

19 December 2019

Dear Colleagues,

I am extremely interested in joining the COST Action CA18129 Islamic Legacy: Narratives East, West, South, North of the Mediterranean (1350-1750). I have recently successfully defended my PhD thesis at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)-Paris, under the direction of Maurice Aymard and Vincent Fourniau. The subject of my thesis dissertation is “Cross-cultural connections and Knowledge Construction in early modern era: Europe, Asia and the emergence of turcological knowledge in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries”. My research interests evolve around the history of oriental studies in a transnational and cross-cultural perspective and my work is based on socio-cultural approaches regarding knowledge production. My work deals with a set of questions examined by the working groups 1 and 2. They concern in particular:

- the modalities and motivation of collecting Islamic manuscripts in Europe and the role played by different overlapping networks (merchant, consular, religious, military) in this process.
- the linguistic and anthropological analysis of the creation of the other (with special emphasis on the academic field, and its interaction with other fields).

I find the perspective of engaging a dialogue within your research group exciting and I believe that my work would allow for fruitful interactions on the history and the impact of both the material and intellectual aspects of trans-cultural encounters and circulations in the early modern period.

I hope that my demand will be of interest to you and look forward to hearing from you soon. If you need more information on me and my work, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Despina Magkanari