

CALL FOR PAPERS

MOSTER, 2024: CROSSROADS OF RELIGION AND LAW IN THE CONVERSION OF NORWAY

We are happy to announce the conference *Moster, 1024: Crossroads of religion and law in the conversion of Norway*, which will take place in the University Aula in Bergen, 17th-18th of April 2024, followed by an excursion to Moster on the 19th of April. The conference will celebrate the 1000-year-jubilee of the first Christian Law of Norway and aims to present new trends in research relevant to conversion and Christian legislation in Norway and elsewhere.

The conference has an interdisciplinary approach and it aims to attract scholars from various disciplines relevant to the theme, such as archaeology, legal history (indigenous law as well as Canon law), history, history of ideas, manuscript studies, philology, and theology. Although the focus of the conference is on Norway and Norwegian law, presentations with a comparative perspective drawing on areas outside Norway are also highly welcome. The chronological focus of the conference is on c. 900 – c. 1200.

We are pleased to announce the following plenary speakers for the Congress:

- Professor emerita Lesley Abrams (Oxford University, UK)
- Associate Professor Torgeir Landro (NLA University College, Norway)

The Committee welcomes proposals on any topic touching the following themes:

1. Strategies of conversion

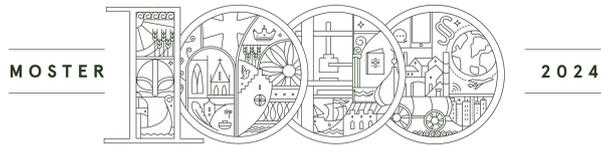
Papers on this theme may touch upon theological and church-organizational strategies and political perspectives, such as the emergence of the Norwegian kingdom.

2. Status 1024

Papers on this theme may include various aspects of societal changes, how a shift from a Norse to a Christian religion influenced family structures and issues related to gender, and how changes in Canon law influenced various aspects of the Indigenous Christian law.

3. Conversion from above and below

Papers related to this theme may focus on how the ordinary people implemented the conversion, how the conversion influenced the lives of women and men, and what can change in burial customs and other material remains indicating change.



4. *Why Moster?*

Papers on this theme will focus on the location of Moster or have comparative approach with other similar sites. For example, the papers may explore wooden and earliest stone churches. Why were they built at specific places and what role did they play in the early phase of the church organization?

5. *Oral and written law*

Papers on this theme may explore the gradual transition from a predominantly oral legal culture towards a culture where laws were written on parchment, what was written down and why, when did this happen, how can 'early' and 'new' legal rules be distinguished in one and the same manuscript, and how and why did the Christian laws change over time?

6. *Creating law from Moster towards the 13th century*

Papers related to this theme may explore the role of assemblies and individuals in the creation of laws, to what extent did practice create law, and how did law and the process of codifying new laws change over time from Moster 1024 towards the Norwegian National Law of 1274.

The committee invites proposals for individual 20-minute papers on the above themes to be delivered in English. The participants will be asked to rewrite their papers for publication after the conference.

All proposals must include the following information: name (with title), position and institutional affiliation, email address, postal address, working title of paper, and a 300–350-word abstract.

Proposals for papers should be submitted to opptak@moster2024.no by 31st of March 2023.

As far as possible, we will cover accommodation and travel costs for all selected speakers; in the reimbursements, younger scholars without tenured positions have priority.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about this process.

- For academic questions: anders.winroth@iakh.uio.no

- For general questions: vilde@moster2024.no

The conference committee

Alf Tore Hommedal, Oddvar Johan Jensen, Torstein Jørgensen, Øystein Morten, Torgeir Landro, Anne Irene Risøy, Kirsi Salonen, Anna Elisa Tryti and Anders Winroth.



MIDDELALDERKLYNGEN



Bømlo
kommune