



Reflections of cross-cultural contacts in the Roman and Late Antique World

Madrid, Spain, 2026
28th September - 2nd of October

Dear Fautores, dear colleagues, dear friends,

Following the wonderful Leiden congress in 2024, it is our honour and above all great pleasure to share with you this first circular concerning the 34th RCRF Congress. The congress will be held in Madrid from Monday 28th of September until Friday 2nd of October 2026, with a welcoming event in the later afternoon-early evening of Sunday 27 of September, and two (optional) post-congress excursions on Saturday 3rd of October (Clunia) and Sunday 4th of October (Santa María de Melque and Toledo).

The congress is organised by the Institute of History of the Spanish National Research Council (IH-CSIC) and the National Museum of Archaeology (MAN) in collaboration with the German Archaeological Institute in Madrid (DAI). During the regular congress week, we shall in fact have a visit to the Museum and the last day of the conference a pottery display and sessions will be held at the DAI. The scholarly standard of the Congress will be monitored by our Scientific Committee –see the website for the full list of members– which consists of researchers from academic institutions all around the globe.

We will be welcoming submissions for either a presentation (Powerpoint or PDF) or poster with a topic that approaches pottery from a regional perspective, thereby addressing questions and aspects in line with the congress theme above. Naturally we also welcome contributions that wish to present archaeological contexts, objects of particular interest, typological research, archaeometric results, etc. The languages for lectures and posters are English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.

Given the always full schedule and large number of papers at Fautores congresses, we ask you to keep lectures limited to a maximum of 15 minutes, followed by 5 minutes for

questions/discussion. In case you consider your topic better/best suitable for a poster, we certainly welcome this. Posters are to be printed portrait format at size A1 (594 by 841 mm = 23.4 by 33.1 inches). For your convenience, we are looking into the possibility of printing posters in Madrid; however, the participant should cover the costs of printing.

We expect the congress fee to be € 240,00, which covers: participation from Sunday until Friday (including the welcoming event on Sunday and the congress diner on Friday), the MAN visit, a congress bag, coffee breaks (twice daily) and five lunches (one per day from Monday to Friday). Not included in the congress fee are: expenses for travel and accommodation, the post-congress excursions and receipt of the published Acta. At present, costs for the post-congress excursions are estimated to be € 40,00 (Saturday, to Clunia) and € 35,00 (to Santa María de Melque and Toledo).

Registration can be completed either online by filling in the form on the congress website (<https://rcrfmadrid2026.webflow.io>), or by filling in the registration form that you have received together with this first circular and return it to the congress' email address reicretmadrid2026@gmail.com. The deadline for registration/submission of your title and abstract is **31 March 2026**. The second circular with further details will be send by 30 April 2026 to those who have registered. In January we will share on our website various options for accommodation in Madrid and its immediate vicinity (hotels, etc.). Please forward this first circular to any interested colleagues and students or put it on display. Note: registration is also open to non-members.

A limited number of grants may be available (to apply) from the RCRF in order to help those who would otherwise be prevented by financial circumstances from attending the congress. Grants will generally be confined to the congress fee, but may exceptionally cover accommodation in addition. The intention is to make it possible (rather than comfortable) for grant recipients to attend. Non-members can apply for grants as well but only once, unless they become a member, which we would of course welcome. If you would like to receive an application form, please indicate this on your Registration Form. Note: only those who will present a lecture or a poster can apply for a grant.

Key Dates (all in 2026)

Welcoming event	Sunday 27 th September
Congress dates	Monday 28 th September-Friday 2 nd October
Post-congress excursions (optional)	Saturday 3 rd and Sunday 4 th October

Deadline for registration for speaker/presenters	31 March (including title and abstract)
Deadline for participants not presenting	30 June
Payment deadline	31 May
Second Circular	This will be sent by 30 April and will contain more detailed information regarding the congress, presentations, posters and both excursions. Also included will be information on transportation to Madrid by car, plane, and train
Third Circular	This will be sent by 30 June, with final details and the full program, and additional information on the city of Madrid itself
Manuscript submission	31 March 2027

<https://rcrfmadrid2026.webflow.io>

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Organisers of the 34th RCRF Congress