Istanbul University invites the members of ISCH to join the society’s annual conference 2013 on the shores of the Bosphorus.

Istanbul defines its unique location through the border between two continents. Its multifaceted history as a metropolis in different civilisations invites us to reflect what it is when we talk about culture: Who is the agent manifesting cultures? How does culture change over time across political and social transitions? How do present-day inhabitants relate to cultural artefacts found in the soil of their land? The conference will explore the relationship between culture, concepts of geographical space, historical time, socio-ethnic groups and individuals. Language, religions, ideologies, elite and mass cultures all converge in shaping the way human beings understand themselves and one another.

The organising committee proposes the following list of topics:

- Culture and change
- Whose artefacts ... whose remains?
- Constructing collective memories
- Healing artefacts
- Culture and political resistance
- Artefacts in the age of social networks
- Methodologies in the study of artefacts, culture, and identity

Members are cordially invited to suggest further items and organise thematic sessions.

A first call for papers will be circulated in September 2012.

For initial questions, please, contact Hakan Ertin (hakanertin@gmail.com), Rainer Brömer (Rainer.Broemer@gmx.de) or Philipp Amour (dr@philipp-amour.ch)