



# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

## **The Royal Studies Network 2020 Conference**

Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, July 1-4, 2020

Theme: Politics, Society, Cultures: The transformative impact of monarchies

Deadline: December 31, 2019

*The Royal Studies Network will hold its next conference, on the theme:*

*“Politics, Society, Cultures:  
The transformative impact of monarchies”*

The conference aims to bring together scholars working in different disciplines with an interest in royal and court studies. The 2020 conference will address the theme of “the transformative impact of monarchies”. We are particularly interested in receiving proposals studying political, social and societal, as well as cultural transformations in royal contexts.

The question of collective transformation has been a core preoccupation of social sciences since their development in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and a significant part of contemporary work in social sciences and history is dedicated to analyzing factors (if not causes) of change.

The 2020 conference will be dedicated to studying how monarchies, kings and queens, have impacted collective existence by bringing changes not only in the sphere of politics, but also in society at large, from art to economics, ethics and religion to social relations and/or hierarchies.

Particular attention will be paid to renovation and change factors, whether between dynasties, monarchs, or as systems (political or social) superseding previous forms of collective organization. Beyond actual transformations in history, the conference intends to study monarchical ideologies and utopias, as well as idealized or conceptualized figures of kings and queens, as participating in images and practices of social transformations.

“Transformative impact” in this context is to be understood broadly as the outcome of the action of queens and kings resulting in significant collective changes, whether such changes have been actively pursued by monarchs or have arisen from unexpected circumstances to which they have adapted.

Submissions from all disciplines, regarding all time periods and geographical regions, are encouraged, as long as they are related to the field of royal studies.

Topics include, but are not limited to:

- the transformation of monarchical institutions under the action of kings and queens, as well as their role in societies, including democratic societies;
- spiritual leadership of monarchs developing new religious and moral agenda;
- figures of queens and kings as patrons of the art and “trend-setters”, promoting new forms of taste and aesthetics;
- monarchies and economic strategies;
- royal military commanders innovating in the field of war;
- modernization of politics under monarchical governance;
- symbolic social transformation around the figure of the monarchs.

Proposals for 20-minute presentations or for panels of 3-4 papers grouped on a theme or subject should be emailed as a 250 word abstract for individual papers or a 500 word abstract for a panel proposal, along with a brief CV or bio to the organizers at [eur-kq2020@miamioh.edu](mailto:eur-kq2020@miamioh.edu). To facilitate the circulation of the proposals, please include in the subject of your email “**Kings & Queens conference 2020**”.

The deadline for submitting proposals is 31 December 2019.

## VENUE

Miami University John E. Dolibois European Center, Differdange Luxembourg

*Situated in the 15-16<sup>th</sup> century Château of the Baron of Soleuvre, the European Center of Miami University in Luxembourg has called Differdange its home for over 20 years. Located in the South of the Grand Duchy, the town has developed around a steel mill that produces to this day the longest beams in the world. It is now known for its creative industries hub and its international schools. Nested in a valley at the border of France, surrounded by wooded areas, Differdange is also home to a multicultural community of more than 80 different nationalities.*

*Miami University in Luxembourg is named after Miami University Vice President John Dolibois. A native of Luxembourg who emigrated to the US, John Dolibois served as an intelligence officer interrogating Nazi criminal during WWII before joining his alma mater to lead alumni relations. John Dolibois was appointed US. ambassador to Luxembourg between 1981 and 1985 by US President Ronald Reagan.*

Scientific Committee: Thomas Antoine (Benelux), Thierry Leterre (Local Organizer-Miami University in Luxembourg), Guy de Muysen (Miami University), Philippe Poirier (University of Luxembourg), Cinzia Recca (University of Catania), Elena Woodacre (Founder Royal Studies Network-University of Winchester)