy, Chairman of the Department of Medieval History and the History of Premodern Art, President of the Romanian Academy

Canon law disputes and papal intervention: the controversial election of the archbishop of Esztergom (1204) in the interpretation of 13th century glossators

At the end of the 12th century, tensions between the archbishoprics of Esztergom and Kalocsa over the right to crown Hungary's kings led to a disputed election for the Archbishop of Esztergom. The death of Archbishop Ugrin allowed John of Kalocsa, a known rival, to claim the position, sparking resistance from Esztergom's archbishops. However, both the cathedral chapter and suffragan bishops violated canonical procedures. Pope Innocent III intervened, confirming John's postulatio after extensive deliberations. 13th-century glossators analyzed the Pope's decretals - „Postulationi”, „Licet per primas litteras”, and „Bonae memoriae II” - highlighting procedural breaches and the necessity of papal intervention. The purpose of this presentation is to offer a new perspective – that of the 13th-century glossators – on this situation.



Pihovska, Marija

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Doctoral supervisor(s): Daria Glebova, PhD, Higher School of Economics, Senior Lecturer of the Faculty of Humanities and the School of Philological Studies

Roland's genealogy in Karlamagnús saga

The Karlamagnús saga (KS) is a compilation of several Old French gestures. However, some details may not have originated in France, as any medieval translation is also a cultural adaptation. My paper is devoted to demonstrating a controversial case of motif transformation. I will speculate on the subject of Roland's genealogy, which is a dark area in the Old French Matter. Roland's origin is a mystery that is not mentioned in epic poems such as *La chanson de Roland*, *La chanson d'Aspremont*, etc. Roland is one of the central characters of *La geste du Roi*, and yet his origin is not revealed in any of the sources included in the cycle before the fourteenth century. The KS, on the other hand, gives us a huge amount of detailed information about Roland's birth, including his descent from related parents (Charlemagne and his sister Guillem). Since incestuous relationships are only found in the *fornaldarsögur* and KS, I will argue that Roland is perceived by the author of the KS as a hero of ancient times (adhering to the ancient laws). The case of incest in the *Völsunga saga* is very similar to that in the KS (Sinfjötli is a product of horizontal incest). Sinfjötli's power is explained by the fact that he exclusively shares the blood of Völsung's family. Based on the parallels between these epic heroes, I can conclude that Roland's clarified genealogy in the KS emerges from the Scandinavian adaptation by the local author, who saw Roland as a French Sinfjötli from the *Völsunga saga*.



Stefanescu, Tudor

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Doctoral supervisor(s): Prof. Daniele Arru, Tor Vergata University of Rome

The teaching of canonist Damasus Hungarus on Secret Marriages

The Fourth Lateran Council convened in 1215 in Rome by the pope Innocent III introduced a comprehensive reform of the Church, encompassing a matrimonial reform. Damasus Hungarus was one of the most prominent canonists of the thirteenth century, who wrote an apparatus of gloses on the constitutions of this General Council. In his work, he examined the conciliar canons regarding the marital reform and underlined the significance of the banns of marriage. Therefore, the central question guiding this study is whether the gloses of the Hungarian canonist on the clandestine marriages were influenced by the writings of other jurists such as Iohannes Teutonicus and Vicentius Hispanus. Damasus held lectures on canon law at the University of Bologna and probably he may have taught in the Kingdom of Hungary. While it remains uncertain whether he played a direct role in the introduction of the Lateran Reform in Hungary, it is noteworthy that in 1274, the General Synod convened in Buda by the papal legate Philip of Fermo introduced a matrimonial reform, that included the prohibition of clandestine marriages.



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The composition of the collegiate chapter of Vasvár during the reign of King Sigismund of Luxemburg

Up until now, little attention has been paid to the personnel of the Chapter of Vasvár by the medievalists. Since it is not a cathedral chapter, but a collegiate one, therefore it was not noted among the more significant chapters. Due to its particularly rich source material the comprehensive adaptation of the chapter's personnel would be suppletory. In the previous years I have presented the chapter's personnel in the 13th and 14th centuries, and furthermore during the reign of Matthias Corvinus. Now I attempt to introduce the personnel of the collegiate chapter during the reign of King Sigismund, according to the overlooked sources such as diplomas issued by the chapter itself, charters of the king, the counties and the papal court. In order to provide a comprehensive overview of my research, the initial focus will be on the internal tendencies of the chapter, and I would not like to analyse the lives or careers of individual canons. Instead, the objective is to present a comprehensive picture of the origins of canons and their university education, along with the opportunities they had to be promoted to higher benefices within or outside the chapter.



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PARALLEL AFTERNOON SESSIONS

	SESSION II: POWER RELATIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE IN THE LATE MIDDLE AGES
16.00–17.20	CHAIR: DR. ZSOLDOS, ATTILA MEMBER OF THE HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B, ROOM 403
16.00–16.20	Varga, Virág Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Humanities, Doctoral School of History, Doctoral Program in Auxiliary Sciences of History <i>The Career of Lőrinc of the Csornai branch of the Osl Kindred at the Beginning of the 14th Century</i>
16.20–16.40	Kalász, István University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, Medieval and Early Modern Doctoral Program <i>The Importance of the Castles in The (Two) Provinces of Kőszegi Clan. A Case Study of the Castles of Kőszegi Kindred)</i>
16.40–17.00	Németh, Gergő University of Debrecen, Doctoral School of History and Ethnography, History Program <i>Secular and Ecclesiastical Relations of the Habsburg-Laufenburgs in the XIth-XIVth Centuries</i>
17.00–17.20	Discussion



Varga, Virág

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The Career of Lőrinc of the Csornai branch of the Osl Kindred at the Beginning of the 14th Century

The topic discussed in this presentation fits into my broader social history research, based on charters, in which I examine non-oligarchic noble kindreds from Western Transdanubia that did not reach the level of oligarchs but held important dignities in the second half of the thirteenth century and at the beginning of the fourteenth century. I will present the career of Lőrinc of the Csornai branch of the Osl kindred. The Csornai branch was one of the largest branches of the Osl kindred, which was primarily held estates in Sopron County.

As for the Csornai branch of the Osl kindred, Gergely appeared several times in the 1280s as a person of King Ladislaus IV, while his brother, Lőrinc—although at the beginning of his career he was a *familiaris* of the Kőszegi family of the Héder kindred and was also their *castellanus* on two occasions—joined King Charles I by 1319 at the latest, but perhaps already around 1316/1317. However, he was already able to pursue an independent policy to such an extent that in the second half of the 1310s he was able to gain independence from the Kőszegi family, who were in conflict with the king. Lőrinc certainly did not have the resources to switch his allegiance to the king earlier than this. After that, Lőrinc also participated in the defeat of the uprisings of the Kőszegi family on several occasions. This was probably facilitated by his estates, which covered more than one county, and his network of connections. In my presentation, I will primarily examine Lőrinc's „side changing” through an analysis of his marriage, his wider network of relationships, his relationship with the Kőszegi family, his estates, and his dignities. The topic will hopefully contribute to the study of the aristocratic layer beneath the oligarchs and highlight the importance of examining their network of relationships.



Kalász, István

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The Importance of the Castles in The (two) Provinces of Kőszegi Clan. A Case Study of the Castles of Kőszegi Kindred

Historical research has long been aware of the important role played by fortresses in the events of the late 13th century and early 14th century. Overall, it can be concluded that the oligarchs who rose to power in the 13th century held several strongholds. Like their peers, the Kőszegi brothers tried to take control of several fortifications. In this lecture I will examine the role of these fortresses within the province. Previous research on fortified places in the hands of the Kőszegis has so far mainly focused on armed events (siege, occupation, conquest). However, the role of these fortresses cannot be limited to military functions, since, in addition to their defensive importance, they played an indispensable role in the management of the estate, in its economic life, and other factors may have contributed to the importance of a particular fortress. In addition to comparing the charters and archaeological materials, I will also analyse the road network in the area. By summarising these data, I will present a special part of the functioning of the Kőszegi territory.



Németh, Gergő

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**Secular and Ecclesiastical Relations of the Habsburg-Laufenburgs in the
XIth-XIVth Centuries**

The conflict between the Habsburgs and the Swiss cantons is a well-researched topic. However, it is less well known in German historiography that the Habsburg-Laufenburg branch of the family also participated in this war. They were part of the local swiss secular elite and, through Rudolf II (Habsburg-Laufenburg) (1274-1293), they provided the Bishop of Constance. This branch descended from the uncle of the German king Rudolf I (Habsburg). Their origins can be traced back to in 1238, when, after the death of Rudolf II (the Elder) (?-1232), the two brothers Albrecht IV – the founder of the main branch – and Rudolf III – the founder of the branch – divided the family estates between themselves. The elder brother received the estates in the northwestern part of present-day Switzerland (Aargau, Frickgau, northern part of Zürichgau), while the younger brother received the territories in central Switzerland (Luzern, Schwyz, Klettgau, Laufenburg). The study of the Rudolf branch may provide a new perspective on the conflict between the Swabian noble family and the Swiss cantons and the situation of Further-Austria in the late Middle Ages, as we know little about this Habsburg estate. Did they have better relations with the Swiss than the main branch? In my presentation, I intend to present the secular and ecclesiastical relations of this lesser-known Habsburg branch and put it into context by comparing it with the main branch.



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16.00–17.20	SESSION III: MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY, AUTOBIOGRAPHY, BELIEFS CHAIR: DR. HABIL. NOVÁK, VERONIKA (EÖTVÖS LORÁND UNIVERSITY) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B, ROOM 404
16.00–16.20	Papp, Regina University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, Medieval and Early Modern Doctoral Program <i>The Byland ghost stories among the Cistercian exempla</i>
16.20–16.40	Vas, Máté Eötvös Loránd University, Doctoral School of History, Doctoral Program in Medieval and Early Modern History <i>The father-son relationship and dating in the autobiography of Charles IV of Luxembourg</i>
16.40–17.00	Tóth, Tamás University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Philosophy Doctoral School <i>St. Albert the Great's Cosmology</i>
17.00–17.20	Discussion



Papp, Regina

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Social Sciences, Department of Medieval and Early Modern History

The Byland ghost stories among the Cistercian exempla

In my presentation I will examine a collection of ghost stories from an early 15th century Cistercian monastery in Byland, Yorkshire, with particular attention to the elements of popular beliefs they contain. The latin source is preserved in a manuscript entitled *Liber de sancte Marie de Bella Landa* (British Library (Royal MS 15 A xx)), which dates from the late 12th century. The aim of my research is to examine the wider context of the texts, in particular, do they fit into Cistercian preaching practice, do they have a history, can they derive elements from Cistercian teachings. Although the source has been the subject of research on several occasions, these have not gone beyond isolated descriptions of certain elements of the texts and have not compared the texts or the ghosts depicted with other sources. In exploring the broader cultural and social context, I will first use the digital catalogue of ThEMA: Thesaurus Exemplorum Medii Aevi to situate the texts in the Cistercian parable tradition. I will examine the four largest collections of sermons, comparing the portrayal, manner and abilities of the returning dead in their texts with the Byland source. My presentation will describe the context in which the text was written and will highlight the importance of the Cistercian context.



Vas, Máté

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The father-son relationship and dating in the autobiography of Charles IV of Luxembourg

The autobiography of Charles IV of Luxembourg describes the first thirty years of the future Holy Roman Emperor. The work has an unparalleled source value, but its dating is still contested. The earliest surviving manuscript cannot be used as a guide, as it could only have been written after Charles' death, between 1385 and 1390. My long-term goal is to make progress in the question of dating. To this end, I am trying to answer the following question: how does the autobiography describe the predecessor, that is King John of Bohemia? The reason why it is important to examine this question is that the relationship with the predecessor was more important in the period after his accession to the throne than in the late period of Charles' reign. Crucially, while John had a reputation as a generous knight-king further west, meanwhile the Bohemian elite criticized him for his constant wandering, foreignness, and desire for money. Charles later portrayed himself as a pious, wise and frugal ruler who achieved his goals through negotiation rather than arms. This contrasts with the way his father was perceived by his contemporaries. I think that Charles used subtle means to draw boundaries between himself and his father. This enabled him to present his own reign as more successful and to emphasise that he had surpassed his predecessor. Instead of deflecting criticism of his father, he incorporated it into his self-representation.



Tóth, Tamás

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St. Albert the Great's Cosmology

The figure of St. Albert the Great is indispensable when reviewing the intellectual history of the Middle Ages. His work is so extensive and foundational in many fields that he rightfully earned the titles Doctor Universalis and the Great. During his lifetime, he was already referred to as one of the great philosophers of antiquity. He was a philosopher, theologian, natural scientist, and one of the most significant polymaths of the Middle Ages. It was through his efforts that serious scientific interest in natural sciences began in Western Europe. A Church Doctor, he is the patron saint of natural sciences. In addition to all this, his theological and philosophical writings are also significant. He summarized the teachings of Peripatetic philosophy and commented on Aristotle's works, which had entered Europe through Arabic and Jewish translations, many of which were previously unknown. He defined and distinguished the scope of philosophy and theology, marking the beginning of the clear separation of these two fields. His most famous student was St. Thomas Aquinas, the pillar of medieval Christian philosophy. In my lecture, I set out to map the cosmology of Albertus Magnus, comparing and contextualizing its origin. Albert's goal was to reconcile the Aristotelian worldview with Christian understanding. I will attempt to reconstruct this, deriving the metaphysics of the first cause through cosmology, which pervades almost all of St. Albert's works as a fundamental idea.



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18.00–18.30

Keynote Lecture II. – Dr. Szovák, Kornél (Péter Pázmány Catholic
University): *Medieval Novels*
(University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Building B, Room 407)

Szovák, Kornél

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Medieval Novels

From the beginning of the thirteenth century, thanks to the measures taken by Pope Innocent III, the governance of the Western Latin Church became increasingly concentrated in the Roman Curia. From then on, the pope made decisions on requests received from the particular churches and on cases appealed to the Curia. Partly clerics and partly laymen sought remedies for their problems in the Roman Curia in an increasing number of requests submitted in person or through intermediaries, and what could be obtained regularly in the Curia and what required the special grace of the Holy Father was laid down in the rules of the chancellery at the time. During the century, the number of written petitions (*supplicationes*) gradually increased, which initially remained in their original form until our time, but from the middle of the fourteenth century, similar to the bull registers, the petitions were copied into the so-called supplication registers (*Registri delle Suppliche*), which thus became an inexhaustible source for historical and ecclesiastical research. By the second half of the fifteenth century, it had become necessary to compile a practical handbook (*Practica Cancellariae Apostolicae*) and make it available to those who hoped that their rule-abiding petitions would be approved and signed by the pope since his referendary's summary. Since the applicant was expected to be as honest as in confession – although his testimony was not bound by the confidentiality of confession – those who appealed to the Curia sought to present the background to their request as convincingly as possible, with the result that they often shaped their narratives into well-rounded stories. These texts, which can also be classified as short stories, mainly describe the everyday life and worldview of medieval people, with the petitioners often incorporating the events that had happened to them in unusual narratives. The presentation aims to highlight this characteristic of the genre with examples.



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UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B

PARALLEL MORNING SESSIONS

9.40–11.00	SESSION IV: NARRATIVE SOURCES, THEORY AND HISTORY OF IDEAS CHAIR: PROF. DR. BAGI, DÁNIEL DSC (ELTE / HUN-REN BTK) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B, ROOM 403
9.40–10.00	Ignácz, Ágoston University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, Medieval and Early Modern Doctoral Program <i>Legitimacy and character building in Gallus Anonymus' gesta - in the light of the enclosed letters</i>
10.00–10.20	B. Kovács, Péter Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Humanities, Doctoral School of History, Doctoral Program in Auxiliary Sciences of History <i>Gregory VII and Central Europe - Symbolic Communication and Central European Narratives</i>
10.20–10.40	Litkey, Csongor University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, Medieval and Early Modern Doctoral Program <i>The Tale of the White Horse in Anonymous' Gesta - Conclusions on Anonymous' storytelling methods and use of the tale</i>
10.40–11.00	Discussion



Ignác, Ágoston

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Modern History

Legitimacy and character building in Gallus Anonymus' gesta - in the light of the enclosed letters

In addition to men, the medieval sources also mention the lives and deeds of women in several cases. The often cited work – *Gesta principum Polonorum* – of the mysterious Polish chronicler called Gallus Anonymus preserved some interesting facts about the life of the Polish ruler's (Władysław I. Herman) wife, named Judith. Particularly interesting is the story of the miraculous circumstances of the birth of Boleslaus, the Wry-Mouthed (who was the son of Judith and became later the famous ruler of Poland). According to the story, Judith was apparently struggling with childlessness, which was a great difficulty (at worst, downright exclusionary) for a princess in the Middle Ages. Finally, the persistent faith of Judith led to a miracle: her son was born. In my presentation I will examine the possible literary sources for the story, and how to interpret the text of the embedded letter telling the story of Judith, which is believed to be fictional and can be found in the work of Gallus Anonymus. What can we do with a narrative performed by a fictional letter? What is the real significance of Judith's story?



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Gregory VII and Central Europe - Symbolic Communication and Central European Narratives

It is well known that during the pontificate of Gregory VII (1073–1085), papal correspondence became a key instrument in shaping power relations. In my presentation, I examine 24 letters that Gregory VII addressed to secular and ecclesiastical figures in Central Europe, analyzing them from the perspective of symbolic communication. Among the hundreds of surviving papal letters, this relatively small corpus allows for a structured examination of the messages, with particular attention to the shaping of power relations and political rhetoric. I compare the formal and content-related characteristics of the letters sent to Central Europe, highlighting similarities and differences. One of the central questions of the presentation is how papal messages influenced local narrative sources: what impact they had on chronicle writing and what patterns can be observed in the reception of these letters. This analysis goes beyond mere formulaic examination, uncovering the tools of symbolic and political communication through which the pope sought to influence the power dynamics of Central Europe.



Litkey, Csongor

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The Tale of the White Horse in Anonymous' Gesta - Conclusions on Anonymous' storytelling methods and use of the tale

Some moments of the legendary “Tale of the White Horse”, which is known to us from the 14th-century Hungarian Chronicle, also appear in the Gesta of King Béla’s Notary. In the Chronicle, the story forms a rounded, consistent narrative, which provides a concise story of the Hungarian Conquest. In the Gesta, however, only elements of the story appear, embedded in a lengthy description of the Conquest. These elements frame the campaign against Prince Salanus, which plays central role in the war. In this lecture, we take account of the differences and similarities between the versions of the story, in the Gesta, and the Chronicle, and we briefly review the literature on the relationship between these two versions. We demonstrate how the Notary breaks down the story into its elements and places them in his own narrative. This allows us to draw conclusions about his use of sources and his historiographic principles. We conclude, that the Notary wanted to create a rounded, unified history of the Hungarian Conquest, and to this end he subordinated the use of the elements of the „White Horse Tale”. He has so transformed these elements, that we could not prove their epic origin, if we did not have the version of the story recorded in the Chronicle. This suggests that the Notary may have done the same to other legendary stories, both written and oral. We cannot recognise them unless they were recorded in another source. We cannot know what elements of oral culture he passed to us.



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PARALLEL MORNING SESSIONS

	SESSION V: ARCHAEOLOGY, MATERIAL CULTURE, ECONOMIC HISTORY
9.00–11.00	CHAIR: DR. HABIL.GÁLFFY, LÁSZLÓ (KÁROLI GÁSPÁR) UNIVERSITY OF REFORMED CHURCH IN HUNGARY UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B, ROOM 404
9.40–10.00	Tóth, Boglárka Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Faculty of Humanities, Doctoral School of History, Archaeology Program <i>At the Frontiers of Sciences – Theory and Practice of Making Tenth Century Double-Edged Straight Sword Blades in the Carpathian Basin</i>
10.00–10.20	Majláthné Sipos, Csilla University of Debrecen, Doctoral School of History and Ethnography, History Program <i>Conflicts, integration and economic development – Cuman-Hungarian coexistence and cattle husbandry on the Great Hungarian Plain</i>
10.20–10.40	Megyesi, Ákos University of Szeged, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Doctoral School of History, Medieval History Program <i>Grave Signs from the Árpád Era and Insights from Material Analysis in Hungary</i>
10.40–11.00	Discussion



Tóth, Boglárka

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At the Frontiers of Sciences - Theory and Practice of Making Tenth Century Double-Edged Straight Sword Blades in the Carpathian Basin

One of the most interesting groups of finds of the Hungarian Conquest Period are the double-edged straight swords, which were popular weapons in Western, Northern and Eastern Europe. In the case of these swords from the Carpathian Basin, many theories have been created about their appearance in this territory and most of them were dated to the second half of the 10th century. In the last few years, the interest on the double-edged swords found in Hungary has been increased and an interdisciplinary study of this weapons has been initiated within the framework of a multiannual project, which, in addition to the archaeological approach, also included the archaeometric-archaeometallurgical analysis of the sword blades. Accordingly, 23 swords have been examined so far, with the collaboration of the Pázmány Péter Catholic University and the Archaeometallurgical Research Group of the University of Miskolc. The results have been summarised by observing the different forging methods of the blades (e.g. folding, forge welding) and reconstructing the various steps in the process. In addition to the theoretical approach, it was also possible to attempt certain techniques in practice. The experiment was carried out on a historical bloom and the forging process was reconstructed using two techniques that are also frequently used for sword blades. In my presentation, I will present and compare the results of the experimental forging and the results of the examination of the blades.



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Conflicts, integration and economic development – Cuman-Hungarian coexistence and cattle husbandry on the Great Hungarian Plain

By the 1240s, when the Cumans migrated to the Kingdom of Hungary, there had been a major agricultural and legal development of tenant farming, with the tenant hide becoming the basic unit of agricultural production. The newcomers had to integrate into the Hungarian economic and social environment, which was not without conflict. The Cumans settled mainly in the uninhabited parts of the Great Hungarian Plain, on royal lands, where their large herds of cattle could graze. Although the Cumans were integrated into the country's economic system, they often competed or even fought with the local Hungarians for pastures. Some medieval charters can shed light on the details of these cases, while other, late medieval sources help to analyse the economic importance of animal husbandry in the Middle and Lower Tisza regions. This paper focuses on the settlements of the Southern Great Plain, near the Tisza River, and attempts to study how cattle breeding and trade contributed to the settlement and regional development of this part of Hungary in the 13th–16th centuries.



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Doctoral supervisor(s): Dr. habil Mária Wolf, University of Szeged, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Département of Archeology

Grave Signs from the Árpád Era and Insights from Material Analysis in Hungary

Within Hungarian medieval studies the topic of burials in the churchyard raises more questions than how much we would be able to answer, due to the limited amount of written and archeological sources. One of these questions is marking of the grave. Marking the grave where the deceased lies now plays an essential part in our funeral habits, however, to our current knowledge, this was not at all common in the Árpáadian Era. Therefore, the gravestones, that are the subject of my research, are a rare and very specific part of Hungarian archeological finds. Most of the currently known 164 gravestones from 54 locations have been found as stray finds, often in a disturbed context, or used for other purposes, such as building materials, so in their dating and the identification of the deceased, we can mostly rely on their form, overall making and their ornamentation. In addition, an important part of my thesis is the archeometric investigation of the gravestones, for which we examined stone samples from 61 gravestones. Following that, we can enhance our knowledge into the materials used, and after the identification of the possible places of origin of the raw materials, possibly into the market areas and mining sites as well.



29 AUGUST 2025 (FRIDAY)

UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B

PARALLEL MORNING SESSIONS

11.20–12.20	SESSION VI: ARCHONTOLOGY, PROSOPOGRAPHY CHAIR: PROF. FEDELES, TAMÁS DSC (UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B, ROOM 403
11.20–11.40	Kovács, István University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, Medieval and Early Modern Doctoral Program <i>The personnel composition of the collegiate chapter of Arad in the Árpád and Angevin era</i>
11.40–12.00	Szádóczki, Bálint Eszterházy Károly Catholic University, Doctoral School of History, The History of the Kingdom of Hungary and the Carpathian Basin between 1526-1790 <i>John of Aragon's Network in The College of Cardinals</i>
12.00–12.20	Discussion



Kovács, István

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Social Sciences, Department of Medieval and Early Modern History

The personnel composition of the collegiate chapter of Arad in the Árpád and Angevin era

The personnel of the Provostry of Arad, the subject of the forthcoming doctoral thesis, represents a small but significant fragment in the socio-historical reconstruction of the medieval Kingdom of Hungary. The extant data, spanning from the mid-12th to the mid-16th century, facilitate an understanding of the institution's former members. However, it should be noted that sources originating from the Árpád and Angevin eras, the primary focus of this presentation, constitute only a minor segment of the overall charter collection. Nevertheless, the canons of Arad, who periodically appeared at the royal court, in conjunction with the forthcoming archontological database of the ecclesiastical society (2025), provide an opportunity to conduct a more detailed analysis. This will facilitate an exploration of the career prospects associated with holding a position in the provostry of Arad. Moreover, the doctoral research facilitates a comparative analysis of the collegiate chapter characteristics across different periods and with the neighbouring cathedral chapter of Csanád. It also invites reflection on whether the traditional questions – such as the appointment of chapter beneficium, the origins of prebendaries, and career progression – can be uniformly applied to both the Árpád and Jagiellonian periods. A further aim of this presentation is to showcase its findings and methodologies in a scholarly forum, thereby contributing to the refinement of the dissertation's theses.



Szádoczki, Bálint

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John of Aragon's Network in The College of Cardinals

"Happy for you the place you occupy in our Order, and happy for the Church, which is enriched by such a significant father figure." With these words, Jacopo Ammannati-Piccolomini (1422-1479) greeted the appointment of his colleague, John of Aragon (Giovanni d'Aragona, 1456-1485), as Cardinal in 1477, and at the same time he envisioned for himself, his dynasty and the Church a vision in which he could play a key role. However, many of his colleagues saw him as a servant of the interests of Naples and were distrustful of him, and so, at the beginning of his cardinalate, they were prejudiced against him in certain respects. Who could he turn to in order to implement his family's political ideas? How did he position himself within the College of Cardinals? With whom did he have a really good relationship among his fellow officials? Did he have any friends among them? The College of Cardinals was an easily definable and multi-dimensional group in the 15th century, so that an analysis of both individuals and their community as a whole can yield relevant results. The aim of this presentation is to explore the role changes, patterns, strategies and possibilities of John of Aragon within a group of political elites.



Third Itinerant Conference on Medieval Studies Program and Book of Abstracts





29 AUGUST 2025 (FRIDAY)

UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B

PARALLEL MORNING SESSIONS

11.20–12.40	SESSION VII: HUSSITES, CRUSADES AND THE EAST CHAIR: PROF. BÁRÁNY, ATTILA DSC (UNIVERSITY OF DEBRECEN) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B, ROOM 404
11.20–11.40	Holecska, Zoltán University of Szeged, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Doctoral School of History, Medieval History Program <i>Half Moon and Lion's Heart - New Perspectives on the Research of the Third Crusade</i>
11.40–12.00	Bojtár, Erzsébet Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Doctoral School of History, Doctoral Programme in Archaeology <i>Masonry Marks in the Crac des Chevaliers</i>
12.00–12.20	Varga, Imre Solt University of Debrecen, Doctoral School of History and Ethnography, History Program <i>The "Sigismund's Offer" - Sigismund's Negotiations with the Hussites in Pozsony in 1429</i>
12.20–12.40	Discussion



Holecška, Zoltán

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**Half Moon and Lion's Heart - New Perspectives on the Research of the
Third Crusade**

In the research of the Third Crusade (1189-1192), numerous new approaches have emerged in recent decades. Both in Hungarian and international contexts, new works have appeared, the inclusion of which in research has become indispensable. Although the appearance of a comprehensive, detailed work covering the entire Third Crusade is still awaited, in my presentation I intend to showcase what we know so far, as well as what the novelties are regarding the topic, providing a kind of historiographical overview.



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Masonry Marks in the Crac des Chevaliers

The well-worked ashlar of the medieval buildings were usually marked by the masons with their own signs. By examining walls full of masonry marks significant conclusions can be drawn about the history of construction of a building complex, supplemented by the archaeological and architectural history research. While in Europe the research into masonry marks is extensive, thanks to the great number of surviving medieval buildings, this subject has not received enough attention in the Near-East, though one of the largest, and more-or-less intact Crusader castles in the Holy Land, the Crac des Chevaliers could serve as a perfect ground for those who want to examine masonry marks. The research, which started as an ad hoc challenge in July 2016, now includes seven fully surveyed buildings from the Crusader period and thousands of registered masonry marks. This report illustrates the importance and potential of this research through concrete examples from the Crac des Chevaliers.



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Norbert C. Tóth, DSc. HUN-REN-MNL-SZTE Hungarian Medieval Research Group

**The "Sigismund's Offer" - Sigismund's Negotiations with the Hussites in
Pozsony in 1429**

The Kingdom of Hungary faced its first major Hussite incursion in 1428, to which the Hungarian army failed to respond effectively. The defeat at Golubac highlighted the growing Ottoman threat, and, along with the successful Czech incursion, compelled King Sigismund—previously reluctant to negotiate—to signal his willingness for a truce. Despite multiple negotiation attempts, no agreement was reached. Since Pál Tóth-Szabó's work, our knowledge of these talks has grown only moderately, leaving key questions unanswered. Examining sources such as Hungarian National Archives charters, *Fontes rerum Austriacarum*, and *Urkundliche Beiträge*, alongside recent international scholarship (e.g., Josef Mačcek, William R. Cook), may help address these gaps. Why did both sides opt for negotiations? What provisions did they seek? Where did they show flexibility, and what led to failure? This presentation argues that the negotiations were a strategic delay tactic. The parties' unrealistic demands suggest no real intent to reach an agreement, reinforced by their mutual distrust and unwillingness to compromise. This research contributes to the study of Sigismund-era diplomacy, Hungarian-Hussite relations, and the broader context of the Czech religious wars.



29 AUGUST 2025 (FRIDAY) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B

PARALLEL AFTERNOON SESSIONS

13.40–14.40	SESSION VIII: DYNASTIC RELATIONS AND REPRESENTATION CHAIR: PROF. KISS, GERGELY DSC (PTE BTK) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B, ROOM 403
13.40–14.00	Kis-Kádi, Anna University of Pécs, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, Medieval and Early Modern Doctoral Program <i>Claims to the Hungarian Throne in the Dynastic Representation of the Angevins of Naples</i>
14.00–14.20	Tuza, Bénédicte École Nationale des Chartes (Paris) <i>Comparative study of four marriage contracts concluded by King Louis I of Hungary and King Charles V of France for their children</i>
14.20–14.40	Discussion



Kis-Kádi, Anna

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Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Medieval and Early Modern History

**Claims to the Hungarian Throne in the Dynastic Representation of the
Angevins of Naples**

The subject of my research is the claim to the Hungarian throne in the dynastic representation of the Anjou of Naples. In my presentation, I will deal with the sites of dynastic representation, the artworks associated with representation, their patrons and creators, and the means of dynastic representation, with the time frame being the establishment of the Árpád-Anjou double marriage (1270) and the accession of Queen Joan of Naples (1343). My aim was to collect works of art expressing a link with the Hungarian dynasty within the "Angevin Empire", marking their location on a map and linking them to a particular member of the dynasty. Where the identity of the patron is in question, I will outline my own theory in this respect. My presentation will therefore be partly art historical, but I will also look at the representation in literature alongside the works of art. The means of dynastic representation were mostly coats of arms and depictions of dynastic saints, such as the "three saint kings" of Hungary, and the sites were mainly sacral spaces, which did not only appear in Naples, but also in areas far from the centre of the kingdom. The dynastic representation also emphasized the gift-giving. These prestigious gifts also were decorated with motives, which expressed the connection to the Árpáds.



Tuza, Bénédicte

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Comparative study of four marriage contracts concluded by King Louis I of Hungary and King Charles V of France for their children

Előadásomban azt a négy házassági szerződést hasonlítom össze, amelyet I. Lajos magyar és V. Károly francia király kötött gyermekeik, Katalin a magyar király leánya és Lajos francia trónörökös számára (1374. augusztus. 10. - 1375. december. 13.). A házassági tervezet hivatalos dokumentumait Óváry Lipót és Eugène Jarry részben ugyan kiadta, de ők nem foglalkoztak azzal, hogy az egyes szövegeket hogyan vették át és másolták át egyik szerződésből a másikba. Az előadás kitér az ugyanebben az időben keletkezett másodlagos dokumentumokra is, hogy képet kapjunk e négy házassági szerződés megszerkesztésének körülményeiről, kitérve azok fizikai jellemzőire, továbbá az uralkodók különböző követői is bemutatásra kerülnek.



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29 AUGUST 2025 (FRIDAY) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B

PARALLEL AFTERNOON SESSIONS

13.40–14.40	SESSION IX: METHODOLOGICAL PROBLEMS AND SOL CHAIR: DR. HABIL. HUNYADI, ZSOLT (SZTE BTK) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCI BUILDING B, ROOM 404
13.40–14.00	Szász, Péter University of Szeged, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Doctoral School History, Medieval History Program <i>Methodological Problems of Researching Medieval Diplomatic Databases with Data Mining Methods</i>
14.00–14.20	Megyesi, Zoltán University of Szeged, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Doctoral School History, Medieval History Program <i>A complex study of the Old Turkic runic documents in the Aurél Stein Collection</i>
14.20–14.40	Discussion



Szász, Péter

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Methodological Problems of Researching Medieval Diplomatic Databases with Data Mining Methods

In recent decades, large-scale digitized databases have played an increasingly significant role in historical research. Modern data mining methods enable the discovery of connections that are not always apparent through traditional qualitative analyses. This presentation examines the possibilities of analyzing medieval charter databases and the methodological challenges associated with the digitization and processing of such sources. One of the primary challenges in processing medieval charters and regesta is handling inconsistencies arising from long-term editorial processes. Regesta collections were often compiled over several decades, leading to variations in abbreviations, stylistic differences, and editorial approaches across different volumes. The automated processing of such heterogeneous datasets presents additional difficulties that require specialized algorithms and data normalization techniques to address. It is crucial to emphasize that this presentation represents the initial phase of a methodological study. The current findings highlight the potential of digital analysis in large-scale database research while also drawing attention to the challenges ahead. The next steps include harmonizing different databases, refining text-processing methods, and adapting data mining algorithms to the specific characteristics of medieval texts.



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A complex study of the Old Turkic runic documents in the Aurél Stein Collection

Aurél Stein led many expeditions to the territory of present-day Western China. These field research led to the compilation of manuscripts held in British collections. Many of these documents belong to the early medieval period of the Inner Asian region. The 9th-century book of omens, the Irk Bitig, is one of the most well-known; it was written in the runiform script of Old Turkic. Besides Irk Bitig, there are twelve other short runiform documents. Although these documents have been presented in scientific publications, a more complex examination could better understand how writing developed among Turkic people between the 8th and 10th centuries. In my presentation, I will discuss the paleographical and orthographical features of these texts, and I also analyze the personal names and titles occurring in the documents. The collected philological and linguistic data will be compared to the data known from the Old Turkic runiform corpus of Mongolia. This comparative approach aims to draw conclusions that could help us better understand the chronology of the texts in general. Moreover, this research has the potential to provide new insights into changes in the use of writing.



29 AUGUST 2025 (FRIDAY) UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING B

15.00–15.40

BOOK LAUNCH

UNIVERSITY OF PÉCS, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
BUILDING B, ROOM 407

ZSOLT HUNYADI PRESENTS

Medievalisztikai Vándorkonferencia. Tanulmányok 2. Szerk. Árvai Tünde – Katona Cséte. Debreceni Egyetem Történelmi és Néprajzi Doktori Iskola. Debrecen, 2025. előadásai (Papers presented on the Second Itinerant Conference on Medieval Studies)

KORNÉL SZOVÁK PRESENTS

Janus Pannonius Epigrammái. Latinul és magyarul. A jegyzeteket írta és a fordításokat gondozta Török László. A latin szöveget sajtó alá rendezte és a kötetet szerkesztette Mayer Gyula. (Bibliotheca Collegii Professorum Hungarorum, Classis Philosophica). Piliscsaba 2025.

Liber Ruber. Chartularium monasterii Sancti Martini de Sacro Monte Pannoniae. Volumen II. Editio critica cum studiis. Redegerunt Kornél Szovák et Gyula Mayer. (Bibliotheca Collegii Professorum Hungarorum, Classis Philosophica). Piliscsaba 2025.

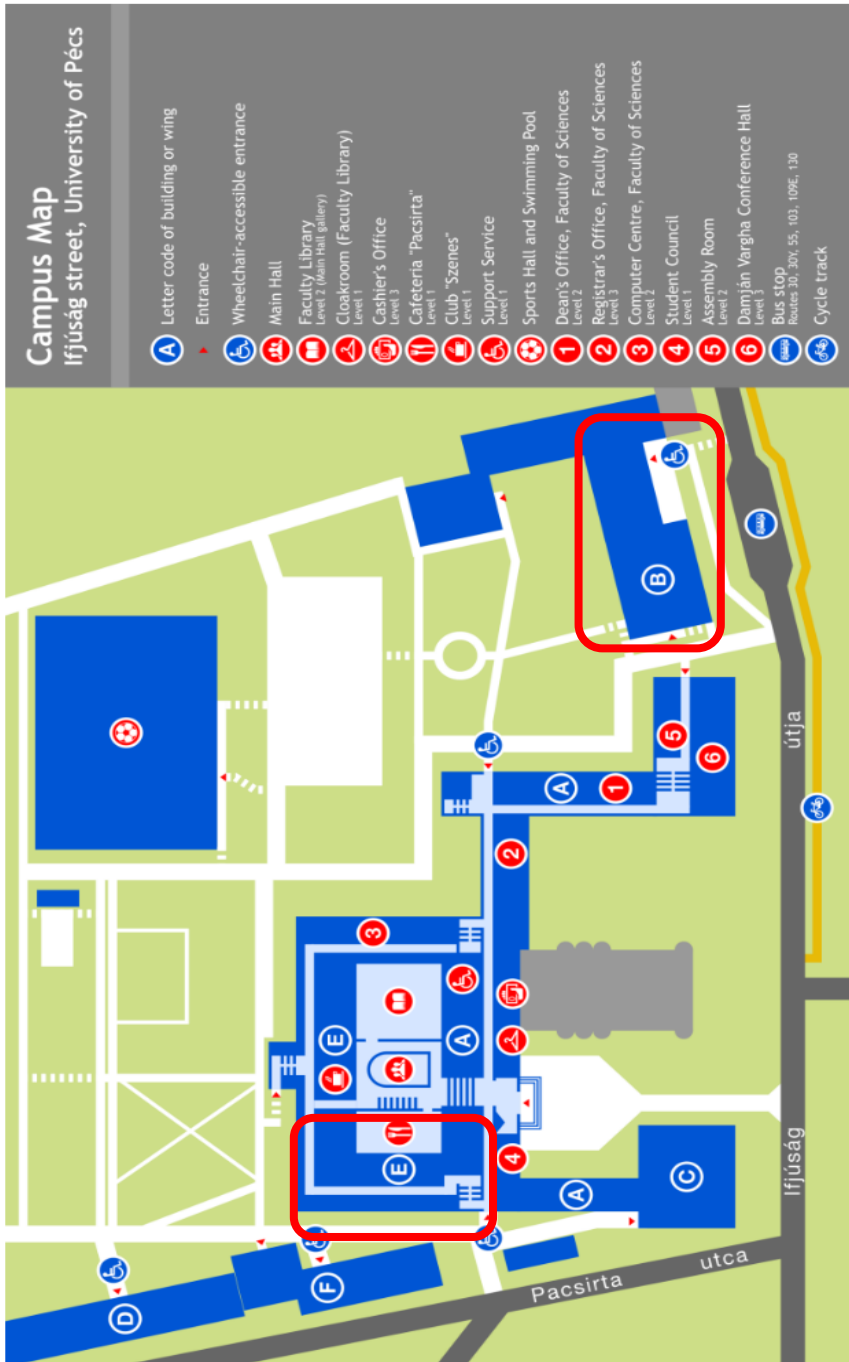
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