



European Association for South Asian Studies

www.easas.eu

EASAS Newsletter January 2023

1. 27th European Conference on South Asian Studies (ECSAS) in Turin, Italy, in July 2023



27th European Conference on South Asian Studies

Turin, Italy 26 to 29 July 2023

The **27th European Conference on South Asian Studies (ECSAS)** will take place at the University of Turin, Italy, from **26 to 29 July 2023**. The conference is organized and hosted by the University of Turin's Department of Humanities, Department of Culture, Politics and Societies, Department of Law, Department of Foreign Languages, and the Interdepartmental Centre "Istituto di Studi sull'Asia" (ISA).

The **panels** that were selected can be found on the conference website:

<https://ecsas2023turin.eu/panels/>

The **Call for Papers** is still open. EASAS members are invited to submit abstracts for consideration and inclusion in the scientific programme by **22 January 2023**:

<https://ecsas2023turin.eu/call-for-papers/>

Payment dates:

Early registration 5 Febr. to 20 May

Regular registration 21 May to 3 July

Late registration 4 to 27 July.

2. Council meetings

A full meeting of the EASAS Council was held on 13 January 2023 by video conferencing.

3. Result of call for proposals for EASAS Academic Workshop 2022/2023

Three applications were received. The EASAS Council decided at the end of July 2022 to fund two workshops:

- (1) *Ancient Wisdoms for Modern Times: Analysing Contemporary Challenges through the Lens of Tantra and Shamanism*, organised by Monika Hirmer (SOAS) and Fabio Armand (Lyon Catholic University)
- (2) *Deliberation, Participation and Democracy in Contemporary South Asia: Spaces, Practices, Voices*, organised by Jivanta Schöttli, Denise Ripamonti and Vidushi Kaushik (all Ireland India Institute, Dublin City University)

4. Result of call for proposals for EASAS PhD Workshop 2022/2023

No proposals were received.

5. New EASAS administrator

EASAS has a new administrative assistant. Mr. *Ozien Shatwany* joined EASAS on 25 July 2022. As before, he works from the Bonn office of EASAS.

6. Search for candidates for the EASAS Executive Board and Council

Elections for the EASAS Executive Board and Council will be held in the context of the next General Meeting of EASAS on 27 July 2023 during the Turin conference. The formal call for candidates will be sent out in due course before the GM. The current Executive Board officeholders cannot be re-elected. This is an invitation for EASAS members to consider standing for elections to the Executive Board and the Council.

7. E-HINDI – An online platform for learning Hindi

South Asian Studies Section at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland in cooperation with IT company Grupa AF is working on an online Hindi learning platform – **e-Hindi**. The project under the name "Hindi for You" is financed from the European Economic Area (EAA) funds under Component III: Education Programme and operated by the Foundation for the Development of the Education System, Poland.

All those interested in learning Hindi will have free access to the e-Hindi platform. It will be made available in two language versions, **Hindi-Polish** and **Hindi-English** free of cost.

e-Hindi can be used as a self-learning tool or as a tool supporting teaching and learning process in a classroom. The educational platform combines traditional self-learning methods with interactive techniques of learning *Devanagari* script and Hindi grammar, expanding vocabulary, and building communication skills. 30 learning units contain grammar content, dialogues, texts, glossaries, audio recordings, exercises, and glossaries. e-Hindi also includes thematic vocabularies for each lesson

and lists of some useful phrases. e-Hindi is designed for adult learners, and it includes teaching content relevant to work environment and communication in everyday life. The tool will be adapted to WCAG 2.1 standards to make it available to those visually impaired.

We hope to launch e-Hindi platform for those who want to develop their competence in Hindi in December 2023. Meanwhile, you are invited to follow the news on the development of the project at the website <https://hindi4u.web.amu.edu.pl/en/>. In case of any inquiries feel free to contact monikabr@amu.edu.pl.

The EASAS Board and Council extend their best wishes for the year 2023 to all EASAS members,

on behalf of the Council,

Danuta Stasik, President

Martin Fuchs, Vice-President

Anna Sailer, Treasurer