Dear Colleague,

April 2017

The CARMEN Worldwide Medieval Network was established in 2007 and is now a leading global platform for medievalists. It brings together over 10,000 medievalists via its national associations, universities and research centres across Europe and Russia, North and South America, Asia and Australasia. We are a leading member of the European Alliance for Social Sciences and Humanities, a body that brings together disciplinary bodies to promote and defend research in the Social Sciences and Humanities.

CARMEN organizes an annual meeting, hosted by a different institution in a different country each year. This introduces participants to other institutions, new people and emerging research opportunities. We complement the Leeds and Kalamazoo conferences with our distinctive emphasis on fostering research partnerships and collaborations. As a global network we strive to be as inclusive as possible in order to benefit as many people as possible. We offer travel bursaries to support participation from colleagues at all career stages.

CARMEN has successfully developed and fostered multi-million-euro international collaborative projects, including *Cuius Regio* and *Saints' Cults*, both funded by the European Science Foundation; it has a shortlisted project on *Conflict Resolution* for the current HERA 'Uses of the Past' theme. It has directed strategies, and disseminates information on research projects, funding opportunities, and strategic developments or initiatives that affect the Humanities and Medieval Studies in particular. By foregrounding themes of relevance to policy-makers, CARMEN supports medievalists and helps share best practice and approaches across different countries and fields. We are convinced that this helps in acquiring local, national and European funding. However, gaining grant money is far from CARMEN's only objective. During our annual meetings, our 'Market Place' and series of workshops stimulate the exchange of ideas and offer a forum for the development of new research conversations.

CARMEN is an independent organization and the executive committee members work on an honorary basis, and their expenses of travel costs are normally not reimbursed. Fees for speakers are also kept to a minimum. In this way we ensure that CARMEN's annual costs remain very low and much of this goes on bursaries for early career scholars, including PhD students, and scholars with limited budgets. Now, in order to maintain our open and inclusive character, and to strengthen the sustainability of CARMEN into the future, the CARMEN executive committee has introduced annual contributions for participating affiliated member organisations and individual members (see overleaf).

We hope that you will support CARMEN by paying a membership fee, which you can transfer via internet banking or Paypal (see the practical information overleaf). In future, we will only list on our website all contributing institutions and individuals. We will happily provide supporting documentation or letters of receipt, as required by your own organization.

Yours faithfully,

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Prof. Catherine A.M. Clarke (University of Southampton), Academic Director

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Dr. Jitske Jasperse (CSIC, Madrid), Hon. Treasurer

The CARMEN Worldwide Medieval Network is a not-for-profit unincorporated association, constituted in full conformity with U.K. regulations. Its registered office is at the Centre for Medieval Studies, King's Manor, University of York. Banking details: Co-Operative Bank, 15-17 Feasegate, York YO1 2SH, UK | Bank Identification Code (BIC): CPBK GB22 | International Bank Account Number (IBAN): GB51 CPBK 0892 9965 6334 67 | Account name: CARMEN Paypal | Account name: CMS | email address: <u>carmen.medieval@gmail.com</u>

Benefits of CARMEN Membership

- CARMEN members get connected through our annual meetings, offering opportunities for collaboration and project development
- Members receive invitations and updates for the annual meeting, including bursary options
- Members receive our digital newsletter, which provides information on recent CARMEN activities, grants, jobs, conferences, and partner institutes
- Possibility for your home institution to organize CARMEN's annual meeting
- Eligibility to present at CARMEN sponsored sessions

Affiliated Member Organizations

(i) Over 500 associates

- ✓ As a contributing member 500 euro (the "contributing" rate is the minimum requested)
- ✓ As a sustaining member 950 euro (the "sustaining" rate allows CARMEN to expand its activities and grants)

This permits up to five or ten delegates, respectively, from the member organization to attend each annual meeting for free.

(ii) Over 200 and under 500 associates

- ✓ As a contributing member 250 euro
- ✓ As a sustaining member 500 euro

Permits up to three or five delegates, respectively, from the organization to attend each annual meeting for free.

(iii) Under 200 associates

- ✓ As a contributing member 100 euro
- ✓ As a sustaining member 250 euro

Permits up to one or two delegates respectively from the organization to attend each annual meeting for free

Individual Members

- ✓ 60 euro for a 3-year membership (entitles to attend three annual meetings for free)
- ✓ 40 euro for a 1-year membership (entitles to attend one annual meeting for free)
- ✓ Free places for associates of member organizations (see above)
- ✓ Discretionary fees for unwaged, students, and other scholars upon request

How to Pay

You can transfer the money on our CARMEN bank account through online banking or via Paypal. See details in the footer to the page.

Please state "institutional membership [and name of association]" or "individual membership [and name of person]" so that we can match the payment to the payee.

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