

Call for Expressions of Interest to host the International Visual Methods Conferences in 2021 and 2023



The International Visual Methods Conference has been held every 2 years since 2009. The conferences have demonstrated the enthusiasm of an interdisciplinary community of visual scholars/practitioners to come together for an international event to share ideas and techniques across disciplinary boundaries.

The Visual Methods International Steering Committee invites Expressions of Interest in an opportunity to host the 7th and 8th International Visual Methods conferences in 2021 and 2023. Our expectation is that the 2021 Conference will be hosted in the global south with the 2023 conference held in Europe or North America. The 2019 conference will be hosted by the College of Communications and Public Relations at the National University of Political Studies, Bucharest, Romania from 16th to 19th July 2019. It follows on from conferences hosted in Singapore (2017), Brighton (2015) and Wellington (2013). The call for papers is still open and will close on 24th February 2019.

Hosting a Visual Methods Conference includes:

- Welcoming guests to your city, country and home institution.
- Connecting the conference with the host city through events, exhibitions and pre-/post-conference activities.
- Sensitively localising the IVMC visual identity for the conference.
- Ensuring continuity between the previous conference and the host institution.
- Providing and organising the conference venue.
- Establishing partnerships with local cultural institutions such as culture houses, galleries, theatres, cinemas, concert venues or similar.
- Putting together a programme in consultation with the VMISC.
- Securing internal and/or external sponsorship funds as required to underwrite the conference and ensure its viability.
- Managing the registration of delegates and collecting conference fees.
- Providing delegates with links/advice on any relevant travel (visa requirements etc.) or accommodation issues.
- Putting in place appropriate ICT facilities for the run-up to, and duration of, the event.

The VMISC invites your responses to the call by 30th April 2019. We look forward to working with you to produce an exciting and vibrant Visual Methods event alongside the Visual Methods international community.

We ask that Expressions of Interest be sent as four pages of A4 in .pdf format by 30th April 2019. They should be attached to a cover message sent to: Dr. Mark Dunford via Mark@Digi-Tales.org.uk.

Proposals should include:

- The names, positions and contact details for all the proposed organiser's team (with one contact designated as liaison).
- Your vision of how to build on the success of the conference series, maintaining or extending the most recent event's inclusive and creative emphases
- Proposed dates of the conference in 2021 or 2023
- A summary statement on amenities of proposed venue(s) and benefits of location (please include public transport options including times from nearest international airport to main venues/accommodation)
- Links to proposers' resume and institution(s) where they are proposing to host the conference
- Indicative funding commitments that proposers' have to support the event (secured or signed institutional commitment will be required at final proposal stage)
- If necessary, an assessment of risks to the conference viability or delegates' safety and proposals for mitigating them.

The VMISC will select up to three of the best EoIs based on responses to the above criteria and offer them feedback, before seeking more detailed finalised proposals by 30th June 2019. Representatives from the selected city for 2021 will be invited to the 2019 conference in Bucharest and the venue will be announced at the closing session.

The Visual Methods Steering Committee will then organise a handover in good time to start the organising process. Our wish is to have the successful team issuing a first call for contributions to the 2021 conference by September 2020.

Initial enquiries should be sent to Dr Mark Dunford at Mark@Digi-Tales.org.uk.