

**40th MELCom International Conference,  
Budapest, Hungary**

**Library and Information Centre of the  
Hungarian Academy of Sciences**

**Budapest, 19-21 June 2018**



**Conference Report**

The fourth annual conference of the MELCom International was held in Library and Information Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. This was the first time that the MELCom International gathered in Budapest since the establishment of the association. It was convened by Dr. Kinga Dévényi, Senior Librarian and Curator of Arabic Manuscripts, Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Prof. Dr. István Monok, General Director of the Library and Information Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Dr. Ágnes Kelecsényi, head of Oriental Collection Department and Viktoria Vas, Project Manager and Team Leader at Library and Information Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

The conference attracted a large crowd of professionals: there were 68 registered participants, including commercial attendees and students from different countries.

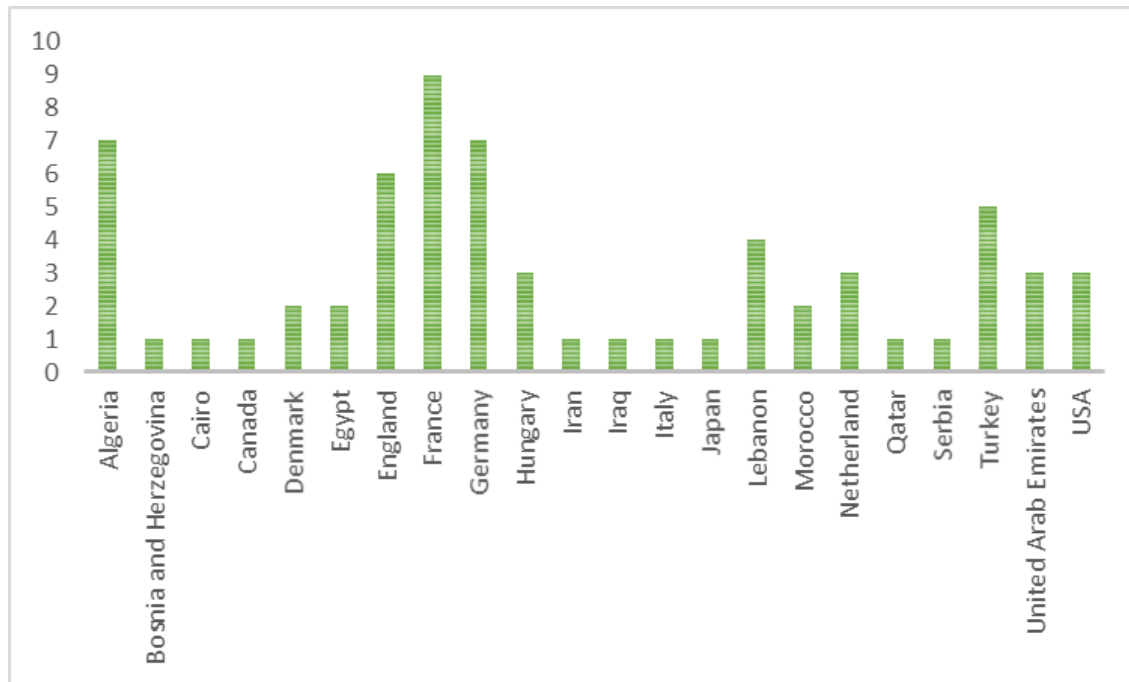
**List of attendees:**

<b>LAST NAME</b>	<b>FIRST NAME</b>	<b>INSTITUTION</b>	<b>COUNTRY</b>
ABED RABBU	Mohammad	Al-Manhal	United Arab Emirates
ABU BAKER	Muneer	Zayed University	United Arab Emirates
ADAM	Volker	University and State Library Saxony-Anhalt (Halle)	Germany
AKHOUN-SCHWARB	Dominique	SOAS University of London	England
ALI PACHA	Fatma Zehra	Département de Bibliothéconomie	Algeria
ALLOUL	Fatima		Lebanon
AL-RAJAB	Ibrahim	Al-Muthanna Books	Iraq
ANDRIYANOVA	Olga	IMA	France
BAARDA	Tijmen	Leiden University Libraries	Netherland
BALİ	Nedim	Libra Books	Turkey
BALİ	Rifat	Libra Books	Turkey
BENKAID KESBA	Teboura	University of Oum El Bouaghi	Algeria
BENSAADOUN	Nouzha	Bibliothèque Nationale du Royaume	Morocco
BOUDERBANE	Azzedine	University Constantine 2	Algeria
CATHELINEAU	Anne-Sylvie	University of Paris III: Sorbonne Nouvelle	France
CHEBANI	Basma	American University of Beirut Library	Lebanon
DEVENYI	Kinga	Library and Information Centre Hungarian Academy of Sciences	Hungary
DOUGHERTY	Roberta	Yale University Library	USA
DRECHSLER	Andreas	University Library of Bamberg	Germany
DU GRANDLAUNAY	Rene-Vincent	IDEO Library	Egypt
EMAMI	Mohammad	Wadham College, University of Oxford	England
FAGHIHI	Yasmin	Cambridge University Library	England
FANI	Sara	University of Copenhagen	Denmark
FAWZI	George	LeilaBooks	Egypt
GAMOUEH	Nadjia	University of Constantine 2	Algeria
GAUDETTE	Marybeth	Eisenhower Army Medical Center of Fort Gordon	USA
GIANNI	Celeste	Al-Furqan Islamic Heritage Foundation	England
GILLET	Martine	Anciennement CNRS	France
GUESDON	Marie-Genevieve	Bibliothèque Nationale de	France

		France	
HARTANI	Wahiba	Département de Bibliothéconomie	Algeria
HIRSCH	David	Mohammad Bin Rashid Library Dubai	United Arab Emirates
HUGHES	Heather	University of California, Santa Barbara	USA
IBARRA	Maria	Qatar National Library	Qatar
JOVANOVIC	Marko	University of Belgrade	Serbia
KARIMINE	Zahra	The Bibliothèque Nationale du Royaume du Maroc	Morocco
KHAYRALLAH	Myrella		
KOVACS	Nandor Erik	Library and Information Centre Hungarian Academy of Sciences	Hungary
LAVENT	Tine	Netherland-Flemish Institute in Cairo	Cairo
MALECOT	Anne	Retired from BULAC	France
MAZAUD	Laurence	IMA	France
MENZ	Astrid	Orient Institute Istanbul	Turkey
MURATGIA	Antonella	L'Università degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale	Italy
NAMAA	Maoulainin		
ÖZKAN	Naz	Koç University ANAMED Library	Turkey
ÖZYILDIRIM	Ali Emre	Yıldız Technical University	Turkey
PERİ	Benedek	Department of Turkic Studies Eötvös Lorand University	Hungary
PILLER	Anja	University and State Library Saxony-Anhalt (Halle)	Germany
RAHIMZADEH	Mehdi	Ferdosi	Iran
RAUCH	Christoph	Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin	Germany
RAY	Anne	JSTOR	
REBHAN	Helga	Bavarian State Library	Germany
REGOURD	Anne	University of Copenhagen	Denmark
RÜCKEBEIL	Ariane	East View	Germany
SAKER	Susanne	Marburg University Library	Germany
SALAMON	Anais	McGill University	Canada
SEBBAH	Staadia	Bibliothèque principale de lecture publique de Tipasa	Algeria
SEEGER	Stefan	Orient Institut Beirut	Lebanon
SEKULOVA	Wassilena	Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford	England
SHEHABEDDINE	Nabila	American University of Beirut	Lebanon

TOKUHARA	Yasuhiro	The University of Tokyo Library System	Japan
VAN DEN BOOGERT	Maurits	Brill	Netherland
VERNAY-NOURI	Annie	Bibliothèque Nationale de France	France
VROLIJK	Arnoud	Leiden University Libraries	Netherland
WRIGHT	Lydia	Bodleian Library	England
YONTAN	Sara	Bibliothèque Nationale de France	France
YOUSFI	Malika	Université d'Alger 2	Algeria
ZAREIE	Farzaneh	CNRS	France
ZUTIC	Fatima	University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Islamic Studies	Bosnia and Herzegovina

Number of participants vs. countries of work:



The scientific program included twenty-eight presentations, six of which were in French. Three presentations were cancelled because expected speakers haven't participated in the conference. The papers revolved around the following themes:

**- Digital resources and projects and digitization**

*\*The Correspondence of Ignaz Goldziher: An online database of over 13000 letters in the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences by Kinga Dévényi*

*\*The Digitization of Historical Newspapers at the Orient-Institut Istanbul: Anatoli, İrşad, İstiklal, Hayat and Şarq-ı Rus by Astrid Menz*

*\*Digitizing Arabic Journals: Update on a JSTOR Investigation by Anne Ray*

*\*MENAdoc, the subject repository of the Specialized Information Service (SIS) Middle East-,*

*North Africa- and Islamic Studies at the University and State Library Saxony-Anhalt, Halle, Germany* by Adam Volker & Anja Piller

\**Islam in the Horn of Africa Project: First Results* by Anne Regourd & Sara Fani

\**Middle Eastern Sound Collections at UC Santa Barbara Library* by Heather Hughes

#### **-Manuscript Collections:**

\**The Persian Manuscript Collection of the Library and Information Centre of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences* by Benedek Péri

\**Les peintres arabes de manuscrits à l'époque ottomane* by Annie Vernay-Nouri

\**Suna Kıraç Library Manuscript Collection between the Digital World and Printing World* by Naz Özkan and Ali Emre Özyıldırım

\**Oriental Manuscripts at the University of Michigan* by Roberta Dougherty

\**The Adriaan Reland Manuscripts at Leiden* by Arnaud Vrolijk

#### **-Cataloguing Practices**

\**Middle Eastern and Islamic Resources in Japan: An overview and problems in cataloging and utilization* by Yasuhiro Tokuhara

\**Shifting from MARC21 to RDA: Challenges of Cataloging Arabic Manuscripts* by Muneer AbuBaker

\**The contribution of OCLC schema and LC Linked data in the structuring of the bibliographic data and authorities and their relationships within the Linked data* by Basma Chebani

#### **-Copyright and Fair Use Issues**

\**Copyright and intellectual property; copyright and fair use: Lebanon as a case study* by Nabila Shehabeddin

#### **-Renovation Projects in Libraries**

\**La Bibliothèque de l'Institut du monde arabe : Projet de rénovation et bilan après un an d'ouverture* by Laurence Mazaud

## **Impressions from Presentations**

**19-06-2018**

**11:00-12:30 Session 1: Chair: Sara Yontan**

In the presentation, Devenyi spoke about Ignaz Goldziher (1850-1921) who was a Hungarian scholar of Islam. Recently, the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences has completed the digitization of the over 13000 letters which were in various languages addressed to Ignaz Goldziher and kept in the Oriental Collection of the Library. These letters in German, Yiddish, English and Hungarians along with handwriting notes, other

works and many vintage style postcards were bequeathed by his wife to academy. Cataloging process of works was headed by Karoly Goldziher in 1931. The digitized letters were also catalogued and they were made available both in the online catalogue of the Library and ALEPH system with its digital repository. During the presentation, definitions of letters turned out to be a little bit problematic because they did not distinguish genre with subject as letters cannot be a subject but can be counted as a genre.

This session continued with presentation of Benedek Peri. He started with his presentation of the founder of library Count József Teleki (1790–1855) and he gave details on the latest dated manuscript, contents of manuscripts, illustrated manuscripts with general description of the Persian collection and its history, collectors of Iranian manuscripts and rare books which are possessed by library. The library houses 155 volumes representing the Persian manuscript production of four major cultural centers of the Persianate world, the Ottoman Empire, Iran, India and Central Asia. Through the presentation, he showed that the Persian manuscripts collection were enriched by important scholars, theologian and Turcologists.

This session ended with Nándor Erik's presentation. The Academy holds collections of Turkish manuscripts and printed books in the Oriental Collection. In his presentation, he provided overviews of the donors, ways of acquisition and the diverse problems of the cataloging of manuscripts and printed books (such as card cataloging). His presentation shows that Ármin Vámbéry, traveler, Orientalist, Áron Szilády (1837–1922), the scholar, historian and protestant pastor and Dániel Szilágyi's interest in Turkish history and Hungarian history led them to collect invaluable treasures, Turkish manuscripts and printed books from Turkey and they donated these rich resources to academy of science for scholars and researchers.

#### **14:00-15:30 Session 2: Andreas Drechsler**

The second session of the day began with the presentation of Astrid Menz. Menz stated that The Orient Institute Istanbul owns issues of the years 1888-1894 of Anatoli, in Ottoman and written in Greek script and that they have been digitized recently. In February 2018 they also received a donation of 4 Azerbaijani newspapers from the years 1906 to 1934 in Latin and Arabic script, which also have been digitalized. Through her presentation she gave details on cataloging and description. The main issue is funding for the digitalization of these newspapers. The institution has acquired funding from University and State Library Saxony-Anhalt (Halle).

Adam Volker & Anja Piller's presentation showed that <http://menadoc.bibliothek.uni-halle.de/> contains currently some 15.000 freely accessible documents with a focus on the Middle East and Islamic studies. They negotiated with many publishers and formed close contacts to research societies like the "Deutsch-Morgenländische Gesellschaft" or the Oriental institutes of Beirut and Istanbul to digitize and publish their copyright protected books complying with a notice period. In addition, the Specialized Information Service (SIS) helps scholars by showing way of open access for the Middle East, North Africa and Islamic studies. Their copyright procedure was shaped by old holdings of DMG, rarities from Orient Institute, secondary literature and user requests. They also have copyright protected material such as primary literature, secondary literature and gold open access. Between 2019-2021 they aimed at improving text recognition for Arabic, secondary publication Germany-wide, legal advice for green open access, and cataloging and data exchange with catalogs such as Worldcat, public relations and migration to open source solution. Through social media their activities can reach many people. Also they stressed the need to create easy research tools, subject based lists for their website.

**20-06-2018**

### **09:30-11:00 Session 3 Chair: Arnoud Vrolijk**

This section began with the presentation of Annie Vernay-Nouri. She mentioned that the illustrated Arabic manuscripts of *Kalîla wa Dimna* was copied many times during the Ottoman rule and she showed that several painters who worked in Egypt and Syria in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. She also mentioned illustrated manuscripts on heroic stories, a copy of the New Testament, an alchemy text, a Christian romance (the story of Barlaam and Josephat). Unfortunately, I do not know French so I did not understand all she mentioned about manuscripts. For people who do not speak French, PowerPoints can be helpful. Detailed descriptions and purpose of paper might have been written in English on PowerPoints for people who does not speak French for next conferences.

The second presentation of this section is about the ERC project *IslHornAfr*. This project is mostly interested in the identification and digitization of manuscript collections from the Horn of Africa in Arabic language or script, and through their description in a relational database creation. Their database is used for identification of the present book collections (public, semi-public and private), giving the opportunity to trace back their history, to evaluate the present use of the book material. Because of dealing with a large geography, they used some description criteria such as texts, witnesses, persons, places. The books belong to different genres such as mystics, history, and grammar. Their work does not only evaluate in the librarianship context but also they afford to preserve cultural heritage in this region by creating cultural networks between Arabia and the Horn of Africa.

This session ended with my presentation on SKL Manuscript collection. In my presentation I tried to show the relationship between writing and the donor's personal interests in the context of book culture with general description of manuscript collection of Koç University's Suna Kıraç Library.

### **11:30-13:00 Session 4 Chair: Dominique Akhoun-Schwarb**

This session started with Yasuhiro Tokuhara's presentation on Middle Eastern and Islamic Resources in Japan. In Japan 1950s and during the 1960s we observe that reintroduction of Middle East/Islamic Studies by major universities. In 1967 a joint project "Islamization" initiated, then continued with Urbanism in Islam and Islamic Area Studies. They have resources in Middle Eastern languages (manuscripts, rare books, printed books journals, digital resources), resources in Western languages (research papers, translations, dictionaries and reference books), resources in Japanese (research books and papers, translations of resources in Middle Eastern and Western languages, dictionaries, reference books, mangas, official documents). He also informed us about the Tokyo Bunko Library which is the largest Asian research library in Japan and its collection of Asian Materials (Quran Manuscripts from South Asia and Mamluk Syria). For me, the most interesting collection of the library was the Sultan Hamid Collection which was purchased in 1975. It includes 123 Arabic, 69 Persian and 39 Ottoman collections and catalogues are in book form. In the future they want to share their resources in other organizations, visualize and transfer the cataloging know-how to and they stress the need for cooperation.

This section ended with another introduction by Roberta Dougherty on Oriental Manuscripts at the Michigan University. They also own a collection named "the Abdülhamid Collection". Through the presentation we see that how Islamic collections were born and grown. Different geographies and different patrons such a member of royalties, wealthy people, Orientalists, industrialists and museums-universities contributed to this manuscript collection. The Manuscript collection in Michigan University owns 1790 titles in different languages. She shows that the description of collections had some mistakes during the development process.

However, the important thing for her presentation was not these mistakes but how the collection stands with different geographies and different institutions. These differences defines this manuscript collection.

**21-06-2018**

**09:30-11:00 Session 5 Chair: Helga Rebhan**

This section started with the audiovisual collection of UC Santa Barbara Library. Heather Hughes showed us materials from the Performing Arts collection on the Middle East. They have sound collections in different formats: namely, Benno Haupl collection, Kutay Derin Kugay collection, Joel Ackerman collection and the Arabic wax cylinders. The collection has specialized on local history, California ethnic and multicultural archives, and American regions, rare and printed books. They have a workflow for items, cataloging, and cleaning and digitization. During the creation of the catalog they had some challenges such as the standardization of the names, transliteration and lack of Arabic catalogues. She also mentioned that it is difficult to find the original format of records. These records can be seen as documents that contain textual information that augments their understanding of the performance, the performer and the company that made this records.

The section continued with Arnaud Vrolijk's presentation on The Adrian Reland Manuscripts at Leiden. Adriaan Reland was the first scholar who has worked on an impartial study of Islam in Modern Europe. In 19<sup>th</sup> century Leiden has owned 16 Reland manuscripts and they were catalogued later.

**11:30-13:00 Session 6 Chair: Azzedine Bouderbane**

This section started with Laurence Mazaud's presentation on the Arab World Institute's renovation project. AWI is a unique cultural institution in France and Europe. It was founded in Paris in 1980 by 18 Arab countries and France for research. It was opened to the public in 1987 and celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017. Right now they have a partnership with 22 Arab countries and dually governed. They simply wanted to develop and enhance knowledge and comprehension of the Arab world especially in languages, history and cultural values. They also facilitate dialogues between the Arab world and France. They have many cultural activities such as exhibitions, library, media, cinema and music. In 2000s they added new services through needs of users for their library: document management system, redefined spaces for users, diversification of the documentary resources. They became more open to public by making their collections more visible and their cataloging systems. They also give importance to the digital library, the heritage collections and multimedia.

The section continued with Basma Chebani's presentation. She informed us on Linked data. Libraries in Beirut shifted from AACR2 to RDA in 2013 and opted for Romanization (transliteration for Arabic records), adding English equivalent subjects in line with Arabic subjects for Arabic titles and adding role of the author in subfield 4 form RDA registry. They also wanted to subscribe to the Zeiphera services, an application on the top of Sierra Library System that transforms MARC records to Bibframe for more visibility on the Web 1.0 and for adding a persistent link or AAP next to each name authority in bibliographic records. They also wanted the global addition of of AAP to more than 100.000 in bibliographic records and expected the initiation of its application in 2019.

The section ended with Munner AbuBaker's presentation. He mentioned the challenges of using new fields in Arabic manuscript in MARC-based records. RDA cataloging uses both Marc and ISBD in cataloging. However there are some challenges for RDA. There is no standard Arabic translation available for RDA guidelines yet. 260 is replaced by 264 and provides a separate statement for importation about publications, distribution, manufacture and copyright. In the physical description terms such as pages, volumes, portraits, illustrations



and color illustrations are now spelled out. GMD is replaced by content type, media type and carrier type. Name access points are followed by terms describing the role of the person or organization and lastly RDA has more complexities to catalogers. He also says that RDA is based mainly on the conceptual models for bibliographic and authority data. RDA is also expensive to be implemented and require a very detailed and extensive training process.

### **14:30-15:00**

The last presentation was by Nabila Shehabeddin's presentation on the copyright issues in Lebanon. She mentioned that "related and neighboring rights are secondary rights" and they cannot exist their own, independent on copyright. Which means the right given to persons or legal entities who contributed making the copyrighted work available to public. Lebanese copyright law defines collective management in Lebanon. They have a balance between rights of authors/creators and rights of members of society to have fair access to these works (only for certain period of time, not forever). She says that copyright's moral rights has no limited duration. Economic rights are of limited duration and differs from country to county. In Arab countries copyright works are protected from the moment the work is created for the entire lifetime of the author plus 25, 50, 70 years after his or her death depending on country. She also talked about public domain which consists of work with expired copyright, works not covered by copyright law, copyrighted works deliberately dedicated by author to the public domain using the creative common license. For limitations and exceptions for libraries, IFLA has produced a treaty proposal on copyright informal chart. Lastly she recommended the improvement and modernization of laws for intellectual properties, the introduction of legal practices and increasing of public awareness.

## **General Remarks**

MELCom 2018 was an amazing conference in its entirety: its program, organization and Budapest. It was a big chance for me to observe different libraries, collections, librarians and different countries' traditions. As an international conference MELCom must continue this tradition and should add new geographies and continents to its program.

Manuscript collections across the Islamic World in different libraries, cataloguing intricacies, and digital collection and renovation projects were the main themes of MELCom 2018. Presentations on manuscript collections of libraries also served as introduction of libraries and their collections to other institutions. One of the most interesting things to me was Heather Hughes' presentation because she is focusing on music and UC Santa Barbara Library shows that we cannot only collect manuscripts, rare books in libraries but also music records are part of cultural heritage and they can be collected in libraries. In MELCom website some of the manuscript collections are linked but also all these collections can be unified under one website and link. In this websites researchers can find the manuscripts on their subjects, location and date quickly. MELCom International can be a pioneer with this type of projects after all.

Presentations on cataloging issues are not so interesting and they were not instructive. Presenters mostly focused on "issues" but did not directly present "solutions" for cataloging books in different languages. The offered solutions cannot be successful and they did not show the innovations and new trends in cataloging process in their libraries.

Digital projects are useful for people who are interested in open access issues and making visible books and manuscripts collections for everyone around the world. On the other hand, these projects cannot placed in

context. Especially the project of Sara Fani and Anne Regourd is not like a digitalizing project but it is a project mostly working on protection, a preservation project in the horn of the Africa. Menadoc project could be a good example for open access projects and this type of projects must be extended to other countries also.

Presentation on renovation projects are not so interesting and does not show the new trends, developments, changes in library world. Each library must follow new trends in library services, digital equipment and sources. Because needs of users in the libraries are changing through the time and with new technologies and libraries cannot stand outdated for their users.

Presentation on copyright and intellectual property was so interesting, which showed other libraries' experiences in Arabic world. In Turkey this issue still creates a problem for photocopy and scanning activities which are so popular in libraries in Turkey. By connecting with discussions on open access issues, presentations on copyright and fair use must be discussed in the next MELcom International conferences. Because participants of MELcom, who are coming from many different countries, can share their experience on copyright issues, attendances can find general and useful solution for fair use issues. The other issue is for French speakers, as there should be detailed abstract translation of English abstracts in French and the same one can be done for English speaking people so we can grasp each detail during the presentations.

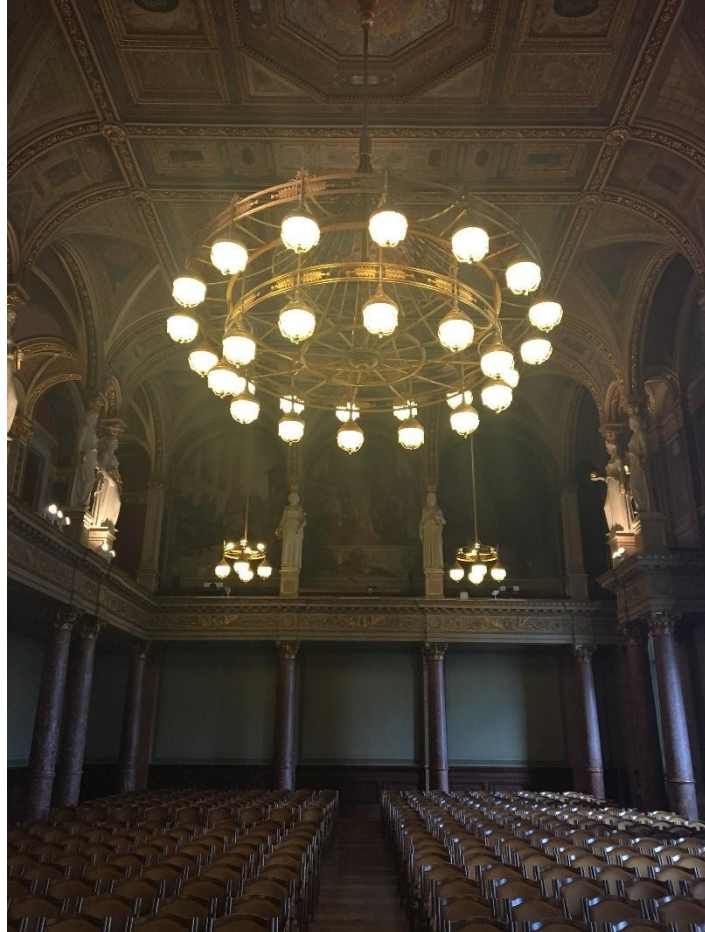




The program also included a rich program of cultural and library visits, gala dinner:

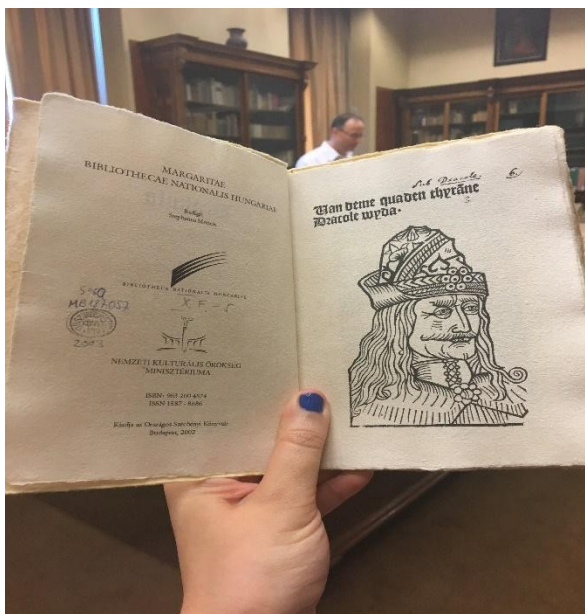
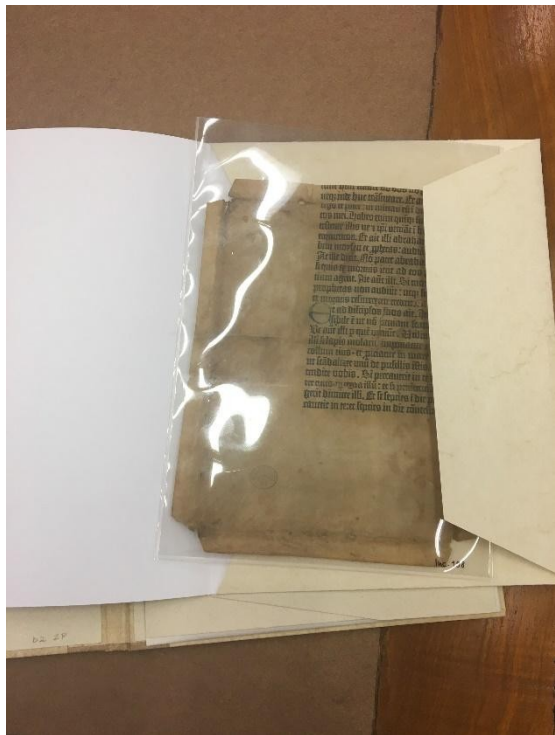
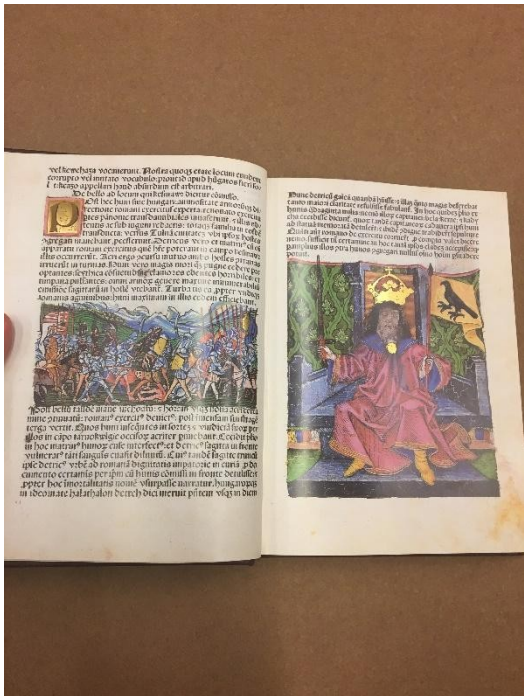
**19.06.2018 Visit of the Oriental collection of the Library and Information Centre, Hungarian Academy of Sciences or Visit of the Hungarian Academy of Science:**

I visited Hungarian Academy of Sciences at Széchenyi Square, end of the Chain Bridge. The Library of MTA was founded in 1826 by István Széchenyi. It is one of the largest scientific libraries of the country and the academy connected to the center of Hungarian scientific life in some way. The collection of modern books and periodicals with special collection – Manuscript Collection and Rare Books Collection – adds up to more than 2 million library units in the library. It has beautiful decorated rooms which were used for academic meetings.



**20.06.2018 Visit of the National Szechenyi Library:**

National Szechenyi Library is an institution which stores and makes publicly available paper-based and electronic library documents of the Hungarian cultural heritage. It was founded in 1802 by Count Ferenc Széchenyi, father of the heroic István, who donated it with 15,000 books and 2000 manuscripts, mostly focused on Hungarian language and Hungarian culture and history. The building was totally different from the MTA by being decorated with marble floor and large corridors seems typical of Soviet architecture. We visited Manuscript, Antiquarian, Rare Books and Maps departments in this library and it was so excited for me to see one of the book on dedicated to Dracula, Vlad Tepeş and a piece from Guttenberg.





**20.06.2018 Traditional MI dinner at Akademia Club**

After the excursion all attendances met at the Academy ground floor at 19:00. Many of the participants joined this well prepared dinner with delicious Hungarian cuisine and made a toast for next MI conferences.





## BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES



The business meeting started with Sara Yontan's talk. She warmly thanked Kinga Devenyi and people who helped her to organize this conference for hosting MI conference in the lovely city and providing fantastic catering. She also extended her thanks to the Dominique Akhoun-Schwarb, Secretary MariaLuisa Langella who did not attend the conference because of her newborn and Treasurer Andreas Drechsler. Lastly she thanked speakers for their efforts to make their presentations attractive and their fruitful discussion. The discussions were both professional and attractive but also warm.

After her talk, attendees were informed about publication of papers, PowerPoints, pictures of conference, discussion list which they subscribe in order to be informed of the annual conferences. The all-conference was followed by attendees from Twitter. Also Dominique Akhoun-Schwarb tweeted each presentation and took a photo. For this report I used photos which were send to me by Sara Yontan and Kinga Devenyi.

The business meeting continued with information given by Dominique Akhoun-Schwarb and Andreas Drechsler who gave information on the budget of MI 40th conference(2018).

**Forthcoming conferences were also discussed in MI 40th conference (2018).**

**2019: L'Università degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale**





Dr Antonella Muratgia presented their institution, the L'Università degli Studi di Napoli L'Orientale in Naples to MELcom International. The 41<sup>st</sup> conference in June 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> will be in Naples. She gave information on their institution, their rare book collection and facilities for attendees.

### 2020: The Philipps University of Marburg



Susanne Saker invited the MELcom International to their institution, The Philipps University of Marburg in Marburg for its 42th conference in Summer 2020. She presented their institution and their collections and won approval of the MI members who accepted their invitation. This invitation was gladly accepted by the Board and present members. Dates will be confirmed later.

### 2021: The Koç University Suna & İnan Kıraç Research Centre for Mediterranean Civilizations (AKMED)



Naz Özkan invited the MELCOM International to their institution, The Koç University Suna & İnan Kırac Research Centre for Mediterranean Civilizations (AKMED) in Antalya for 43<sup>rd</sup> conference in Summer 2021. She presented their institution with an advertisement movie and informed attendances about Antalya and AKMED. The invitation was accepted by MI members.

Sara Yontan thanked this institution and their representative for the invitation. She reminded of the future hosts that official letters of intention are to be addressed from institution officials to the MI presidency, confirming these invitations.

The business meeting continued with professional announcements by Farzaneh Zareie and Annie Regourd. Yasmin Faghihi from Oxford University suggested that attendees can prepare posters and conference can have a poster section for next years.

The Business meeting was concluded with thanks from the board of the MI to all attendees for their participation in this 40<sup>th</sup> conference and their expressed wishes to see them all again in Naples next summer.

Naz Özkan  
Koç University ANAMED Branch Librarian