

COST Action Final Achievement Report

IS1301: New Communities of Interpretation: Contexts, Strategies and Processes of Religious Transformation in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe (27/09/2013 to 26/09/2017)

The Action was approved by the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) on 16-5-2013 and has the MoU reference COST 025/13.

This report was submitted on 09-11-2017 by the Action Chair on behalf of the Management Committee in fulfilment of the requirements of the rules for COST Action Management, Monitoring and Final Assessment.

Action leadership and participants

Leadership Positions

| Position | Name | Contact details | Country of work affiliation |
|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chair | Prof Sabrina Corbellini | s.corbellini@rug.nl +31505635966 | NL |

| Position | Name | Contact details | Country of Nomination |
|------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Vice Chair | Prof John Thompson | J.Thompson@qub.ac.uk +442890973781 | UK |

Working Groups

| # | WG Title | # of participants | WG Leader | Country of nomination |
|---|--|-------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 1 | Theoretical Approaches | 27 | Dr Pavlina Rychterova pavlina.rychterova@univie.ac.at | AT |
| 2 | Strategies of Transformation: Translating, Writing, Reading, Collecting and Performing | 65 | Dr Ian Johnson irj@st-andrews.ac.uk | UK |
| 3 | European Networks of Knowledge Exchange | 35 | Prof Pawel Kras palks@kul.lublin.pl | PL |

Participants

COST Member Countries and Cooperating State having accepted the MoU

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|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| AT | 24/06/2013 | BE | 24/07/2013 | HR | 17/01/2014 | CZ | 13/09/2013 | DK | 03/06/2013 |
| FI | 18/11/2013 | FR | 20/06/2013 | DE | 24/06/2013 | EL | 11/10/2013 | HU | 24/06/2013 |
| IE | 27/09/2013 | IL | 18/08/2013 | IT | 11/07/2013 | LT | 10/12/2014 | NL | 10/06/2013 |
| NO | 04/05/2016 | PL | 12/06/2013 | PT | 11/09/2013 | RO | 01/04/2015 | RS | 06/09/2013 |
| SK | 15/03/2014 | ES | 31/05/2013 | CH | 03/07/2013 | UK | 10/06/2013 | | |

Other Participants

| Institution Name | Country |
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Summary

Main aim/ objective

The main objective of the Action is to develop and communicate a better calibrated and nuanced understanding of religious and cultural change in the "long fifteenth century" (1350-1570), as well as to stimulate new interdisciplinary and multilingual approaches to late medieval and early modern society and culture.

The Action addressed this as described below.

Cost Action IS1301 "New Communities of Interpretation" has taken the challenge to develop and communicate a better calibrated and nuanced understanding of religious and cultural change in the "long fifteenth century" and all activities have been focused on meeting this goal. WG- and plenary meetings, as well as Training Schools, Dissemination activities and STSMs, have been organised around the central theme of the Action, leading to an impressive amount of (prospective) publications and of submitted research proposals. The high success rate of the submitted (collaborative) research projects, both at national and European level, clearly demonstrates to what extent the activities of the Action have led to the creation of innovative and sustainable theoretical and methodological approaches that will significantly impact the research field of late medieval and early modern religious history. Particularly significant to this regard is the fact that the COST Action impetus has involved researchers from all COST countries and has brought to the submission of joint research proposals with a pan-European scope, challenging the traditional "individual" approach of Humanities research.

The Action has stimulated new interdisciplinary and multilingual approaches and has risen awareness for the strong dominance of national and linguistic narratives in the field of late medieval and early modern religious transformations, which has severely fragmented and weakened the research field. Identifying and challenging traditional, national (and at times nationalistic) research paradigms has been at the very core of the COST Action and the collective effort to "rethink national religious histories" will have an enduring influence on the research community at large. It has in particular stimulated a "longue durée" approach encompassing both fifteenth and sixteenth century, real or perceived watersheds in European history, and has led to a re-evaluation of backgrounds and influence of reform movements, moving away from a traditional interpretation as "freedom movements" leading tout court to democracy, literacy and enhanced participation in religious, social and cultural life.

Action activities have involved more than 300 researchers from 24 countries (and many more at a local level), with a strong presence of ECIs who have been stimulated to present their research during WG and plenary meetings and to broaden their research scope through STSMs, leading in many cases to longstanding collaborations, publications and scholarships. Training Schools have brought about a collaboration with non-academic stakeholders, in particular libraries, archives and heritage institutions and have introduced ECIs to historical book collections and to innovative approaches to the history of the book and the history of reading. Collaboration with non-academic stakeholders will open up new career opportunities for a new generation of young European researchers and stimulate them to share their research results within a large and varied academic and non-academic community.

Along these lines, the Action has also stimulated a reflection on the role of the humanities and of historical research in addressing societal, cultural and religious challenges in past and modern societies and the seminal relevance of promoting awareness of the value and the challenges of supranational, European, global connected and entangled histories.

Action website

<http://www.rug.nl/let/costaction-is1301>

Achievement of MoU objectives, deliverables and additional outputs/ achievements

MoU objectives

The Action had the following specific objectives.

| MoU objective | Level of achievement | Further information (hyperlink or other) |
|---|----------------------|--|
| develop and communicate a better calibrated, nuanced and broader understanding of one of the most fundamental moments and complex turning points in European religious and social history as well as to stimulate new interdisciplinary and multilingual approaches to late medieval and early modern culture | 76 - 100% | <p>The Action activities has significantly contributed to the achievement of this MoU objective. As it will become evident from the following list of deliverables, publications and activities, the Action has indeed focused on the development and communication of a better calibrated, nuanced and broader understanding of the "long fifteenth century", one of the most fundamental moments in the history of Europe. It has moreover contributed to a significant change in the research field, promoting a broader, pan-European and multilingual approach to late medieval and early modern religiosity. It has moreover promoted a <i>longue durée</i> approach that crosses the traditional boundaries between Middle Ages and Early Modern period and between "traditional" religion and "reform", one of the most longstanding paradigms in European history.</p> <p>Besides the activities and the outputs within the time frame of the Action, the lasting impact of this new approach to late medieval and early modern religiosity can be attested by the organisation of meetings and research activities for the second half of 2017 and 2018, in order to further communicate these new approaches to premodern religious life.</p> <p>Two scientific activities will further illustrate this point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The congress <i>Choosing my religion. Religious choices and alternatives in late medieval and early modern Christianity</i>, organised by COST member Sita Steckel and with participation of several other COST members, further developing specific COST research lines <p>http://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-35054?language=en and https://www.uni-muenster.de/SFB1150/en/aktuelles/veranstaltungen/2017_06_13_ueber_religion_entscheiden.html (19-21 October 2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project EUDIREM. ESPACES URBAINS, DYNAMIQUES ET IDENTITÉS RELIGIEUSES DANS L'EUROPE MODERNE <p>The project will focus on the interaction between religious practices and urban spaces in Early Modern Europe (XIV-XVIII century). The period was characterized by strong socio-economic, political and cultural changes and the growing</p> |

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| | | <p>secularization of devotion and spirituality which deeply transformed religious practices. As a consequence, the notion of sacredness ceased to be connected with ecclesiastical spaces only, while new forms of profane and civic sacredness emerged. Such changes implied the coexistence of civic and religious identities in urban spaces, which the project aims to assess (2016-2020). See the project website for a complete project description and a list of activities, in which several COST members have been involved, https://eudirem.hypotheses.org</p> |
| <p>investigate and reconstruct religious, cultural and social transformations in the "long fifteenth century" in terms of activity, transfer, acculturation, appropriation, interpretation and negotiation of meaning and values, instead of merely concentrating on a binary system based on some kind of restrictive national or linguistic model</p> | <p>76 - 100%</p> | <p>The COST Action has promoted innovative approaches to late medieval and early modern religiosity and has significantly stimulated fresh approaches to the transmission of (religious) knowledge in terms of transfer and exchange. This approach will become evident in the overview of publications and the creation of the book series "New Communities of Interpretation". The "dynamic approach" to late medieval and early modern religiosity has been one of the core activities within the Action and methodological discussions around these themes have functioned as connecting threads through all the activities (WG-meetings, plenary meetings, Training Schools, and dissemination meetings). The achievement of this objective becomes evident in the central themes discussed during the WG and MC meetings, such as "The Same and the Different: Strategies of Retelling the Bible within New Communities of Interpretations"; "Social Networks in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe"; "Centers of Learning and Knowledge Exchange in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe"</p> <p>The proposed research lines have been developed within a series of research projects, initiated by COST members in which the approaches promoted by the COST Action have been applied and further developed (http://costaction-is1301.webhosting.rug.nl/project/related-research-projects-new).</p> <p>One of the many proofs of impact of the COST Action and of the achievement of this MoU objective, even in one the most traditional fields of late medieval and early modern research, i.e. the history of preaching, is the prospective organisation of the meeting <i>The Mission of John Capistran in Central and Eastern Europe (1451-1456). The Transfer of Ideas and the Strategy of Communication in the Late Middle Ages</i> with participation of several COST members from Western, Central and Eastern Europe (https://ihpan.edu.pl/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/kapistran_plakat.pdf) and planned for 16-17 November 2017. The conference is an important part of the research project aimed at a critical edition of the entire epistolary of John Capistran from the years 1451-1456. In May 1451 John Capistran (1386-1456) crossed the Alps and arrived to</p> |

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| | | <p>Austria, starting his six year mission that took him to the territories of the Holy Roman Empire, Bohemia, Poland and Hungary. His main purpose was to confront Bohemian Hussites and to promote Observant reform within the Franciscan Order. In his activities Capistran faced various religious and political problems of the countries he visited. Capistran was a charismatic preacher whose sermons attracted crowds of people; dozens of towns endeavored to invite him, and numerous individuals, both ecclesiastical and lay, attempted to get in touch with him. The literary output of Capistran's mission is well-reflected by hundreds of letters sent to him in 1451-1456; some of them are still preserved in original in Capestrano. A few years ago an international team of historians and philologists from Italy, Germany, the Czech Republic, Hungary, France and Poland (all Action countries) headed by Professor Letizia Pellegrini started cooperation that should allow a publication of the entire epistolary of John Capistran from 1451-1456. The Polish section of this project is carried out at the Institute of History, Polish Academy of Sciences, by a group of scholars headed by Professor Pawel Kras (Cost member and coordinator of WG3).</p> |
| <p>improve and propose new approaches in cultural history, challenging the traditional divides of Middle Ages/Renaissance, Catholic/Protestant, lay/religious, manuscript/print, Northern/Southern/Central Europe</p> | <p>76 - 100%</p> | <p>A third objective achieved thanks to the COST Action has been the proposal and the application of new approaches to cultural history challenging the traditional research approaches in late medieval and early modern religiosity, i.e. the traditional divide between Middle Ages and Renaissance, Catholic and Protestant, lay and religious, manuscript and print, Northern, Southern and Central Europe. This has been possible by the specific background of participants in the COST activities, from 24 European countries with a particularly good geographical spread (from Finland to Greece) and with a background in medieval and early modern studies and expert in both Catholic and Protestant textual and book history, combined with a sensibility for multimediality (including manuscript and print, but also visual and material culture and performing arts).</p> <p>For the achievement of this MoU, see for example, the two volumes on this theme: <i>Discovering the Riches of the Word: Religious Reading in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe</i>, eds. Sabrina Corbellini, Margriet Hoogvliet and Bart Ramakers, <i>Intersections: Interdisciplinary Studies in Early Modern Culture</i> 38, Leiden: Brill, 2015; and <i>Lay Readings of the Bible in Early Modern Europe. Proceedings of the Conference</i>, Tours 24-26 November 2015, eds. Erminia Ardissino and Elise Boillet, <i>Intersections: Interdisciplinary Studies in Early Modern Culture</i>, Leiden: Brill, planned for publication in 2018.</p> <p>Further evidence is the impressive list of proposals and projects that have been submitted and granted, for example the research projects "Cities of Readers. Religious Literacies in the</p> |

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| | | <p>Long Fifteenth Century" (2015-2019, http://www.ru.nl/research/icog/research/researchgroups/cities-of-readers/, see website for a description of the project) and "In Readers'Hands. Early Modern Bibles from a Users' Perspective" , submitted and carried out by COST members and further developing research lines that have been discussed in the framework of the COST Action.</p> |
| <p>contribute to a re-evaluation of traditional approaches to late medieval and early modern European cultural history and to a more concretely informed and considered understanding of how cultural and religious networks can (and did) work</p> | <p>76 - 100%</p> | <p>The idea of the reconstruction of networks as an instrument of research for late medieval and early modern religiosity has been put central in the activities of the Action, and in particular of WG 3.</p> <p>During the past four years, two main thematic lines have come out of the papers presented by WG3's members and of the discussions during the meetings. These two themes will also be the main subject of the two collective volumes that are currently in preparation for the Brepols series "New Communities of Interpretation":</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. European networks of religious knowledge exchange 2. Transfer of knowledge between religious institutions/centres of learning and the laity, and collaboration between members of both groups. <p>Meetings of WG3:</p> <p>First plenary meeting Rome (13-15 February 2014)</p> <p>The theme of the first WG3 meeting in Rome was "Socio-religious transformations of late medieval and early modern Europe". Two researchers from each country represented in WG3 were invited to participate in this first meeting for discussions of the scientific and strategic agenda. After presentations of current research and projects, the members discussed the future possibilities of exploring the following three themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spirituality and religious practice: continuity and change; - Moving people and the circulation of religious texts; - Intellectual and popular culture. <p>"Centres of Learning and Knowledge Exchange in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe" (Cracow, 25-26 September 2014)</p> <p>"Social Networks and Transfers of Religious Knowledge Across Borders" (Budapest, 8-10 June 2015).</p> <p>"Religious Transformation in late Medieval and Early Modern Europe. Bridging the Chronological, Confessional and Cultural Divides" (Plenary meeting Tours, 15-17 October 2015).</p> <p>"Networking Europe: Connecting Ideas, Exchanging Goods, Transfer of Religious Knowledge During the Long Fifteenth Century" (Seville, 4-5 April 2016).</p> <p>"Going Transnational: Religion, Communities, Communication and lieux de savoir" (Plenary</p> |

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| | | <p>meeting Groningen, 3-5 November 2016).</p> <p>“Concordia discors: “Unity”, “variety”, and the search for middle ground in intellectual and lay cultures of the late Middle Ages and the Early Modern Era” (Leuven, 6-8 April 2017).</p> <p>As stated above, two main thematic lines came out of the papers and discussions of WG3’s meetings. The two books in preparation by WG3 (to be published in the COST series) will address each of them:</p> <p>Volume I: Networking Europe: Connecting Ideas, Exchanging Goods, Transfer of Religious Knowledge During the Long Fifteenth Century Edited by: Manuel Fernández Chavez, Margriet Hoogvliet, Pawel Kras, Chiara Lastraioli, and Rafael Perez.</p> <p>This book will contain fifteen chapters, based on papers presented during the meetings of WG3 and on the following discussions and it will cover processes of dissemination of religious texts and ideas from Poland to Portugal, and from the British Isles to the Balkan. The editors are now working on the editorial process. It is to be expected that the volume will be ready for print early 2018.</p> <p>Volume II. Transfer of knowledge between religious institutions and the laity, and collaboration between members of both groups. This volume will be edited by: Pawel Kras, Chiara Lastraioli and Margriet Hoogvliet.</p> <p>A selection of participants (in order to assure thematic unity) will be invited to rework their papers into chapters for this book in November-December 2017.</p> |
| <p>deepen theoretical and methodological reflection on the study of religious and social transformations in late medieval and early modern Europe</p> | <p>76 - 100%</p> | <p>This specific MoU objectives has been approached by WG1 and further developed and communicated to all members of the Action during plenary meetings.</p> <p>The WG has organised meetings on various aspects of the theoretical and methodological aspects of the Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communities and Interpretations (Vienna, 20-11-2014 to 22-11-2014) - Defining Communities (Hull, 20-05-2015 to 22-05-2015) - Transformation of the Religious Field. Framing processes of religious change in late medieval and early Modern Europe (Münster, 26-05-2016 tot 28-05-2016) <p>The discussed approaches have been moreover presented the results in the framework of the conference "The Medieval Translator" (15-03-2017 to 18-03-2017) ensuring an additional dissemination to the methodological lines developed in the framework of the Action. In order</p> |

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| | | <p>to further disseminate the theoretical and methodological reflections, the WG has discussed three publications</p> <p>The first, based on the presentation during the Hull meeting, have demonstrated to have the potential to create a special issue of a journal (now contracted to the journal <i>English</i> published by OUP).</p> <p>The thematic issue will contain the following contributions:</p> <p>Introduction: 'Dialogic: talking about theories and methods- the past, the present (and the future)', McKeon and Salter</p> <p>Dr Ian Johnson (St Andrew's, UK), 'Theoretical and Pragmatic Dialogics in and through Nicholas Love's Mirror of the Blessed Life of Jesus Christ'</p> <p>Prof. Farkas Kiss, (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary) 'Conversing with early prints in late fifteenth century Hungary'</p> <p>Dr Rob Lutton, (Nottingham, UK), 'Dialogic adaptations of Holy Name texts in late medieval England'</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Gabrielle Muller-Oberhauser (Cluster of Excellence, Religion and Politics, Munster, Germany) 'Dialogic in religious controversies in late medieval and reformation England'</p> <p>Dr Paula McQuade (DePaul University, Chicago, USA) 'Catechisms, dialogic adaptation, and domestic reading practices in Seventeenth Century England'</p> <p>Prof Elisabeth Salter (Hull, UK) and Prof Tomasz Wislicz (Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland), 'Oral/literate cultures and the formation of communities of interpretation: a dialogic experiment'</p> <p>The WG is also planning a volume on the history of national philologies and theoretical as well as methodological frameworks these philologies generated in past decades; and thirdly, a position statement thematic issue that seeks to address the idea of the long fifteenth century as a special turning point in terms of trans-European approaches to lay religion, that will be submitted in spring 2018 to the journal <i>Church History and Religious Culture</i> (Brill).</p> |
| <p>develop new methodological approaches in order to reconstruct processes of religious change and transformations in the period</p> | <p>76 - 100%</p> | <p>As described in objective 5, the development of new methodological approaches has been the primary responsibility of WG 1 and have further disseminated and refined during plenary meetings. The methodological issues discussed in the framework of the COST Action have already been applied in publications and project</p> |

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| | | <p>proposals. A good example of the success of the application of the developed methodologies is the research project "In Readers' Hands. Early Dutch Bibles from a Users' Perspective". The project funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) and the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO) is the result of the collaboration of two COST members from the Netherlands and Belgium.</p> <p>The research team will consist of two project leaders (Prof. Sabrina Corbellini and Prof. Wim François) and two PhD candidates (one at the University of Groningen and one at the University of Leuven). This research project offers a fresh approach to the production, dissemination and actual use of sixteenth-century Bible translations – key texts in the religious, cultural, social, and political transformations of the sixteenth-century Low Countries. By studying the surviving copies of vernacular Bibles printed by Willem Vorsterman, Jacob van Liesvelt, and Henrick Peetersen van Middelburch (372 from a preliminary overview), the project will provide a unique insight into the interaction between the biblical text and its readers, while also revealing the influence of current devotional practices, pastoral concerns, and theological beliefs in the often centuries-long periods that they were in use. In order to gain an understanding of the 'Wirkungsgeschichte' of these texts, the proposed research will analyze the traces of use, ownership marks, content-related annotations, and even the censorship interventions found in the copies under scrutiny. The research will give a fresh look at the cultural dynamics of a key period in the history of the Low Countries. The approach also testifies to a significant 'turn' in the attitude to vernacular Bible translations, characterized by a more nuanced view of the reaction of the (Catholic) Church and intellectuals to the issues of Bible translation and dissemination, as well as by a stronger focus on the 'human factor' and the agents involved in this process (translators, printers, users, readers, commentators, and in some cases, censors). The Groningen PhD candidate will study the extant copies of Bibles printed by Jacob van Liesvelt (107) as well as the copies of Peetersen van Middelburch's editions (54). It is also important to stress that one of the selected PhDs has participated in the COST Training School "Passionate Devotions" (Münster, 26 April 2017 to 28 April 2017, http://costaction-is1301.webhosting.rug.nl/home/news/65-new-call-for-training-school-muenster-26-28-april-2017).</p> |
| <p>analyse the agency of lay individuals and groups in religious transformations and reformations</p> | <p>76 - 100%</p> | <p>The Action has had a decisive impact on the development of research on "lay agency" in religious transformations and reformations, challenging traditional research approaches that take their start from the activities of the Church and its official representatives. Besides the approach to this issue in research meetings and in publications, the implementation of this MoU objective has been instrumental in the writing of</p> |

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| | | <p>research proposals and in the creation of a wide and sustainable research network. This significant change of perspective for example been instrumental in the development of a new research perspective on late medieval and early modern manuscript miscellanies, that has been further developed within research meetings funded by the Dutch Academy of Science (https://www.knaw.nl/en/news/calendar/lezen-schrijven-en-verzamelen?set_language=en), in Hull and within the framework of the International Medieval Congress in Leeds (sessions organized in 2016 and 2018).</p> |
| <p>develop new research strategies to reconstruct the dynamics of development of lay communities of interpretation of religious texts and knowledge, going beyond the traditional collocation of these communities in the sphere of religious dissent and heterodoxy (Stock 1990)</p> | <p>76 - 100%</p> | <p>The development of new research strategies to reconstruct the dynamics of development of lay communities, going beyond the traditional collocation of these communities in the sphere of religious dissent has lead to the discussion and the application of a theoretical approach that has proven to be very valuable for late medieval and early modern research, i.e. the application of a spatial approach. Through a mapping of activities, without applying any hierarchical or confessional framework, the development of the lay communities and their activities of interpretation has been more strongly linked to social and cultural phenomena, such as processes of urbanization and the creation of specific "spaces of knowledge".</p> <p>This approach has led to to the funding of a Lorentz workshop, <i>Spaces and Places of Religious Knowledge Transfer in Early Modern Cities</i> (30 January 2017 to 2 February 2017; funded by the Lorentz Center, international center for scientific workshops, https://www.lorentzcenter.nl/lc/web/2017/883/info.php3?wsid=883&venue=Snellius). It has also been applied in the collaborative research project EUDIREM (https://eudirem.hypotheses.org/), with participation of several members of the COST Action.</p> <p>The Lorentz workshop aimed to achieve the following goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Innovating historical research into the early modern period (c. 1400-c.1600) by the further development of "Spaces and Place", most notably "Spaces and Places of (Religious) Knowledge Transfer", as multidisciplinary approach for historical research and analysis by fostering an exchange between the newest perspectives in spatial theory and historical research; 2. Based on the discussions of the colloquium, the participants will draw an innovative, multi-, interdisciplinary and transnational research agenda crossing traditional disciplinary boundaries, connecting Dutch and European historians with researchers from the fields of spatial and social sciences; 3. This research agenda will be at the basis of a |

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| | | <p>new European collaborative research projects, connecting the the research community working on early modern history with European research groups working on “Space and Place”, “Religious Knowledge Transfer”, “Lieux de savoir” and “Urban Socio-Spatial Dynamics”.</p> |
| <p>contribute to the creation of research networks within and outside academia including experienced scholars, upcoming generations of researchers as well as regional and national archives and libraries</p> | 76 - 100% | <p>The creation of an inclusive research community has been one the main goals of the Action. The COST Action activities have hosted a total number of more than 300 researchers from 24 countries. Special attention has been paid to the participation of researchers from COST inclusiveness countries and of ECIs. To this end, the Action has organised 6 Training Schools, all in collaboration with non-academic stakeholders (archives, libraries and heritage institutions), each for 10 selected ECIs. A total number of 60 ECIs has participated in the TS activities. The two TS coordinators (prof. dr. Sita Steckel and prof. dr. August den Hollander) have moreover asked the participating ECIs to reflect on the research experiences and on the impact of their participation on a dedicated blog (http://costis1301.hypotheses.org/):</p> <p>TS 1: Production and Use of Religious Texts in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe (in collaboration with the University of Antwerp, the Ruusbroec Genootschap, the Museum Plantin Moretus and the Erfgoedbibliotheek Hendrik Conscience)</p> <p>TS 2: Transmission of Texts in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe (in collaboration with the Institutum Romanum Finlandiae)</p> <p>TS 3: Religious Bestsellers in Early Modern Europe (in collaboration with the Library and the Information Center of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences)</p> <p>TS 4: Religious Migration during Europe's Confessional Age (in collaboration with the Eglise Wallonne, Amsterdam)</p> <p>TS 5: Late Medieval and Early Modern Book Culture (in collaboration with the Athenaeum Library, Deventer)</p> <p>TS 6: Practices of affective reading, listening and viewing in late medieval and early modern Europe (in collaboration with the University Library of Münster)</p> <p>The Action has moreover financed 19 STSMs, that have enabled ESRs to conduct research (very often in research libraries and archives) and to significantly expand their research network. Researchers from inclusiveness countries have been specifically targeted for the assignment of STSM-funding.</p> |
| <p>consolidate and develop interdisciplinary research on late medieval and early modern religious</p> | 76 - 100% | <p>The promotion of interdisciplinary research has been one of the foci of the Action. In order to</p> |

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achieve this goal, WG, TS and publication coordinators from different research, theoretical and methodological backgrounds have been chosen, in order to develop and consolidate interdisciplinary research within each WG.

This broad and interdisciplinary approach results, to cite but one example, is made clear by the description of the fields of research of authors contributing to the volume *Medieval Translations & Their Readership*, ed. Pavlina Rychterova, Jan Odstřcilik. The Medieval Translator 19, Turnhout - Brepols

This publication, proceedings from the XI Cardiff Conference on the Theory and practice of Translation in the Middle Ages, co-organised by the COST Action IS 1301, focuses on the question of the active participation of readers in the process of translation of theological and religious educative texts into late medieval European vernaculars. It therefore represents an important contribution to the main topic of the Action IS 1301.

List of content

- Authors and Readers

- CORBELLINI, Sabrina: Framing the Reader: Translations, Readers and Religious Learning
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- KHORKOV, Mikhail L.: The Problem of Authorship of Heinrich Suso's Minnebüchlein in the Light of Its Latin Version
- RAMANDI, Maria Teresa: Translating Latin in the Medieval North: Agnesar saga and its Readership
- PALENIK, Iris: ... das man den frümen layen pücher zü dewtsch pringet. Disseminating Knowledge to Non-Academics through German Translations
- ROBECCHI, Marco: The Manuscripts of Jean le Long's Translations and Their Readership
- SVÁTEK, Jaroslav: From Devotion to Censure. Hans Tucher's and Bernard of Breydenbach's Pilgrim Accounts and their Two Medieval Czech Translations
- PETTERSSON, Jonatan: The Nordic "History Bibles". High Medieval Vernacularization of the Scriptures
- VOLEKOVÁ, Kateřina and Andrea SVOBODOVÁ: Old Czech Biblical Prologues within 15th Century
- ZIRONI, Alessandro: Gothic Texts: Translations, Audience and Readers
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- SALTER, Elisabeth: Miscellaneity in Practice: Popular Religious Reading and Cultural Translation in Fifteenth Century England
- SONNTAG, Jörg: Old Material and New

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| | | <p>Perspectives: Master Ingold's Golden game</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEKARLI, Martin: Fifteenth-Century Vernacular Wycliffite Politics – The Czech Medieval Translation of John Wyclif's Dialogus • ODSTRČILÍK, Jan: Unbearable Lightness of Multilingual Sermons? Bilingual Adaptation of Three Czech Sermons of Jan Hus • KISS, Farkas: Readers of Sermon Collections with Vernacular Glosses in Hungary • MIKA, Tomasz: Literacy as a Context of the Medieval Bible Translations into Polish <p>• Religious education in transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KHALAF, Omar: The Social Function of a Translation: Earl Rivers, William Caxton, and the Dicts and Sayings of the Philosophers • RADOŠEVIĆ, Andrea: Croatian Translation of the Latin Treatise Liber de modo bene vivendi ad sororem from the 15th Century • KARÁTH, Tamás: Early Reader's Responses to the English Translations of Richard Rolle's Emendatio vite • MATSUDA, Takami: Predestination in Middle English Religious Writings for the Laity • YOSHIKAWA, Naoë Kukita: Revelations of the 'Approved Women' and Their Readership • MASLEJ, Dorota: Polish Translation of Pater noster and the Commentary by Jakub of Piotrków • HALTRICH, Martin: Legends for Laymen: Translation and Compilation in 15th Century Reform Monastery |
| <p>create a platform for new national, European and international research and research projects in the field of late medieval and early modern cultural history</p> | <p>76 - 100%</p> | <p>In the last four years, the COST Action has developed into a stable and sustainable research platform for the development of new research strategies and the implementation of new and innovative research lines. The Action publications, the outputs and the dissemination meetings testify of the achievement of this MoU objective, as well as the number of research meetings that have place during the Action and will take place in the next years in order to further develop the Action research lines.</p> <p>One of the activities already planned for 2018 is the organisation by several COST-affiliated researchers of sessions in the framework of the International Medieval Congress in Leeds. The thematic strand, Memory, will be coordinated by COST members Lucie Doležalová (Institute of Greek & Latin Studies, Univerzita Karlova, Praha) and Jan Cermák (Department of English, Univerzita Karlova, Praha) and COST member Farkas Kiss (Hungary) has been approached for one of the keynote presentations (https://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2018_call.html).</p> <p>Theme related to the COST Action will also be developed within the annual congress of the Renaissance Society (https://convention2.allacadm.com/one/rsa/rsa18/index.php?PHPSESSID=7klsuoa4nuafok9tnou8cf24i2&cmd=Online+Program+Search&program_focus=fulltext_search&search_mode=content&offset=0&search_text=corbellini)</p> |

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| | |), through the organisation of two sessions (The Bible in the Renaissance I: Challenging the Protestant Paradigm; The Bible in the Renaissance II: New Directions in Research). |
|--|--|---|

Deliverables

The Action reported the following deliverables:

| Deliverable | Timing of deliverable | Further information (hyperlink or other) |
|--|--|---|
| Founding of a book series dedicated to the theme of the Action, in order to reach an extended and international scholarly audience | Delivered | http://costaction-is1301.webhosting.rug.nl/outreach/activities |
| Launch of a website, which will function as a central platform for ongoing discussion among the participants in the Action and for the planning and organisation of the meetings of the WGs, the yearly plenary meeting, Training Schools, and the pre-publication of papers and working documents | Delivered | http://costaction-is1301.webhosting.rug.nl/index.php |
| Publication of results of summative conference | Not delivered, but foreseen within 2 years | |
| Preparation of at least one collaborative European research project | Delivered | See list of submitted projects, A new submission is planned for 2018 |
| Offering networking possibilities to a new generation of European researchers, through the organisation of TS and funding of STSMs | Delivered | http://costis1301.hypotheses.org/ |

Additional outputs/ achievements

The following outputs/ achievements also resulted from the Action.

The Action reported 15 publications on the topic of the Action, co-authored by at least two Action participants from two countries participating in the Action, and for which the Action networking was necessary.

Co-authored Action publications - peer-reviewed

1. *Discovering the Riches of the Word: Religious Reading in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe*, eds. Sabrina Corbellini, Margriet Hoogvliet and Bart Ramakers, *Intersections: Interdisciplinary Studies in Early Modern Culture* 38, Leiden: Brill, 2015.
2. *Religious Connectivity in Urban Communities (1400-1600): Reading, Worshipping, and Connecting in the Continuum of Sacred and Secular*, ed. Suzan Folkerts, *New Communities of Interpretation*, Turnhout: Brepols, in preparation.
3. *Lay Readings of the Bible in Early Modern Europe*. Proceedings of the Conference, Tours 24-26 November 2015, eds. Erminia Ardissino and Elise Boillet, *Intersections: Interdisciplinary Studies in Early Modern Culture*, Leiden: Brill, in preparation.
4. *Gli Italiani e la Bibbia. Leggere, Interpretare, Riscrivere*. Atti del Convegno Internazionale di Studi, Torino, Maggio 2016, eds. Erminia Ardissino and Elise Boillet, Turnhout: Brepols, in preparation.

5. *Religious Practices and Everyday Life in the Long Fifteenth Century (1350-1570)*, eds. Ana Maria Rodrigues and Ian Johnson, New Communities of Interpretation, Turnhout: Brepols, in preparation.
6. *Every (Wo)man's Book of Salvation – Des lectures salutaire pour tous...*, eds. Géraldine Veysseyre, Florence Bourgne and Réjane Gay-Canton, New Communities of Interpretation, Turnhout: Brepols, in preparation.
7. Farkas Gábor Kiss, Lucie Doležalová and Rafał Wójcik, *The Art of Memory in Late Medieval Central Europe*, ed. Farkas Gábor Kiss, Budapest-Paris: L'Harmattan, 2016
8. Lucie Doležalová and Farkas Fábor Kiss, 'Le pouvoir des mots dans l'art de la mémoire à la fin du Moyen Age', in: *Le pouvoir des mots au Moyen Age*, éd. Nicole Bériou, Irène Rosier-Catach, Turnhout, Brepols, 2014, 127-153.
9. *Late Medieval Personal Miscellanies*, eds. Sabrina Corbellini, Giovanna Murano and Giacomo Signore, Bibliologia, Turnhout: Brepols, under evaluation
10. *Les femmes et la Bible de la fin du Moyen Âge à l'époque moderne. Pratiques de lecture et d'écriture (Italie, France, Angleterre)*, éd. Élise Boillet et Maria-Teresa Ricci, Paris, Champion, 2017
11. *Medieval Translations & Their Readership*, ed. Pavlina Rychterova, Jan Odstroicik. The Medieval Translator 19, Turnhout - Brepols
12. Dialogic: talking about theories and methods- the past, the present (and the future), A Special Issue for the Journal *English* (OUP), 2018
13. *Networking Europe: Connecting Ideas, Exchanging Goods, Transfer of Religious Knowledge During the Long Fifteenth Century*
Edited by: Manuel Fernández Chavez, Margriet Hoogvliet, Pawel Kras, Chiara Lastraioli, and Rafael Perez, Brepols (New Communities of Interpretation), in preparation
14. *Scriptura sacra infinita. Biblical material in Late Medieval religious texts and images*, ed. by Lucie Doležalova and Géraldine Veysseyre, Brepols (New Communities of Interpretation), in preparation
15. "The Religious Field in the Long Fifteenth Century", *Church History and Religious Culture*, to be submitted in 2018

Projects

The Action reported 11 project(s) and 7 proposal(s) resulting from the Action networking.

Key details of the projects are shown below

1. Cities of Readers. Religious Literacies in the Long Fifteenth Century
(National)
2. In Readers' Hands. Early Modern Dutch Bibles from a Users' Perspective
(National)
3. Spaces and Places of Religious Knowledge Transfer in Early Modern Cities
(Other)
4. Digital Editing of Medieval Manuscripts (DEMM)
(FP7)
5. Letters and Songs: Registers of Beliefs and Expressions in the Early Modern North
(National)
6. Alle origini del welfare (XIII-XVI secolo). Radici medievali e moderne della cultura europea dell'assistenza e delle forme di protezione sociale e credito solidale

- (National)
- 7. EUDIREM. Espaces urbains, Dynamiques et Identités religieuses dans l'Europe moderne
(National)
- 8. Transmission of Knowledge. The Fortune of Four Bestsellers in Late Medieval Czech Lands
(National)
- 9. Ubi est finis huius libri desu scit: the medieval library of the Augustinian canons of Roudnice nad Labem]
(National)
- 10. Towards a New Edition of the Wycliffite Bible
(National)
- 11. Editing the Wycliffite Old Testament Lectionary
(National)

Other outputs / achievements

The following other outputs/ achievements contributing to the COST mission resulted from the Action:

1. The COST Action has been instrumental in opening up new research lines at a pan-European level and in stimulating multilingual and cross-disciplinary approaches to late medieval and early modern Europe. A good example of the impact of these research lines is for example the organisation of a workshop "Understanding Sermons from the Middle Ages. Forms, Methodologies and Challenges", planned for 2018 (<http://overmode.oeaw.ac.at/sermons/>).

Impacts

The Action reported the following impact(s):

| Description of the impact, i.e. what will change, and for whom, as a result of what the Action achieved | Type of impact | Timing of impact |
|--|--|------------------|
| Creation of European research possibilities for ECIs allowing them to build up a research network and exchange research experiences with ECI colleagues and with experienced researchers. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific / Technological | Achieved |
| One of the important results emerging from the cooperative activities within the network is the identifying of a pattern of processes of diversification of religious practice during the late 14th and 15th centuries. This diversification manifested itself in many ways across Europe and is detectable in the written as well as material sources. We may assume that the Reformation in the second decade of the 16th century meant a significant reduction and at least the end of these processes of diversification. The phenomenon of religious diversification in late medieval Europe was analyzed only as a set of isolated phenomena by the research mainly because its individual elements represented topics analyzed by various scholarly disciplines guided by different methodological and theoretical concepts. They therefore never gained appropriate attention and were at first discussed together in a comparative way within the COST network. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific / Technological | Achieved |
| Creation of an inclusive and geographically very broad research network, contributing to a real exchange of research expertise and use of European funding for the creation of a pan-European research methodologies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific / Technological • Economic • Societal | Achieved |

Dissemination and exploitation of Action results

Dissemination and exploitation approach of the Action

The Action's dissemination and exploitation approach as well as all activities undertaken to ensure dissemination and exploitation of Action results and the outcomes of these activities are described below.

COST Action IS 1301 "New Communities of Interpretation" has created, in collaboration with Brepols Publishers, a dedicated book series. The first volumes are expected for 2018. The book series "New Communities of Interpretation" is meant to develop into a lasting platform for the publication of studies on the COST action's theme. It will offer opportunities to those involved in the action and newcomers to publish the results of ongoing collaboration in the field in the years to come. It will make it easier for the proceedings of collaborations to come to be published in an international book series under the aegis of a renowned publisher. This will help increase the impact of research directly or indirectly resulting from the COST action. Next to COST activities, presentations and publications, COST members have participated in several other research networks and engaged in individual publications (as it is the case in the humanities) drawing from research experiences directly or indirectly related to the Action research themes. The high number of submitted (collaborative) research projects testifies of the high impact of the COST Action activities. Collaboration with non-academic stakeholders has further enhanced the impact of COST activities. Moreover, organizers of WG and plenary meetings have always invited the local academic community at large (from students to senior staff) to participate in the meetings. This has significantly impacted the dissemination of research results and methodological reflections. The COST Action website, <http://costaction-is1301.webhosting.rug.nl/>, has functioned and will function as a repository for recording COST related activities. A blog, <http://costis1301.hypotheses.org/>, has functioned as a platform of discussion for ECIs.

Dissemination meetings funded by the Action

The Action funded Dissemination Meetings as shown below.

| | | | |
|--------------|---|----------------|----------------|
| Title | International Medieval Congress, sessions Communities of Reform | | |
| Date | 06-07-2015 to 09-07-2015 | Country | United Kingdom |
| Event | International Medieval Congress, Leeds, UK | | |

Other dissemination activities

The Action also undertook the following dissemination activities.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Activity | Organisation of the three sessions ("Renaissance Communities of Interpretation") in the framework of the congress of the Renaissance Society of America (Berlin, 26-28 March 2015) |
| Target | Academic community |
| Outcome | Dissemination of COST research themes |
| Link | https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/rsa/rsa15/index.php?cmd=Online+Program+View+Person&selected_people_id=5105586&PHPSESSID=hq59np8d1tu4r32f6p1stnefp1 |

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|-----------------|---|
| Activity | "Centers of learning', 'communities of interpretation' and 'creative minorities': the users of exempla collections in late-medieval Holland". Konferencja "Centres of Learning and Knowledge Exchange in Late Medieval and Early Modern Europe". Instytut Historii Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego / Centrum Dominikańskie (Kraków). 25-26 September 2014, organised by Marcin Polkowski |
| Target | Academic community |
| Outcome | Dissemination of COST research themes |

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|-------------|----|
| Link | -- |
|-------------|----|

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|-----------------|--|
| Activity | CARMEN Worldwide Medieval Network Annual Meeting, 12-14 September 2013, University of Stirling, UK. Workshops for prospective projects: (1) Lessons in Creating a COST-Action Application (2) Creating a COST-Action within CARMEN Presentation by Ian Johnson |
| Target | Academic community at large |
| Outcome | Dissemination of COST Action results; information over COST funding for the humanities |
| Link | http://www.carmen-medieval.net/cz/about-us-10039.html |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Activity | Presentation COST project and COST funding opportunities at the T.M.C. Asser Instituut in the Hague by Sabrina Corbellini |
| Target | Academic community at large |
| Outcome | Awareness of possibility for COST funding for the social sciences and the humanities |
| Link | http://www.asser.nl/ |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Activity | COST INFORMATION MEETING September 18th 2014 at the University of Groningen/Sustainable Society by Sabrina Corbellini |
| Target | Academic community at large |
| Outcome | Raising awareness of COST funding possibilities for social sciences and the humanities |
| Link | http://www.rug.nl/research/sustainable-society/?lang=en |

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|-----------------|--|
| Activity | COST Information meeting, 19 February 2015, organised by National COST Coordinator of the Netherlands (presentation by Sabrina Corbellini) |
| Target | Academic community at large |
| Outcome | Presentation of COST funding opportunities |
| Link | http://www.rvo.nl |

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|-----------------|---|
| Activity | Participation on public discussion on the Reformation and the importance of the dissemination of Bible translations for societal and political transformations (2017; 500 years Reformation) |
| Target | General public |
| Outcome | Article in major Dutch newspaper (De Volkskrant) |
| Link | https://www.volkskrant.nl/opinie/stop-met-het-herkauwen-van-cliches-over-de-reformatie-al-vanaf-1400-werd-de-bijbel-in-volkstaal-gelezen~a4529771/ |

Exploitation activities

The Action undertook the following activities to ensure exploitation (use, in particular in a commercial context) of the Action's achievements.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Activity | Creation of dedicated COST Action IS 1301 book series, "New Communities of Interpretation", in collaboration with Brepols Publishers |
| Target | Academic community at large |
| Outcome | Lasting of COST Action research themes and methodologies |

Action Success(es)

The Action's two most significant successes were the following

- Creating a wide and inclusive research network with researchers from 24 countries, allowing exchange of research experiences at different levels and promoting the creation of sustainable pan-European research methodologies and theoretical approaches that will lastingly impact the research field.
- The organisation of Training School and of Short Scientific Missions has contributed to the training of a new generation of young European researchers with attention for the further development of pan-European, interdisciplinary and multilingual research approaches. It has moreover stimulated the ECIs to reflect on the importance of crossing national, linguistic and religious paradigms in order to develop new approaches to one of the significant periods in European history.

Action Expenditure

The table below shows the budget allocated to the Action for each Grant Period.

| # | Grant Period | Start Date | End Date | Budget allocated to Action (EUR) |
|---|---------------|------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | IS1301-1 | 1-1-2014 | 30-11-2014 | 140,000.00 (EUR) |
| 2 | CGA-IS1301-2 | 2-12-2014 | 30-9-2015 | 44,541.87 (EUR) |
| 3 | CGA-IS1301-2B | 1-10-2015 | 30-4-2016 | 136,124.00 (EUR) |
| 4 | AGA-IS1301-4 | 1-5-2016 | 30-4-2017 | 116,000.00 (EUR) |
| 5 | AGA-IS1301-5 | 1-5-2017 | 26-9-2017 | 55,799.99 (EUR) |