



UNIVERSITY OF SHKODËR “LUIGJ GURAKUQI”
Faculty of Social Sciences · Center for Albanological Studies

in collaboration with
THE MUNICIPALITY OF SHKODËR

**CALL FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE
SEMINAR**

“SHKODRA THROUGH THE CENTURIES”

International Seminar · Since 1993
Heritage, memory and new horizons of research



11–12 DECEMBER 2026·SHKODËR

University of Shkodër “Luigj Gurakuqi”, Shkodër

Abstract submission deadline: 7 November 2026

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unishk.edu.al/kerkimi-shkencor/konferenca/shkodra-ne-shekuj

The University of Shkodër “Luigj Gurakuqi”, the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Center for Albanological Studies, in collaboration with the Municipality of Shkodër, announce the call for participation in the International Seminar “Shkodra Through the Centuries”, to be held on 11–12 December 2026 in Shkodër.

Scholars, university teaching staff, early-career researchers, doctoral candidates, heritage professionals, representatives of archives, museums and libraries, as well as institutions from Albania and abroad, are invited to take part.

-History of the seminar

The International Seminar “Shkodra Through the Centuries” was held for the first time on 22–23 June 1993. Up to 2005 six editions took place, the proceedings of which were published in separate volumes by the Historical Museum of Shkodra and are held in the National Library of Albania:

- First International Seminar, 22–23 June 1993 (volume published in 1994);
- Second International Seminar, 22–23 June 1995 (published in 1998);
- Third International Seminar, 16–17 November 1998 (published in 2000);
- Fourth International Seminar, 20–22 November 2000 (published in 2002);
- Fifth International Seminar, 25–26 October 2002 (published in 2005);
- Sixth International Seminar, 26 November 2005 (published in 2006).

The seminar was resumed on 12–13 December 2024 by the University of Shkodër “Luigj Gurakuqi” in collaboration with the Municipality of Shkodër. The 2026 edition continues this tradition, undertaking to seek out sources that have not been exploited, methods that have not been tested and questions that have so far been left aside.

- Objectives

The seminar pursues the following objectives:

- to foster original research grounded in archival, archaeological, linguistic, ethnographic, visual and digital sources;
- to build bridges of cooperation between Albanian and foreign scholars, academic institutions, museums, archives and local communities;
- to support early-career researchers and the intergenerational exchange of methods, questions and research experience;
- to connect the production of knowledge with the preservation, interpretation and responsible transmission of heritage.

- Thematic strands

I. Political, economic and urban history

Shkodra and the North in different historical periods; the economy, trade and crafts; the formation of urban space; religious and civil institutions; biography and microhistory.

II. Sources, archives and public memory

New archival holdings and documentary rediscoveries; source criticism; the history of archives and of their losses; oral testimony; public uses of the past and the politics of commemoration.

III. Albanological studies: language, literature and oral tradition

The Gheg dialects; literature and folklore; the circulation of texts, ideas and cultural models; the history of Albanological scholarship itself.

IV. Archaeology and the cultural landscape

New research and discoveries; settlements, monuments and historical itineraries; documentation, conservation, digitization and interpretation of the cultural landscape.

V. Art, photography, music and cultural institutions

Artistic and literary production; photographic and musical heritage; collections, theatres, libraries and museums in civic life.

VI. Education, intellectual networks and the circulation of knowledge

Educational institutions and their history; intellectual figures and networks; heritage education and contemporary forms of communicating knowledge.

VII. Heritage, community and sustainable tourism

Community participation; heritage management and interpretation; cultural tourism and the local economy; the opportunities and the risks of commercialization.

VIII. Legal traditions and forms of social organization

Institutions of law; statutes and customary codes (kanun); forms of solidarity, of property and of conflict resolution.

IX. Environmental history and the human–nature relationship

Lake Shkodra, the Buna river, Malësia e Madhe, Dukagjini, Nën Shkodra and the surrounding region, and ecosystems as objects of historical enquiry; traditional practices of resource use; climate change and conservation policies. The strand is open to approaches drawn from environmental history, the environmental humanities and political ecology; contributions from the natural sciences are welcome where they engage historical, cultural or public policy questions.

The list is indicative. Proposals introducing other themes, sources or methods are equally welcome, provided they accord with the scholarly profile of the seminar.

-Format of the sessions

The seminar is organized in thematic sessions and joint discussions. Each paper is allotted 10 minutes of presentation, followed by discussion.

In addition to individual papers, proposals for full thematic panels are also accepted, comprising 3 to 4 papers and a designated coordinator.

Seminar languages: Albanian and English.

-Publication

Accepted abstracts are published in the seminar's book of abstracts.

Full papers are to be submitted by 31 March 2027. The length of the paper is 5 to 15 pages.

Citations and bibliography are to follow the Chicago style, in accordance with the norms of the journal

“Studime Filologjike” of the Academy of Sciences; the complete formatting guide is sent to authors together with the notification of acceptance.

The papers of previous editions have been published in separate volumes, catalogued and preserved in the National Library of Albania. The 2024 volume will be presented and distributed at this year's edition.

- Important dates

Stage	Deadline
Submission of abstracts	7 November 2026
Notification of acceptance	10 November 2026
Holding of the seminar	11–12 December 2026
Submission of full papers for publication	31 March 2027

The seminar programme is sent to participants and published on the official website following the notification of acceptance.

Contact

Proposals and enquiries should be sent to the dedicated address of the seminar:

zamira.shkreli@unishk.edu.al

Official website: unishk.edu.al/kerkimi-shkencor/konferenca/shkodra-ne-shekuj

Address: University of Shkodër “Luigj Gurakuqi”, Faculty of Social Sciences, Shkodër, Albania.

***We look forward to
welcoming you to Shkodër.***