



1. Call for Panels 24th ECSAS Warsaw, Poland, 27-30 July 2016

The preparations for the 24th European Conference on South Asian Studies in Warsaw, Poland, to be held 27-30 July 2016 have started and [the call for panels is now open and will close on 15 May 2015](#). If you would like to convene a panel at this conference, please submit your proposal via the online form.

How to proceed?

All participants (panel conveners, paper presenters, discussants/audience) of the 24th ECSAS have to be members of EASAS through 2015 & 2016 or 2016 & 2017. **If you intend to convene a panel and are not yet a member, please become a member before submitting your proposal! Please regard that all panel conveners should be EASAS members at the time of submission. Paper presenters who are not yet members may also join EASAS after the panel proposals have been selected.** It is easy to join EASAS through the following link: <http://www.easas.eu/Becomeamember>

Proposals should consist of

1. panel title
2. name of panel convenor or convenors
3. short panel abstract of fewer than 300 characters
4. long panel abstract of fewer than 250 words, preferably including names of tentative panellists.

EASAS appreciates a well-balanced composition of convenors and panellists within a panel (by gender, with an international mix of participants, and senior and junior scholars) but the main criterion will be the high academic quality of your panel. One convenor per panel must be based in a European institution. The conference organizers will also seek to ensure that the wide range of disciplines usually represented at the conference finds adequate coverage, both separately and in interdisciplinary panels.

ECSAS requires all accepted panels to be open to paper proposals through the website: proposed panels should not be 'closed' to further papers *ab initio*. We encourage young researchers to contact panel convenors to be considered for inclusion in their panel; young researchers are also encouraged to propose panels themselves. No panel may run for more than 4 sessions of 90 minutes.

Participants cannot submit more than one presentation during the 24th ECSAS. Beyond that, each participant may chair one panel; or be discussant in one panel.

We look forward to seeing you in Warsaw in 2016!

If you have any queries, please contact ecsas2016@nomadit.co.uk

[Please note that the conference website and panel proposal form will be ready by the end of March.](#)

2. 9th European PhD Workshop at Lund University, Sweden, 18-19 May 2015

On 18-19 May 2015 the 9th European PhD Workshop in South Asia Studies will be held at Lund University, Sweden. The Swedish South Asian Studies Network (SASNET) will host this two-day annual workshop. A maximum of 20 PhD candidates and six faculty members from European universities will join with an aim to give PhD students an opportunity to receive feedback on their theses from senior scholars and fellow PhD candidates who are also working on South Asian topics. Lund University will provide board and lodging for students and guest faculty members.

Participants are PhD candidates in their second or later year at an European university, working on topics that have a strong relevant to South Asia. PhD Workshops belong to the annual program of EASAS and will be continued in 2016.

3. EASAS Academic Workshop 2015

The call for Academic Workshop proposals for 2015 is now closed and the Council is considering the proposals. A decision is expected till the end of March.

At the EASAS Council meeting in November, it was decided that EASAS will fund one academic workshop a year, with a maximum contribution of € 2,500 each (€ 5,000 over two years). The Council emphasizes again that the workshop conveners have to be EASAS members. The EASAS Academic Workshop must involve more than two EU countries and preferably invite some scholars and post-docs based in South Asia. The workshop can be organized either as the basis for the preparation of papers for publication, or as an event to map out and develop new research projects. Transdisciplinarity is encouraged. The Academic Workshop may also include comparative discussion of other parts of the world, as long as there is a strong focus on South Asia.

4. Results Council Meeting, 3 November 2014

On 3 November 2014 the Council met at the Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies at the University of Vienna, Austria. Topics of the meeting were the preparation for the 24th European Conference on South Asian Studies in Warsaw 2016, the cooperation with SAMAJ, of which already two special issues have resulted since 2010, as well as EASAS membership and payment modalities.

As we informed you already, it has been decided to change the modality of membership payment from one-year to two year payment periods in order to strengthen the continuity of EASAS as a professional organisation. New members will be asked to pay for the first year of membership plus the following year.

5. Public statement of the Council on the occasion of the "Jubiliäumsfeier 100 Jahre Hamburger Indologie und 12. Südasiatag, 15.11.2014", Germany

"EASAS expresses its deep regret at the decision by Universität Hamburg to discontinue the professorship and study focus in Modern South Asian Studies at the Department of Indian and Tibetan Studies. It is deplorable to be faced with this decision, in particular on the the auspicious occasion of celebrating the 100 year anniversary of the founding of the internationally highly renowned institution of Indology at the University.

Modern South Asian Studies, a relatively young branch within the field of Indian Studies, has been growing and developing considerably in the recent decades. Today, at a time when the South Asian subcontinent has become a major world region, with almost one quarter of the world's population, a proper understanding of its culture, history and languages is more important than ever before. Modern South Asian Studies as an academic subject and the EASAS itself are a reflection of this situation, the result of a diversifying academic field, which deals with both the contemporary modern situation as well as its historical roots. We strongly appeal to the authorities of the Universität Hamburg to reconsider their decision, so that the excellent scholarly tradition of South Asian Studies in Hamburg may continue and develop in an adequate up-to-date manner."

6. Conference Review 23th ECSAS Zurich, Switzerland, 23-26 July 2014

The 23. European Conference on South Asian Studies took place at Irchel Campus of the University of Zurich, 26-30 July 2014. 460 delegates from 35 countries and five continents participated as conveners, panellists, discussants or audience in the conference and around 370 papers were presented. The main criterion for the selection of panels was the high academic quality. Further criteria were a well-balanced composition of conveners and panellists within a panel by gender, with an international mix of participants, senior and junior scholars, and that the wide range of disciplines finds adequate coverage at the conference.

The 51 panels focused on diverse and innovative topics and related to different scientific realms and disciplines: history, religion, arts & literature & cinema, health & body, political economy, macro economy, society-state relations, social groups & movements, migration, urban governance. Regionally, they covered one specific South-Asian country or paved the way for cross-country comparison.

It was for the first time that the ECSAS took place in Switzerland and afforded the opportunity to learn about the vivid community of scholars dealing with South Asia in South-Asia and Europe. In addition, scholars from US, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa attended the conference. At the same time the conference fostered the academic networking across the different regions and universities of Switzerland with the University of Zurich with its long-standing commitment to research on Asia as one centre.

The ECSAS has met regularly since 1968 and has provided an important opportunity to discuss current research and scholarship on topics relating to South Asia within humanities and social studies.