

**CAS Representative Report regarding ICS 17** (17<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Slavists, aka International Committee of Slavists, scheduled to be held at Sorbonne-Paris University, August 28-September 1, 2023)

**Report prepared for CAS AGM**, Thursday, June 25, 2020

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**N.B.** This report will consist of two parts, a PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT regarding the next meeting of the ICS Organizing Committee, August 27-28, 2020, and a ICS-17 UPDATE, in effect, a summary of last year's meeting, which took place in Udine, Italy, 29-30 August 2019:

### **PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT**

“A change in format” -- Due to the CO-VID pandemic, the ICS Organizing Committee (hereafter, **MKS** = *Meždunarodnyj Komitet Slavistov*) has decided by unanimous consent to hold the next organizational meeting **online, August 27-28, 2020**. The meeting had originally been scheduled to take place in Sofia and was to be hosted by the Bulgarian delegation.

“Follow-up to MKS August meeting” -- If there are any issues and/or decisions of note and urgency that arise out the August 2020 MKS meeting, I will report them to CAS by **September 15**, rather than waiting to do so till the next CAS AGM in June 2021.

### **ICS-17 UPDATE (MKS meeting, Udine, August 2019)**

**Background** The 5-year ICS-17 cycle lasts from 2018 (the year of the previous ICS + 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of new MKS) till 2023 (the year of ICS-17). The second MKS organizational meeting was held in Udine, Italy, 29-30 August 2019. It was attended by all four members of the MKS Presidium (Executive), including the current President, Natalia Bernitskaia (Paris), as well as 16 of the remaining 25 members (according to the Protokol/Minutes of the meeting). Since I was unable to attend the Udine session in person, the following summary is based on a detailed 7-page report, which was compiled on the basis of notes taken by Rodolph Baudin (MKS Secretary) and distributed as an e-file by the President to all members of the MKS.

### **Summary of the MKS meeting**

- **“To pre-publish or not to pre-publish?”** Probably the most important item raised and discussed at the Udine MKS meeting was whether or not to continue the tradition of having pre-conference publication of the delegates' papers serve as a necessary pre-condition for participation in the ICS conference itself. Although no formal ballot was taken, many of the attendees took part in the discussion and, based on the Minutes, it seems that opinion is fairly evenly divided as to keeping things the way they are or removing the pre-publication requirement. A final discussion and formal vote on the issue will take place during the online MKS meeting this August (2020). Depending on the outcome of that vote, as the CAS representative to ICS, I will eventually be working with Heather Coleman's successor as Editor-in-Chief of CSP to coordinate the process

for reviewing and accepting papers from CAS members for pre-publication of ICS contributions in the 2023 January (?) issue of CSP.

- **“The host for ICS-18 (2028)”** Following a brief discussion, Vaclav Čermak, the head of the Czech delegation, was unanimously elected to serve as the next MKS President, with the Czech delegation to serve as the host for ICS-18. Although Prague was not named as the host city in the Minutes, this appears to be the intention, particularly in light of an accompanying reference to a recent memorandum of cooperation jointly signed by the Sorbonne (Paris) and Charles University (Prague), which it is hoped will facilitate the funding of pre-conference meetings of the MKS, at least with respect to lodgings.
- **“ICS participation quotas”** No quotas for the number of participants for individual delegations have yet been determined.
- **“Thematic panels”** Those present in the Udine MKS session voted to raise the percentage of theme-based “blocs” from 20% to 25%. These blocs are NOT counted in the above-mentioned “quotas”, NOR are the participants in these blocs required to publish their papers prior to the conference. NOTE I will make sure that there is no change in this regulation, during the August 2020 MKS online meeting.
- **“Online site for ICS-17 (2023)”** The French delegation reported that the ICS-17 conference site should be ready by August 2020. At first it will serve as a source of basic information, then later as a site for conference registration, although participants must still first be selected by the various national committees.