

## 11<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Mummy Studies - Cusco 2025

Our ancestors speak to us through science Ñawpa mallkinchis yachaykunamanta rimawanchis

## FIRST COMMUNICATION

We are pleased to invite you to the 11th World Congress on Mummy Studies (11 WCMS), which will take place in Cusco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire, from August 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The event will be hosted at the Bartolomé de las Casas Center, located a few blocks from the Plaza de Armas. This research center in social sciences features several auditoriums, comfortable spaces for the exchange of ideas, and a hotel.

In the Andean worldview, the ancestors do not die but remain among us, helping us to live well: in quechua, the phrase is *Allin Kawsay*: doing the right things to live in harmony among us and with nature. In light of this aspect of Andean philosophy, the central theme of the 11<sup>th</sup> WCMS emphasizes the continuity of transmitting wisdom from our ancestors through the scientific study of mummies. In the materiality of their bodies, they bear witness to lives lived in harmony, knowledge of which, thanks to science, reaches the present as life lessons. What do the *mallquis* tell us about ethnic and genetic diversity, diets, pharmacopeia, rituals, and seasonality? How can we understand the health status or satisfaction of basic needs for each population and time? We invite our colleagues to recover our ancestors' messages, with the goal of building a healthier, better world, from the level of the individual to the level of ecosystems.

The official languages of the Congress are Spanish and English. Papers can be presented in podium or poster format. We invite you to submit symposium proposals in either format by June 30, 2024, at 11.59 pm Lima time, to the email grupo.gibaf@pucp.edu.pe

Proposals should include the following information:

- Symposium title and format (podium or poster)
- Name, affiliation, and email of the organizer(s)
- Abstract of up to 300 words

The accepted symposium topics will be communicated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> circular, which will be sent in September 30, 2024.

Cusco is a wonderful city, full of natural and historic-monumental attractions. We extend the invitation to all mummy researchers and students to participate in this meeting, hoping that this event will contribute to strengthening ties between the scientific community and the general population, inheritors of the wisdom of our ancestors.

Qusqupi qhawasunchis! See you in Cusco!

The Organizing Committee 2025