

CALL FOR PAPERS - International Conference “Definition and Redefinition of Celtic Identities in the Ancient World. An Interdisciplinary Approach” (Florence, 5th September 2022 - Edinburgh 16th September 2022)

We are pleased to announce the Call for Papers for the International Conference *Definition and Redefinition of Celtic Identities in the Ancient World. An Interdisciplinary Approach*, jointly organised by the University of Florence and the University of Edinburgh (Florence, 5th September 2022 - Edinburgh 16th September 2022).

The Conference is designed to bring together scholars of the Classical world and/or of the Celts, in the fields of ancient history, philology, archaeology, linguistics, and beyond, in order to gather as many perspectives as possible on the question of "Celtic identity". It is open to postgraduates and researchers at all levels of their careers, and aims to open new channels of communication among fields.

Knowledge of the so-called “Celts”, of their language, and of their socio-political organisation before the Middle Ages is often partial and heavily reliant on sources later and/or non-Celtic. In particular, the influence of a Greco-Roman perspective on our interpretation of Western and Northern European peoples is substantial and potentially misleading of a true understanding of the ethnography, ethnonymy, and cultural complexity of the Celts. The very concept of “Celtic” has been explored by scholars from many research fields but still requires investigation. Furthermore, not only the tribal organisation of the “Celts” and the migratory character of their history, but also the role played by sources in their definition, invite us to a multifaceted discourse. There is thus the need for an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Celtic “identity”, or rather of Celtic “identities”, to make research efforts converge.

We are planning to host the Conference in person, in two separate sessions at **Florence (5th September 2022)** and **Edinburgh (16th September 2022)**. However, due to the unpredictability caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and to personal circumstances of the participants, we are also making plans to accommodate hybrid or online-only events. Please, also note that our funding availability is to be confirmed. We hope to be able to partially cover costs, but at present speakers will have to make their own funding arrangements. In case any conference fee is set up by the hosting institutions, we will let the speakers know in due course.

Since the topic is very vast and covers many fields, we are planning to have each session focus on a different thematic block. The session in Florence will be dedicated to the “Western Celts” (the so-called Celtic peoples in the Iberian peninsula, Germany, Southern Gaul and Italy), while the one in Edinburgh to the “Eastern Celts” (with focus on the migration of the “Galatians” and on the interaction between “Celtic” and Eastern-European and Eastern Mediterranean peoples).

Confirmed key-note speakers for the session in Florence (5th September 2022) are:

- Prof. Patrizia de Bernardo Stempel (UVP/EHU)
- Prof. Paola Piana Agostinetti (INASA)

Confirmed key-note speakers for the session in Edinburgh (16th September 2022) are:

- Dr. Altay Coşkun (University of Waterloo)
- Dr. Alexander Falileyev (Institute for Linguistic Studies, RAS)

We encourage abstracts in **English** from postgraduates and researchers at all levels of their careers, studying the Celts within - but not limited to - the fields of Celtic art and archaeology, Celtic languages and epigraphy, ancient history, Greco-Roman archaeology, Classical literature and philology. **We welcome papers of ca. 20 minutes; we also expect them to be given in English.** Possible topics might be related to the following areas, but other relevant research will be considered as well.

For the session at Florence on the “Western Celts”:

- identity and material culture in Celtic Europe;
- knowledge of Celtic languages by ancient sources (including speculation on Lepontic and Tartessian) and possible identification of Celtic peoples through their language;
- definition of Celtic identity through ethnonyms in literary sources (Keltoi, Galatai, Hyperboreoi...);
- interaction of “Celtic” peoples with “non-Celtic” cultural enclaves in Western and Northern Europe (such as Massalia) between the 7th and the 1st century BC;
- relationships between Celts and other peoples, such as the peoples of Spain (Iberians, Phoenicians) and Italy (Etrurians, Greeks, Romans).

For the session at Edinburgh on the “Eastern Celts”:

- redefinition of “Celtic/Gallic” identity after the Galatian expedition into Greece;
- ethnonymy of the “Galatians” and definition of their language and material culture;
- identity of Celtic peoples on the borders of the Scythian world;
- identification of the kingdom of Tyllis;
- inclusion of these peoples into the administrative and military context of the Hellenistic world.

We would like to ask you to stay focused on the question of “identity”: defining what “Celtic” means in different fields or what it has meant in different contexts and times is the main goal of the conference.

If you would like to present a paper, please send an abstract of **max. 250 words** to andrea.pierozzi@unifi.it if you wish to participate in the session at Florence, or to G.Pasquariello@sms.ed.ac.uk if you wish to participate in the session at Edinburgh. Please, also add a short biography stating your name, affiliation, and contact address. The deadline for sending the documentation is on the **21st March 2022**. Outcomes of selection will likely be communicated in the first week of April. For any other inquiries, please send an email to the organizers.

We are looking forward to reading your proposals.

Best regards,

Giovanna and Andrea

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