NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

(in alphabetical order)

Dr. **Javier Albarrán** is a Ramón y Cajal tenure-track researcher in the Department of Medieval History at the University of Granada and Principal Investigator of the Research Group "Production, Exchanges, Narratives and Materiality". He specializes in medieval Islamic history, particularly of al-Andalus and the Maghreb, and his research focuses on areas such as the history of jihad, minorities in al-Andalus, the Islamic response to the Crusades, memory in the Islamic West, and al-Andalus in contemporary thought. One of his most recent research lines concerns environmental narratives in the medieval Islamic West. He has undertaken study and research stays at various international institutions, including the University of Jordan, the University of Religions and Denominations in Qom (Iran), Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University in Fez, and the University of Göttingen. In 2020–2021, he was a Junior Fellow at the RomanIslam Center for Advanced Studies at the University of Hamburg, and until 2024, he served as Assistant Professor of Medieval History at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. He is the author of numerous articles, chapters and books, including *Ejércitos benditos. Yihad y memoria en al-Andalus (10th–13th centuries)* (Granada, 2020). More recently, he has coordinated the collective volumes *Al-Andalus y la guerra* (Madrid, 2024) and *Violencia interconfesional: realidades y percepciones en la península ibérica* (Granada, 2024).

Carlos de Ayala holds a PhD in Medieval History (1985) from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and a degree in Ecclesiastical Studies from the Pontifical University of Comillas (2006). He is currently a full professor of Medieval History at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. His research focuses on the monarchy, the Church, and the legitimization of political power in the early

medieval Iberian Peninsula; kingship and government in high medieval Castile; and military orders, holy war, and the Crusades in the Iberian Peninsula. Between 1989 and the present day, he has led seven R&D research projects. He is the author of several major works, including *Las órdenes militares hispánicas en la Edad Media, siglos XII-XV* (2003); *Sacerdocio y Reino en la España Altomedieval. Iglesia y poder político en el Occidente peninsular, siglos VII-XII* (2008); *Órdenes militares, monarquía y espiritualidad militar en los reinos de Castilla y León, siglos XII-XIII* (2015); *Ibn Tūmart, el arzobispo Jiménez de Rada y la 'cuestión sobre Dios'* (2017); and *Las Cruzadas. Origen, desarrollo y crisis* (2024).

Mehdi Berriah is a researcher in Islamic Studies and History of the Muslim World at the French Institute for the Near East (Ifpo), where he also serves as Regional Coordinator for Islamic Studies. His research focuses on medieval and modern Islamic thought and theology, Ibn Taymiyya, the concept of jihad, and the intellectual, political, and military history of the Muslim world. He is also interested in the influence of medieval Muslim scholars on contemporary Islamic thought. More recently, his work has focused on questions of Islamic epistemologies and paradigms. He examines the ways in which medieval Islamic thought—including its authors, concepts, legal categories, theological frameworks, and forms of authority—is reinterpreted, transmitted, and mobilized in contemporary contexts. His research combines philological analysis, intellectual history, and critical Islamic Studies in order to explore the continuities, ruptures, and transformations linking the medieval and modern periods. Particular attention is given to both the doctrinal implications of these processes, such as normative reconfigurations and uses of tradition, and their sociological effects in practices, institutions, public debates, and transnational circulations. He has co-edited several collective volumes, including *The Medieval Jihad: Texts, Theories and Practices* (Ifao, 2025) and *Ibn Taymiyya's Thought: Corpus, Reception, and Legacy* (2026). He is also the author of *Mamluk Art of Warfare (1250–1375): Strategies and Tactics* (Brill), recipient of the Verbruggen Prize awarded by the De Re Militari Society for Medieval Military History.

Esther Dehoux is an *associate professor* at the University of Lille and a member of the research centre HARTIS (UMR 9028). Her research focuses on the religious and political dimensions of the Central Middle Ages, with a particular emphasis on literary and iconographic sources. She explores the history of power—both secular and ecclesiastical—as well as the veneration and representation of saints.

Her publications include her doctoral thesis, adapted into the monograph *Saints guerriers. Georges, Guillaume, Maurice et Michel dans la France médiévale (XIe–XIIIe siècle)* (2014). She also co-edited, with Damien Carraz, the volume *Images et ornements autour des ordres militaires au Moyen Âge. Culture visuelle et culte des saints (France, Espagne du Nord, Italie)* (2016).

Jesús Huertas Gómez is a PhD candidate at the University of Girona, where he is completing his doctoral thesis, entitled "Peace and the Church in the Visigothic Kingdom of Toledo (568–711)", under the supervision of Professor Antoni Ñaco del Hoyo (ICREA–University of Girona) and Professor Purificación Ubric Rabaneda (University of Granada). He graduated in History from the University of Granada in 2020 and furthered his academic training with a Master's Degree in Secondary Education Teacher Training (2021) and a Master's Degree in Archaeology (2022), both awarded by the same institution. His research focuses on peace and the management of conflict in Late Antiquity, particularly in the Visigothic kingdom. His work pays special attention to political culture, post-conflict dynamics, and the mechanisms through which authority and consensus were constructed in early medieval societies.

Eduard Juncosa Bonet earned a BA with Honours in History, receiving an extraordinary award from the University of Barcelona (2003), and a BA with Honours in Political Science and Public Administration, awarded both an extraordinary and a national prize by the Complutense University of Madrid (2008). He subsequently obtained his PhD in Medieval History from the same university (2014), also receiving an extraordinary award and a European mention. His main research interests centre on the relationship between ecclesiastical and secular powers, political theories and forms, representative institutions, rituals and ceremonies, and the portrayal of power in the Crown of Aragon during the Late Middle Ages. He has developed these research themes within the framework of various national and European research projects. The results of his research have been disseminated through articles in specialised journals, chapters in collective volumes, and presentations at national and international conferences and seminars.

Dr. **Alexander J. Korte** is Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies at Concordia College, Moorhead, United States. He received his Ph.D. in Hispanic literature from the University of Minnesota in 2023. His research on Premodern Iberia

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Simone Lombardo (Monza, 1993) has a PhD in Medieval History, is a Fellow at Harvard - Villa I Tatti, and worked at European research institutes, including Heidelberg University, the DHI, the EFR, and ISIME in Rome. He has published four monographs and studies on the medieval Mediterranean, the Crusades, and maritime history.

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Oleg Sokolov is an associate professor at the Department of Arabic Philology, Faculty of Asian and African Studies, St. Petersburg State University, where he teaches Arabic and courses on the Crusades and Islamic history. His current research interests include the images of the Other in the Medieval Middle East, memory of the Crusades in the Islamic world and Christian-Muslim relations in the Mediterranean. He obtained his B.A. and M.A. in Arabic philology and his PhD in history at St. Petersburg State University. He co-authored *The Historiography and Memory of the Crusades in the Modern Arab World* (Trivent Publishing, 2025). His key publications include *The Crusades in the Arab Social and Political Discourse of the 19th – early 20th centuries* (Crusades, 2023, Vol. 22/1) and *Facing the Franks Again: The Crusades in Arab Social and Political Thought (1914–48)* (Die Welt des Islams, 2024. Vol. 64/4).

Kevin Vogelaar studies Christian, Jewish, Zoroastrian, and Buddhist interfaith relations and late antique and early medieval cultural connections linking the Caucasus and Northern Mesopotamia to Central and East Asia. He developed specializations in Syriac and Armenian textual and material sources as a postgraduate student at Fordham and Tufts universities. Since 2020, Kevin has been lecturing and publishing on Syriac and Armenian Christian communities in their broader Persianate and Eurasian cultural contexts. He has also been working on several Armenian cultural heritage preservation projects.