

## Project Partner Search Form

- We offer my expertise to participate as a Partner in a Horizon Europe Project
- We are planning to coordinate a project and I am looking for Project Partners

**We are interested in Horizon Europe Cluster 2 – Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society, particularly topics related to:**

- Digital preservation and digitisation of cultural heritage and manuscript collections;
- Advanced technologies for cultural heritage conservation and accessibility;
- Safeguarding written cultural heritage and endangered archives;
- Intercultural dialogue and shared European cultural traditions;
- Digital Humanities and manuscript studies;
- Cultural heritage, identity, education and regional development.

### PARTNER INFORMATION

#### Description of the Legal Entity

**Samtskhe-Javakheti State University (SJSU)** is a leading public higher education institution in the southwestern region of Georgia. Established in 1990 originally as a **branch of Ivane Javakishvili Tbilisi State University**, the institution underwent a series of institutional developments and mergers—including integrating the Akhalstikhe and Akhalkalaki higher education entities. In 2014, it officially gained full university status. Today, SJSU serves as a vital academic, scientific, and cultural hub in the region, dedicated to fostering high-quality research, regional development, and international collaboration. The university is fully authorized by the National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement of Georgia and is actively engaged in expanding its international research footprint.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Research Institution | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Administration        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industry /SME               | <input type="checkbox"/> NGO                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Please specify</i> |

#### Description of the (Research) Team

Our interdisciplinary research team brings together highly experienced experts specializing in textual criticism (textology), codicology, archeography, and cultural heritage preservation. The team is led by an experienced project manager, Meri Sakhamberidze. The scientific core consists of Dr. Nestan Sulava, a leading researcher in textology and ancient Georgian texts; Dr. Nino Megeneishvili, a senior researcher specializing in textology, codicology, and archeography; and Shorena Tavadze, a dedicated researcher and cultural heritage preservation specialist.

All team members hold key positions in reputable educational and scientific research institutions, possessing extensive experience in successfully executing international and national collaborative research projects. Their collective expertise focuses on the comprehensive study, fundamental analysis, and preservation of historical manuscripts and cultural heritage, making them uniquely positioned to contribute significantly to research within Horizon Europe Cluster 2.

#### Potential role in the project

- |  |                                   |   |  |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research | <input type="checkbox"/> Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Dissemination  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:        |
| Already experience as a                      | Coordinator                       | <input type="checkbox"/> YES            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |
|  | Partner                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO            |

## Our expertise:

Georgia, as one of the world's oldest Christian nations, possesses an exceptionally rich repository of ancient and early Christian texts rooted in early liturgical traditions. Ahead of the upcoming historical milestone—the 1700th anniversary of Georgia's adoption of Christianity—our team offers highly specialized, interdisciplinary expertise focusing on:

- **Textual Criticism & Comparative Analysis:** Deep experience in the fundamental research and textual analysis of medieval liturgical manuscript traditions, specifically the recensions of the *Parakliton* (the Book of the Eight Tones) preserved in Georgian and international repositories; performing rigorous comparative analysis with corresponding texts in other languages (e.g., Greek, Latin).
- **Codicology & Archeography:** Comprehensive material and physical description of manuscripts, establishing provenance, dating, and paleographical analysis of fragmentary and complete historical documents.
- **Digitization & Digital Archiving:** Extensive expertise in the digitization of historical archives, including the processing and conversion of microfilms, preservation of delicate manuscript funds, and creating structured digital repositories to ensure open science and long-term accessibility.
- **Archival Conservation & Risk Assessment:** Assessing the physical preservation status of manuscript collections, evaluating storage conditions, and developing strategic institutional recommendations for physical and digital conservation.

We are equipped to contribute unique source materials, textological methodologies, and regional insights to collaborative projects focused on European cultural heritage, religious history, and the preservation of endangered archives.

### CONTACT DETAILS

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