

www.philology.org

Oslo, 17 February 2023

## **Invitation to join the World Philology Union**

Dear Colleagues,

The World Philology Union (WPU) <a href="https://www.philology.org/">https://www.philology.org/</a> was founded at the Norwegian Academy of Arts and Sciences, Oslo, in December 2021 and held its first international conference in Rome in December 2022. As the first worldwide organisation aiming to connect and support the philological study of all languages of the world, both past and present, its purpose is to strengthen the role of philology in education and research, as well as in culture more broadly.

The WPU regards philology as a broad science encompassing many disciplines and subdisciplines, including historical linguistics, palaeography, textual criticism and interpretation amongst many others. It may be regarded as the basic discipline of the humanities, for which it plays a role similar to that of mathematics in the natural and physical sciences.

The WPU welcomes academic and educational institutions who support its aims as institutional members. Equally, it welcomes individual members, including scholars, teachers on all levels, and anyone interested in supporting philology as an activity essential to all historical and humanistic studies.

The WPU will promote philological education as an essential component of educational systems as well as a necessary tool for accessing materials for historical research. In order to enhance public understanding of the importance of philology and to support philological education and research it aims to organize conferences, to publicize courses, networks and research groups, and, where necessary, to put pressure on universities and other bodies where the future of philological studies is threatened.

The extent to which the WPU can achieve its objectives will of course depend on the support which it receives from its members. We hope very much that you will join us and thus help to build the momentum of this initiative.

## **Annual membership fees:**

Institutions €200Affiliated Scholars €40Independent scholars and students €10

These membership fees have been set at a very low level so that no institution or individual should be excluded from membership for financial reasons. Needless to say, those who would like to support the activities of the WPU by making contributions over and above the suggested membership fees are most welcome to do so.

Gratefully, Jens Braarvig President of the WPU

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