IMC 2026 - 11th International Masonry Conference
12th – 15th July2026, Lübeck, Germany
Chair of Organising Committee

IMC 2026 – Conference Information Booklet

A Vision for Masonry –
welcoming the international masonry community to Lübeck
for inspiring exchange, strong practice connections
and visible innovation in a unique World Heritage setting.

Purpose of this booklet
This is the expandable participant guide for IMC 2026. It can be updated regularly, redistributed by e-mail, and offered for download on the conference

At a Glance

11th International Masonry Conference (IMC 2026) will take place from 12 to 15 July 2026 in Lübeck, Germany. The conference combines scientific excellence with practical relevance and brings together the international masonry community in a uniquely fitting setting: Lübeck, a city whose brick-built heritage connects history, engineering, conservation, and innovation in a particularly vivid way.

The long Northern Daylight

Mid-July is one of the loveliest times to be in Lübeck. The conference takes place in the height of the northern summer, when long, bright evenings create a distinctive atmosphere and invite participants to enjoy the city beyond the formal programme. On 12 July 2026, the sun will set at 21:43, and on 13 July 2026, it will rise at 05:02.

The MUK, the Old Town, and many centrally located hotels are close to one another, making Lübeck an unusually easy conference city to experience on foot. The city centre is compact, walkable, and generally calm, so participants can enjoy Lübeck comfortably both during the day and into the evening.

Venue: MUK (locally pronounced 'mook')	Musik- und Kongresshalle Lübeck (MUK) Willy-Brandt-Allee 10, 23554 Lübeck, Germany **Walking Distances from MUK to:** • Lübeck Hauptbahnhof (Central Station): 600 … 800 m • Marienkirche (City Center): 750 m
Sunday pre-conference tours	12 July 2026 **(Discover Lübeck through expert-guided tours)**
Registration and Welcome Reception	Sunday, 12 July 2026
Professional Evening	Monday, 13 July 2026 – "A Vision for Masonry" (separate registration required)
Detailed scientific sessions	Please refer to the updated session schedule in the second part of this booklet
Gala Dinner	14 July 2026, 19:00–23:00 (MUK Rotunda)
Post-Conference Guided Technical Excursion	15 July 2026, 16:00–19:00 "House Almost Without Heating, 2226" (bus transfer included)

Why Lübeck is a special place for IMC 2026

- UNESCO World Heritage city,
- Centuries of brick-built heritage,
- Strong connections between conservation, engineering, and innovation,
- A compact historic centre shaped by waterways, medieval alleys and courtyards,
- Historic Town Houses in the famous **Gänge und Höfe**, still in everyday use,
- The city can also be experienced from the water, including by boat — for example individually with **Boat Now** (https://boatnow-luebeck.de/), where visitors can rent a small electric boat and explore the waterways around the Old Town island,
- A relaxed summer atmosphere in cafés, streets, and waterfront areas.

Getting there from Hamburg Airport (HAM)

For most international participants, the easiest route to Lübeck is by train from **Hamburg Airport**. We recommend installing the **DB Navigator app** in advance, as it makes it easy to check connections and buy tickets, which also helps avoid delays and saves time at ticket machines. (Web: https://www.bahn.de)

From the airport, take the **S1 suburban train to Hamburg Hauptbahnhof (Hamburg Hbf)**. The journey to Hamburg Hbf takes about **25 minutes**. (The S1 runs every 10 minutes between 06:00 and 23:00, and every 20 minutes at other times; the first train reaches the airport at 04:28, and the last train to the city centre leaves the airport at 00:14.) At Hamburg Hbf, we recommend taking a direct **RE8** regional train to **Lübeck Hauptbahnhof** whenever available. These are comfortable double-decker regional trains, and each train includes a small 1st-class section, if you like. The full trip from the airport to Lübeck usually takes around **1 hour 10 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes**, depending on the connection. Trains on this route can be busy during peak commuting hours, especially in the morning and late afternoon. We recommend checking your onward platform in the app before arrival at Hamburg Hbf, as the station can be very busy.

If you book a **flexible ticket**, there is typically **no train binding**, but the ticket is usually valid only for the **day shown on the ticket**; for longer journeys, travel must begin on that day. Saver fares may have stricter conditions, so please check the fare type when booking.

Please note one special point for the **return journey to Hamburg Airport**: on S1 services from Hamburg Hbf towards the airport, only the front three carriages continue to Hamburg Airport. This does not affect the journey from the airport to Lübeck, but it is important on the way back.

Please also note that local public transport in Lübeck is not automatically included in every DB ticket. Some long-distance DB tickets include a City-Ticket option, and Deutschlandticket holders can use local public transport as usual, but conference participants should check the exact conditions of their ticket.

As an alternative, **a taxi from Hamburg Airport to central Lübeck usually takes about 60–75 minutes** and may cost roughly **€110–€150**, depending on traffic and time of day. Rail travel on this route is generally straightforward and comfortable. Late at night, especially on weekend trains from Hamburg, some services can be a little livelier because of party traffic, so daytime and evening connections are usually the most relaxed option.

S1 suburban train at Hamburg Airport (HAM), source: https://www.s-bahn-hamburg.de

DB Navigator app

Travel tip: Hamburg Airport (HAM) is the terminus of the S1 suburban line, so when travelling from the airport towards Lübeck, you cannot accidentally take a train in the wrong direction — all S1 services first go to Hamburg Hauptbahnhof. If two trains are waiting at the platform, it is worth checking the DB Navigator app or the departure displays to see which one leaves first.

Sunday pre-conference tours – 12 July 2026

We strongly recommend early arrival in Lübeck on Sunday, 12 July 2026. Before registration opens, participants will have the opportunity to join guided tours that introduce important architectural, historical, and construction-related aspects of the city. These tours are a distinctive part of the conference experience because they are guided by outstanding experts rather than commercial city guides.

Start your IMC experience

Before the conference officially begins, participants are invited to discover Lübeck through a series of carefully curated tours. These excursions offer a valuable first encounter with the city's architectural heritage and create an inspiring bridge between the conference themes and the built environment of Lübeck itself.

- The Sacred Landscape
- Historic Townhouses and Salt Exposure
- Fortifications and Medieval Construction Techniques

Please register separately for the tours. Availability may be limited.

In Lübeck, history is visible not only in the city's iconic brick buildings, but also beneath its streets and squares. The tours reflect this close connection between archaeology, heritage conservation, and the careful continued development of a living historic city. Three tours are offered, please book at

- https://muk.online-ticket.de/imc-2026 (watch for "Choose your extra")

1. The Sacred Landscape
   Marianne Lutter and Dr. Dirk Rieger
   14:00 – meeting point: MUK, in front of the Rotunda
2. Historic Townhouses and Salt Exposure
   Gisbert Knipscheer
   14:00 – meeting point: MUK, in front of the Rotunda
3. Fortifications and Medieval Construction Techniques
   André Dubisch and Nina Krischke
   14:00 – meeting point: Burgtor (15 m outside the gate, near the small model in a glass case by the Burgtor bridge)

Led by distinguished experts in heritage conservation, archaeology, and building research, these tours provide rare insights into Lübeck's UNESCO World Heritage fabric and into the ways in which historic structures are preserved, understood, and kept alive today. Together, they open up key elements of Lübeck's urban monument: its skyline and historic townscape, its streets, plots, alleys and courtyards, its major public landmarks, its layered archaeological record, and the remarkable continuity of its town houses and urban fabric.

The city map with routes and short descriptions will be available for download via the IMC website soon.

Professional Evening – “A Vision for Masonry” – 13 July 2026

The Professional and Industrial Evening on Monday, 13 July 2026 is one of the strongest outward-facing elements of IMC 2026. It is designed as a high-level exchange between international research, industry, design practice, and the regional professional community.

Why this evening matters

- Please also check whether you have separately registered for “A Vision for Masonry”, as this evening event is not automatically included in the general conference registration.
- For conference participants, the event is **available at a strongly reduced additional fee**.
- The evening offers outstanding keynote contributions, a relaxed get-together with finger food and drinks, and a later social atmosphere with music.

This evening is particularly valuable because it goes well beyond a conventional conference reception. It creates a lively meeting point between international masonry research and the professional world of planning, engineering, execution, and industry.

Suggested promotional emphasis: participants should not regard this as an optional side event, but as one of the **most attractive opportunities of the conference week** to experience keynote-level input, interdisciplinary discussion, and informal networking in a strong atmosphere.

Please book at

- https://muk.online-ticket.de/imc-2026 (watch for “Choose your extra”)

MUK-Rotunda, © Olaf Malzahn / MUK

IMC 2026 | 12–15 July 2026 | MUK, Lübeck, Germany

Detailed Session Tables

Sunday, 12 July 2026

Pre-Conference Day

Optional Tours & Welcome Reception

14:00–16:00 — Optional Guided Tours (individual booking) – Discover Lübeck

1. The Sacred Landscape
2. Lübeck's Historic Townhouses & Salt Exposure
3. Fortifications and Medieval Construction Techniques

16:00–19:00 — Registration & Welcome Reception: Meet fellow delegates, early networking, refreshments.

Day 1 — Monday, 13 July 2026

Opening Day with Extended Parallel Sessions

09:00–10:30 — Opening Ceremony and Keynotes

- Welcome addresses
  Pia Steinrücke, Senator for Economic and Social Affairs
  Chair of the Organizing Committee
- Dr. Martin Rücker & Alexander Böttcher, Ministry of the Interior: "The Future of Construction Product Reuse, Sustainable Procurement: Transforming Construction."
- Prof. Inge Rörig-Dalgaard DTU Copenhagen: "Status on reuse of fired clay bricks – ready for the future?"
- Dr. Dirk Rieger: "Introduction to Lübeck's urban structure and its outstanding historic landmarks"

10:30–11:00 — Coffee Break

11:00–12:30 — Parallel Sessions I (4 Tracks)

- Masonry Materials and Testing I
- Numerical Modelling I
- Structural Design
- Innovation and Sustainability of Masonry I

12:30–13:30 — Lunch

13:30–15:00 — Parallel Sessions II (4 Tracks)

- Conservation of Historic Buildings
- Novel Modelling and Experimental Techniques I
- Infill Walls
- New Construction Techniques and Technologies

15:00–15:30 — Coffee Break

15:30–17:00 — Parallel Sessions III (3 Tracks)

- Maintenance, Repair, Strengthening and Retrofitting
- Durability, Deterioration and Moisture Effects
- Earthquake Engineering and Eurocode 8 /I

Day 1 — Monday, 13 July 2026

18:00–23:00 — "A Vision for Masonry" (individual booking)

Professional & Industrial Evening Keynote contributions, Industrial partners, networking, music & refreshments

- Prof. Paulo B. Lourenço (Univ. do Minho) "Timeless Materials, Beyond Sustainability: A Vision for Masonry"
- Prof. Bahman Ghiassi (University of Birmingham): "Generative AI Revolution for Cracking the Code in the Nonlinear Analysis and Assessment of Masonry at Scale"
- T. Meysam/M. Mlynski: "Resilient and efficient: masonry construction using the WLTR mobile robot"
- Prof. Dietmar Walberg (ARGE eV) "Masonry Construction: Cost Effectiveness, Building Culture, Regional Value Creation"
- Relaxed get-together with finger food and drinks, and a later social atmosphere with music.

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We will welcome the WLTR Masonry Robot as a very special conference participant and discuss, how mobile robotics can support the construction of resilient masonry — faster, more efficiently, and with a clear connection to the long tradition of clay brick architecture in Lübeck.
This contribution is kindly supported by Wienerberger.

Day 2 — Tuesday, 14 July 2026

Keynote Sessions, Extended Parallel Sessions and Gala Dinner

09:00–10:00 — Morning Keynote

Prof. Katrin Beyer (EPFL, Switzerland): Unreinforced Masonry: Seismically Safe and Sustainable – What Are the Options?

10:00–10:30 — Coffee Break

10:30–12:30 — Parallel Sessions IV (3 Tracks)

- Brick Infrastructure
- Case Studies
- Numerical Modelling II

12:30–13:30 — Lunch

13:30–15:15 — Parallel Sessions V (4 Tracks)

- Veneer Walls and Wall Ties
- Masonry Materials and Testing II
- Innovation and Sustainability of Masonry II (including resilience, climate change and low-carbon solutions)
- Assessment, Monitoring and Performance of Existing Masonry

15:15–15:45 — Coffee Break

16:00–18:00 — RILEM and DAfM Plenary Meetings, and Student Competition (lintel testing)

19:00–23:00 — Gala Dinner (MUK Rotunda)

- Festive dinner, short keynote talks, welcome addresses and award ceremony, music & celebration

Day 3 — Wednesday, 15 July 2026

Keynote Sessions, Final Parallel Sessions and Closing Ceremony (Conference closes at 15:30)

09:00–10:00 — Morning Keynote

Prof. Wolfram Jäger (Dresden, Germany): Adobe Masonry – Learning from the Past to Shape the Future

10:00–10:15 — AI and Digitalisation

Paulo Lourenço: Summer School on AI Tools – Report on Selected Outcomes

10:15–10:30 — 3-Minute Poster Lightning Talks

10:30–11:00 — Coffee Break

11:00–12:30 — Parallel Sessions VI (4 Tracks)

- Masonry Materials and Testing III
- Reinforced and Confined Masonry
- Architecture with Masonry
- Arches and Vaulted Structures

12:30–13:30 — Lunch

13:30–15:00 — Parallel Sessions VII (3 Tracks)

- Novel Modelling and Experimental Techniques II
- Earthquake Engineering and Eurocode 8 /II
- Earthen Construction and Related Innovations: Papers, Perspectives and Practice

15:00–15:30 — Closing Ceremony

Conference reflections, acknowledgements and farewell.

Post-Conference Programme (Individual booking)

16:00–19:00 — Guided Technical Excursions

- "House Almost Without Heating, 2226":
  Monolithic Masonry Construction, Prefabrication (with integrated windows), New and Innovative Building Concept. (Bus transfer included)

Live Demonstration: WLTR Masonry Robot

- As part of our Professional & Industrial Evening on Monday, we will welcome the WLTR masonry robot and discuss, how mobile robotics can support the construction of resilient masonry — faster, more efficiently, and with a clear connection to the long tradition of clay brick architecture in Lübeck. This contribution is kindly supported by Wienerberger.
- We are very much looking forward to welcoming the robot as a very special conference participant — and to the discussion with our authors, delegates, industry partners and all colleagues interested in the future of masonry construction.

Note: Room assignments and session chairs will be confirmed in the next updated version.

Day 1 — Monday, 13 July 2026

Opening Ceremony and Keynotes (09:00–10:30)

Opening Keynotes

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
9:15–9:45	Martin Rücker & Alexander Böttcher	The Future of Construction Product Reuse, Sustainable Procurement: Transforming Construction	–
9:45–11:00	Inge Rörig-Dalgaard	Status on reuse of fired clay bricks – ready for the future? [K2]	
11:00–11:30	Dirk Rieger	Introduction to Lübeck's urban structure and its outstanding historic landmarks. Material: www.masonry.org.uk/11-imc/	–

Parallel Sessions I (11:00–12:30)

Masonry Materials and Testing I

Room: Chairs: Vlatko Bosiljkov

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
11:00–11:15	Khaled Ba-shammakh	Stuctural Behaviours of Stone Masonry Bearing Walls in Yemen: A multi-leaf wall study [57]	
11:15–11:30	Adam Elias	Determination of Masonry Compressive Strength via Lateral Compression Testing of Drilled Cores [97]	
11:30–11:45	Birger Gigla	Comparison of Methods for Determining the Compressive Strength of Existing Masonry [71]	
11:45–12:00	Philipp Hofmann	Load-bearing and deformation behaviour of masonry structures [4]	
12:00–12:15	Guilherme Aris Parsekian and Elaine Pavei	Compressive and Flexural Strength of Blocks, Prisms and Small Soil-Cement Walls with and without Grout [242]	
12:15–12:30	Franz Loderer	Mechanical behaviour of AAC masonry under laterally loading [227]	

Numerical Modelling I

Room: Chairs: Katrin Beyer, Mark Masia

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
11:00–11:15	Abide Aşıkoğlu	Mechanism Matters: Lessons from Calibrating Continuum FE Models of Calcium-Silicate Masonry [160]	
11:15–11:30	Kristian Falkjar	Differences between experimental values and modelling parameters with a specific focus on elasticity [68]	
11:30–11:45	Truong Diep Hasenbank-Kriegbaum	Probabilistic Analysis of Dry-Stacked Masonry Wall under Eccentric Axial Loading Considering Slenderness Effects [27]	
11:45–12:00	Yahroun Hermans	Computational Geometry Reconstruction of 3D Irregular Multi-Leaf Masonry with Generated Internal Blocks and Lumped Joints [148]	
12:00–12:15	Paul Korswagen	Aspects To Consider When Modelling the Response of Masonry Façades to Ground Movements: Lessons From A Few Studies [54]	
12:15–12:30	Gijs Eumelen	Comparative study of macro and micro modelling strategies to simulate masonry damage due to soil settlements [204]	

Day 1 — Monday, 13 July 2026

Parallel Sessions I (11:00–12:30)

Structural Design

Room: Chairs: Jan Kubica

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
11:00–11:15	Franziska Amberger	Optimization of the design of masonry structures under horizontal loads [3]	
11:15–11:30	Sreekanta Das	Effect of Bonding Pattern on the Structural Behaviour of Reinforced Concrete Masonry Walls [16]	
11:30–11:45	Lisa Feldman	Framework for Evaluating the Effective Moment of Inertia of Concrete Masonry Walls [12]	
11:45–12:00	Mark Hagel	Design of Shelf Angles on Stand-offs Using Force Method and Virtual Work [18]	
12:00–12:15	Krzysztof Grzyb	Shear Capacity of Masonry Walls: Insights from ASTM Standard Tests [152]	
12:15–12:30	Mark McGinley	Shear Capacity of Masonry Walls under Combined Shear and Uplift. [240]	

Innovation and Sustainability of Masonry I

Room: Chairs: Bahman Ghiassi

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
11:00–11:15	Tesfaalem Atsbha	Investigating the Early-Age Physical Properties of Belite Calcium Sulfoaluminate Concrete for Concrete Masonry Units [213]	
11:15–11:30	Maria Belen Gaggero	Bacteria-based self-healing agent for masonry crack repair [167]	
11:30–11:45	Severin Kysela	A Reusable Prefabricated Brick Wall System for Circular Construction: Development, Structural Concept, and Life Cycle Potential [43]	
11:45–12:00	Nora Lang	Whole Life Carbon Comparisons on Building Level. Case study on a multi-family house [51]	
12:00–12:15	Juliane Nisse	Untapped potential in the life cycle assessments of sustainable buildings [8]	
12:15–12:30	Yehia Aboziada	Compression and Tension Properties of Stack-Pattern Mortarless Concrete Blocks [108]	

Day 1 — Monday, 13 July 2026

Parallel Sessions II (13:30–15:00)

Conservation of Historic Buildings

Room: Chairs: Sara Ganzerli

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Kidist Dereje Bedada	Characterization of Traditional Lime Mortar and Stone Masonry used in the Restoration of World Heritage Site in Gondar, Ethiopia [21]	
13:45–14:00	Giuliana Cardani	Challenging interpretations coming from flat jack tests applied to irregular masonry patterns [100]	
14:00–14:15	Mary Grace Lim Casuncad	A Methodical Framework for Historic Masonry Typology Classification and Numerical Model Calibration Using In-Situ Stress Tests [144]	
14:15–14:30	Tomas Gustavsson	Clay bricks for the maintenance of buildings from 1200-1850 [85]	
14:30–14:45	Molly Tate	The Steinwerke in Lübeck. Early Secular Brick Architecture and Construction Techniques in the High Middle Ages [55]	
14:45–15:00	Babar Ilyas	Effects of façade aspect-ratio on out-of-plane collapse mechanism of unreinforced masonry walls [13]	

Novel Modelling and Experimental Techniques I

Room: Chairs: Rita Esposito

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Jennifer Gebhardt	Unit Cell Method for Testing Small Format Brick Masonry under In-Plane Shear [66]	
13:45–14:00	Eduarda Vila-Chã	Automated tracking of rigid body kinematics and deformations in dry-joint masonry wall panels in a laboratory setting. [149]	
14:00–14:15	Jan Kubica	Kinetics of the change in the value of the damage parameter of in-plane sheared masonry [157]	
14:15–14:30	Erika Ortega-Guamán	In-Plane Cyclic Response of 1/3-Scale and Full-Scale Unreinforced Masonry Walls with Arch Openings: Preliminary Results [220]	
14:30–14:45	Lewis J. Gooch	Wind Tunnel Modelling and Stochastic Finite Element Analysis of Lattice Masonry Walls Under Out-of-Plane Loading [233]	
14:45–15:00		Session discussion / chair buffer	

Day 1 — Monday, 13 July 2026

Parallel Sessions II (13:30–15:00)

Infill Walls

Room: Chairs: Daniel Quiun

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Paolo Morandi	Local interaction of RC frames with sliding-joint masonry infills using deformable contact materials: design guidelines [177]	
13:45–14:00	Bar Bamani	Experimental study of large-scale RC frames with Infill walls with sliding joints against progressive collapse [50]	
14:00–14:15	Yi Liu	Experimental Study of the Out-of-Plane Behaviour of Masonry Infilled Frames [61]	
14:15–14:30	Ahmed Hisham Mabrouk	Advanced Macro-Modeling of Thick Masonry Infill Panels in RC Frames Under Seismic Loading: Experimental Validation and Parametric Insights [142]	
14:30–14:45	Dietlinde Köber	Lightweight RC frame with AAC exterior and partition walls built in seismic areas [189]	
		Session discussion / chair buffer	

New Construction Techniques and Technologies

Room: Chairs: Guil Parsekian

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Mahmoud Abdelrahman	Experimental Investigation of the Compressive and Shear Strengths of Mortarless Masonry [109]	
13:45–14:00	Tatheer Zahra	Experimental Investigation on Grouted Dry-Stack Masonry Walls under Compression: Effect of Eccentricity, Reinforcement, and Slenderness Ratio [84]	
14:00–14:15	Tatheer Zahra	Compressive and Flexural Behaviour of Versaloc Semi-interlocking Mortarless Masonry Prisms with Varying Section Thicknesses – An Experimental Study [58]	
14:15–14:30	Alexander Wolf	Reproducing Historical Ceramic Building Components through AM [88]	
14:30–14:45	Tristan Brune	Modulus of elasticity calculation for non-load-bearing interior masonry [228]	
		Session discussion / chair buffer	

Day 1 — Monday, 13 July 2026

Parallel Sessions III (15:30–17:00)

Earthquake Engineering and Eurocode 8 / I

Room: Chairs: Christoph Butenweg and Guido Magenes

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
15:30–15:45	Marta Bertassi	Validation of second-generation EC8 methods for seismic out-of-plane assessment of masonry walls [163]	
15:45–16:00	Angeliki Chronopoulou	Structural Behaviour and Conservation Challenges in Villa “La Rotonda” of Andrea Palladio: an interdisciplinary Approach [30]	
16:00–16:15	Nicolò Damiani	Out-of-plane response of URM gable walls: from experimental testing to modeling and assessment tools [221]	
16:15–16:30	Nicolò Damiani	A fast, NLTHA-based assessment method for out-of-plane capacity of URM walls: the Wandenaanpak framework for the Groningen building stock [172]	
16:30–16:45	Hervé Degée	Seismic analysis of clay masonry buildings including acoustic insulation devices [130]	
16:45–17:00	Kingsley Igwilo	Cyclic Response of Masonry Partition Wall Top Connections with Steel Angles [29]	

Maintenance, Repair, Strengthening and Retrofitting

Room: Chairs: Giuliana Cardani

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
15:30–15:45	Vlatko Bosiljkov	Strengthening of Slender Brick and AAC Masonry Walls Using Optimized Fiber Fabric Layouts [230]	
15:45–16:00	Tsung Chih Chiou	Experimental Study on Steel-Frame Retrofitting for Brick Walls with Openings [75]	
16:00–16:15	Francesca Ferretti / Claudio Mazzotti	Comparison between diagonal compression and shear-compression tests for the evaluation of shear strength of FRCM-reinforced masonry panels [205]	
16:15–16:30	Felipe Orduz	Seismic Assessment of a URM Wall with Openings Strengthened with an RC Frame. An Experimental Investigation [132]	
16:30–16:45	Luca Penazzato	Experimental testing of an innovative composite reinforced mortar system for integrated structural and energy retrofitting of masonry buildings [44]	
16:45–17:00	Sara Donzelli	The Assessment of Wall Connections in Pompeii Plastered Buildings using GPR [229]	

Day 1 — Monday, 13 July 2026

Parallel Sessions III (15:30–17:00)

Durability, Deterioration and Moisture Effects

Room: Chairs: Mohammad Kahangi and Raphael Kampmann

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
15:30–15:45	Vincent Claude	Efflorescence on brick masonry: influence of mortar additives [53]	
15:45–16:00	Burcu Dinç Şengönül	Environmental Ageing of Brick Masonry under Freeze–Thaw Cycles [112]	
16:00–16:15	Jan Mandinec	Progression of Microclimate-Induced Degradation of Brick Façades Using Drone Imagery and Computer Vision [118]	
16:15–16:30	Daniele Kauctz Monteiro	Frost damage assessment of old Canadian bricks using mixed experimental techniques: preliminary results [73]	
16:30–16:45	Asude Yaren Ünal	Behavior of Natural Fiber-Based Textile Meshes in Lime-Based Mortar Environment. A Bibliometric-Guided Experimental Framework for the Alkaline Durability of Flax Fibers [94]	
16:45–17:00	Ahmad Fathi	Experimental Study of Moisture Expansion in Clay Brickwork [224]	

Industrial Evening “A Vision for Masonry”

18:00–ca. 23:00 (individual Booking)

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
18:30–19:15	Paulo B. Lourenço	Timeless Materials, Beyond Sustainability: A Vision for Masonry	–
19:15–19:45	Bahman Ghiassi	Generative AI Revolution for Cracking the Code in the Nonlinear Analysis and Assessment of Masonry at Scale [K5]	
19:45–20:15	Taghavi Meysam and Marius Mlynski	Resilient and efficient: masonry construction using the WLTR mobile robot [K]	
20:15–21:00	Dietmar Walberg	Masonry Construction: Cost Effectiveness, Building Culture, Regional Value Creation	–
21:00–23:00	**Networking & Evening Get-together with Music, Drinks and Light Food** with opportunities for informal discussions with speakers and participants		

Day 2 — Tuesday, 14 July 2026

Morning Keynote

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
9:00–10:00	Katrin Beyer	Unreinforced Masonry: Seismically Safe and Sustainable – What Are the Options?	–

Parallel Sessions IV (10:30–12:30)

Brick Infrastructure

Room: Chairs: Jenny Kessler

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
10:30–10:45	Jenny Keßler	Experimental Investigations on Dynamic Effects on Railway Masonry Arch Bridges [24]	
10:45–11:00	Jan-Hauke Bartels	Grouting of Historic Masonry Arch Bridges – A Case Study on the Rendsburg Loop [78]	
11:00–11:15	Luca Pelà	Experimental Investigation of Damage Response and Collapse Mechanism in a Laboratory-Built Masonry Arch Bridge [121]	
11:15–11:30	Francesco Messali	Fragility curves of historic masonry quay walls subjected to foundation damage and traffic loading [125]	
11:30–11:45	Conrad Pelka	Maintenance Strategies of Railway Arch Bridges. Preserving Arch Bridges: A Responsibility [23]	
11:45–12:00	Sam Cocking	Acoustic Emission Sensing of the Structural Deterioration of a Heritage Masonry Railway Bridge [101]	

Day 2 — Tuesday, 14 July 2026

Parallel Sessions IV (10:30–12:30)

Case Studies

Room: Chairs: Rita Bento

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
10:30–10:45	Victor Barrenechea	Structural Resilience Patterns in Unreinforced Masonry [117]	
10:45–11:00	Natalie Smith	Transitional Masonry Buildings in Canada: A Case Study on the Château Frontenac Hotel [103]	
11:00–11:15	Josip Galic	Post-Earthquake Retrofitting of the Basilica of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus in Zagreb [231]	
11:15–11:30	Sara Ganzerli	The “unexpected” earthquake of 2012 in Northern Italy [40]	
11:30–11:45	Andrea Scotti	Numerical interpretation of the causes of damage in Chiaravalle Abbey in Milan [216]	
11:45–12:00	Jamie Marrs	Moving the Impenetrable. Relocation of the Registry Office in Ottawa, Canada [47]	
12:00–12:15	Luigi Sorrentino	Non-destructive testing on 20th century interventions in the 17th century Galleria Borghese in Rome, Italy [156]	
12:15–12:30	Ralph Egermann	When Repairs Cause Damage [139]	

Numerical Modelling II

Room: Chairs: Ece Erdogmus

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
10:30–10:45	Guilherme Parsekian and Nigel Shrive	Sensitivity analysis on modelling concrete masonry shear walls using the VecTor2 analytical approach [135]	
10:45–11:00	Sebastián Calderón	Cyclic simulation of the structural response of a CMU PG reinforced masonry two-story house [193]	
11:00–11:15	Ziwei Dai	Predicting Capacity Loss in Settlement-Damaged Masonry Walls under Pushover Loads: An SLA-Based Framework [186]	
11:15–11:30	Huan He	Numerical study on the seismic out-of-plane performances of masonry gable walls [171]	
11:30–11:45	Nemanja Krtinić	Cyclic Response of Confined Masonry Walls Using Macro-Models: Evaluation of Seismic Forces in Tie-Columns [106]	
11:45–12:00	Alfonso Prosperi	3D Nonlinear Coupled Models for Unreinforced Masonry Buildings under Differential Settlement Induced by Groundwater Lowering [95]	
12:00–12:15	Ahmet Yildirim	Out-of-Plane Behavior of URM Walls: Effects of Sidewalls and Precompression [124]	
12:15–12:30	Andres Arce	Experimentally Validated Numerical Study of Parameters Affecting the Modulus of Rupture of Concrete Masonry Beams [134]	

Day 2 — Tuesday, 14 July 2026

Parallel Sessions V (13:30–15:15)

Veneer Walls and Wall Ties

Room: Chairs: Miklós Molnár and Birger Gigla

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	David Biggs	Creating a Unique Sloping Brick Veneer [14]	
13:45–14:00	Mark Masia	Corrosion of steel ties in masonry walls and implications for building resilience and structural safety [83]	
14:00–14:15	Md Akhtar Hossain	Corrosion Assessment of Wall Ties in Coastal Masonry: A Case Study from a Demolished School in Illawarra, Australia [39]	
14:15–14:30	Lyndsey Terry	Corrosion of steel wall ties within the air cavity micro-climate of brick veneer and cavity brick walls - Two years of field observations [48]	
14:30–14:45	Chee Yin Lam	Experimental Modal Analysis of Masonry Veneer Walls with Wall Tie Deterioration: Shaker-Laser Vibrometer vs. Impact Hammer [64]	
14:45–15:00	Robertas Zavalis	Experimental characterization of FRP ties on brick masonry veneer façades [140]	
15:00–15:15	Aous Soubh	Requirements for masonry anchors according to EN 845-1 and its local implementation under European law. An insight based on experiences by market surveillance authorities in Germany [127]	

Masonry Materials and Testing II

Room: Chairs: Liza Feldman

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Francesca Ferretti	Data collection about the use of core testing to estimate clay brick masonry compressive properties [201]	
13:45–14:00	Dina Helmy	Mechanical Characterization of Coarse and Fine Grouts for Structural Masonry Design [15]	
14:00–14:15	Alberto Lordsleem	The masonry-concrete structure interface. Polymer-modified mortar flexibility evaluation [9]	
14:15–14:30	Jakov Oreb	Performance of sustainable LC3 mortars compared to conventional cement mortars in modern URM walls [116]	
14:30–14:45	Rasmus Stenholt-Jacobsen	One-Year Bond Strength Development of Outdoor Cured M0.9 Cement-Lime and Natural Hydraulic Lime Mortar [151]	
14:45–15:15		Session discussion / chair buffer	

Day 2 — Tuesday, 14 July 2026

Parallel Sessions V (13:30–15:15)

Innovation and Sustainability of Masonry II

Room: Chairs: Nigel Shrive

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Florian Soßna	Investigations on the Use of Clay Thin-Bed Mortar in Load-Bearing Masonry [60]	
13:45–14:00	Moustafa El-Assaly	Shear lap bond tests of geosynthetic-masonry assemblies under varying temperature: preliminary insights [38]	
14:00–14:15	Mohammad Kahangi	Towards simplified grading of reclaimed fired clay bricks: links between density, water absorption, and strength [69]	
14:15–14:30	Marcel Ramler-Kowollik	Cement-free masonry units made of lightweight aggregate concrete [31]	
14:30–14:45	Udo Meyer	Calculation of sound insulation for multi-storey buildings with monolithic thermal insulated brick masonry exterior walls [67]	
14:45–15:00	Bettina Hemme	Invited Perspective: Masonry Construction in Germany — Regulation, Best Practices and Perspectives [74]	
15:00–15:15		Session discussion / chair buffer	

Assessment, Monitoring and Performance of Existing Masonry

Room: Chairs: Jason Ingham

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Gonzalo Lema	A cell-counting approach for post-seismic damage assessment of reinforced masonry walls. [191]	
13:45–14:00	Sophie Palermo	Point load test for evaluating the compressive strength of existing mortars: preliminary experimental insights and correlations with standardized tests [62]	
14:00–14:15	Lara Briz	Comparing Karsten Tube and ISO 15148 Capillary Absorption: Insights from Bricks and Lime Renders [162]	
14:15–14:30	Uday Jain	Challenges in Characterizing Interface Properties in Historic Masonry Infrastructure [194]	
14:30–14:45	Kate Mouling	Reliable UPV-based condition assessment of clay bricks under freeze-thaw cycles [169]	
14:45–15:00	Rita Bento	A national database of mechanical properties for the structural assessment of Portuguese masonry buildings [22]	
15:00–15:15		Session discussion / chair buffer	

Day 3 — Wednesday, 15 July 2026

Morning Keynotes

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
9:00–10:00	Wolfram Jäger	Adobe Masonry - Learning from the Past to Shape the Future [K10]	
10:00–10:15	Paulo Lourenço	Summer School on AI Tools, Report on Selected Outcomes [K11]	

3-Minute Poster Lightning Talks (10:15–10:30)

3-Minute Poster Lightning Talks

Room: Chair: Carsten Rode

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
10:15–10:18	Chair	Introduction to the Poster Lightning Talks	
10:18–10:21	Evy Vereecken	Hygrothermal Properties of Historic Fired Clay Bricks [150]	
10:21–10:24	Hans-Günther Schwarz	ZiHaus – House without heating [89]	
10:24–10:27	Hans-Günther Schwarz	ZiHaus – space miracle on 60 m² [90]	
10:27–10:30	Samir Mosahebi	Recent Australian Award-Winning Projects [245+246]	

Parallel Sessions VI (11:00–12:30)

Masonry Materials and Testing III

Room: Chairs: Paul Korswagen and Holger Stehr

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
11:00–11:15	Ahmed Elsaadawy	Experimental Evaluation of Lap-Splice Requirements for Grade 690 Reinforcement in Masonry Walls [196]	
11:15–11:30	Bastian Franzenburg	Deformational behavior and load-bearing capacities of masonry lintels made from vertically perforated bricks for homogeneous [123]	
11:30–11:45	Mati Ullah Shah	Experimental Investigation of Rubble Stone Masonry Microstructure: Overview and Preliminary Results [173]	
11:45–12:00	Shelley Lissel	A Shear-Friction Design Model for Partially Grouted Masonry Walls [222]	
12:00–12:15	Simon Wood	An experimental programme to establish the effects of edge restraint on the moisture movement of single-leaf clay brickwork walls [72]	
12:15–12:30	Navid Vafa	Full-field identification of elastic and shear moduli of perforated masonry walls using DIC and stiffness-based shear partition (Euler-Bernoulli vs Timoshenko). Comparison across clay brick, calcium silicate brick, and calcium silicate block masonry [87]	

Day 3 — Wednesday, 15 July 2026

Parallel Sessions VI (11:00–12:30)

Reinforced and Confined Masonry

Room: Chairs: Sebastian Calderon and Khaled Ghalal

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
11:00–11:15	Douglas Tomlinson	Parametric Investigation of Vertical Reinforcement Arrangements in Slender Masonry Walls. [128]	
11:15–11:30	Daniel Quiun	Comparison of Structural Models for Confined Masonry Buildings [93]	
11:30–11:45	Marta Kałuża	Proposal for calculating the reinforcement contribution to the shear capacity of a AAC block masonry walls reinforced with GFRP plaster meshes on adhesive mortar [241]	
11:45–12:00	Laura Vargas	Macro-modeling of partially-grouted reinforced masonry walls with openings: A sensitivity study of design parameters [147]	
12:00–12:15	Daniel Quiun	Structural behavior of confined masonry walls made of horizontally-hollow bricks [102]	
12:15–12:30		Session discussion / chair buffer	

Architecture with Masonry

Room: Chairs: Heiner Lippe

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
11:00–11:15	Craig Baltimore	Expanding Classroom Education: A non-traditional real-world master's project [110]	
11:15–11:30	Carsten Rode	Engaging Civil and Architectural Engineering Students in the Topic of Brick and Masonry: Combining Theory and Practice [217]	
11:30–11:45	Andreas Luescher	Learning from Sol LeWitt's Concrete Masonry Unit Structures [104]	
11:45–12:00	Bérengère Le	Considerations on the mechanical resistance of brick masonry screen walls [178]	
12:00–12:15	Dietlinde Köber	Reconversion of masonry warehouse into a church. Structural challenges [190]	
12:15–12:30	Dietmar Walberg	The contribution of masonry construction to affordable housing in Germany [218]	

Day 3 — Wednesday, 15 July 2026

Parallel Sessions VI (11:00–12:30)

Arches and Vaulted Structures

Room: Chairs: Luigi Sorrentino

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
11:00–11:15	Chao Zhou	Stability Analysis of Masonry Arches comparing FEM models and Heyman's Theory results [46]	
11:15–11:30	Nicolò Damiani	Discontinuum analysis of masonry arch bridges: sensitivity to modeling assumptions [185]	
11:30–11:45	Sergio Coll	Semi automatised proposal for the formal analysis of masonry ribbed vaults [197]	
11:45–12:00	Mojmir Uranjek	Evaluation of damage and strengthening procedures for masonry shells and vaulted forms in historical buildings in Slovenia [166]	
12:00–12:30	Chair	Concluding Roundtable: Arches and Vaulted Structures - Papers, Perspectives and Practice	

Parallel Sessions VII (13:30–15:00)

Novel Modelling and Experimental Techniques II

Room: Chairs: Francesca Ferretti

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Alessandro De Iasio	Structural performance of masonry walls under waterborne debris impacts [155]	
13:45–14:00	Michele Godio	Experimental evaluation of energy absorption and residual load-bearing capacity of masonry walls under distributed impacts [45]	
14:00–14:15	Yopi Oktiovan	Spectrum-matched sinusoidal excitation for out-of-plane seismic assessment of masonry walls using DEM [243]	
14:15–14:30	Yopi Oktiovan	A Distinct Element Method Comparison of Retrofit Systems for a Two-storey Unreinforced Masonry Building [164]	
14:30–14:45	Mahmoud Elsayed	Numerical Investigation of the Out-of-Plane Behaviour of Segmental Post-Tensioned Masonry Walls [198]	
14:45–15:00	Patrick Bamonte	Crack Patterns in an Industrial Masonry Chimney Explained by a Heterogeneous FE Model [1]	

Day 3 — Wednesday, 15 July 2026

Parallel Sessions VII (13:30–15:00)

Earthquake Engineering and Eurocode 8 / II

Room: Chairs: Detleff Schermer

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Guido Magenes	Displacement based seismic verification of a modern URM building: Comparison of the new generation Eurocode 8 and the Italian NTC2018 on a case study [181]	
13:45–14:00	Christoph Butenweg	Seismic Performance of Reinforced Concrete Frames with an Innovative Decoupled Masonry Infill System [203]	
14:00–14:15	Lorenzo Miccoli	Reinforced AAC masonry system for seismic-prone areas [226]	
14:15–14:30	Nisrein Mukattash	New approach for the estimation of drift capacity of masonry shear walls made of hollow clay bricks considering wall-slab interaction [111]	
14:30–14:45	Ernesto Inzunza-Araya	The effect of the wall size, brick mechanical properties and bed joint reinforcement on the seismic response of unreinforced masonry walls [115]	
14:45–15:00	Savvas Saloustros	Size effect on rubble stone masonry walls under in-plane seismic loading [36]	

Earthen and Vernacular Masonry: Related Innovations, Perspectives and Practice

Room: Chairs: Wolfgang Jäger

Time	Presenting Author	Title [Paper #]	Page
13:30–13:45	Annika Becker	Numerical Modelling of Load-bearing Earth Masonry [37]	
13:45–14:00	Hervé Degée	Mechanical characterization of unfired clay block masonry [131]	
14:00–14:15	Heiner Lippe	Load-Bearing Earthen Masonry in Germany [208]	
14:15–14:30	Igor Tomić	Building on Tradition: Earthquake-Resilient Vernacular Construction in Pakistan [114]	
14:30–14:45	Hans-Günther Schwarz	ZiHaus – House without Heating [89]	
		Session discussion / chair buffer	

Day 3 — Wednesday, 15 July 2026

Closing Ceremony (15:00–15:30). Room:

Guided Technical Excursion

Day 3 — Wednesday, 15 July 2026

18:00–ca. 19:00 (individual Booking, Bus-Transfer from MUK)

"House Almost Without Heating, 2226" (bus transfer included): Monolithic Masonry Construction, Prefabrication (with integrated windows), new and innovative building concept.

The excursion will visit a building designed by **Baumschlager Eberle Architekten** according to the "**2226 – House Almost Without Heating**" principle. The concept aims to maintain indoor temperatures between **22 and 26°C** throughout the year by making deliberate use of the thermal performance of a **massive monolithic brick construction**. A particularly innovative aspect is the use of **prefabricated wall panels** of monolithic masonry, delivered to site with the windows already installed and assembled on site. The visit offers insights into **monolithic masonry, industrial prefabrication, modular and efficient construction processes, and low-tech building concepts** with reduced reliance on technical systems.

Excursion update – Wednesday, 15 July 2026

For internal site reasons, the previously announced excursion to the Cathedral construction site unfortunately cannot be offered. Instead, participants will be invited to join an attractive industry excursion to the "House Almost Without Heating, 2226", including bus transfer from the MUK.
(Individual booking, limited places)

Excursion update

Please note that the originally planned excursion to the Cathedral construction site on Wednesday, 15 July 2026 cannot be carried out for internal site reasons.

We are pleased, however, to offer an alternative excursion of great interest: a visit to the "House Almost Without Heating, 2226", including bus transfer from the MUK. Participants interested particularly in the Cathedral are warmly encouraged to consider the Sunday tour "The Sacred Landscape".

What to Wear

IMC 2026 brings together scientific exchange, professional networking, social events, and technical visits. Participants are therefore encouraged to choose clothing that is both appropriate to the programme and comfortable for a full conference day.

- Scientific Sessions: business casual / smart casual,
- Professional Evening: jacket, blazer, shirt or blouse, smart trousers or comparable attire,
- Gala Dinner: business / smart business,
- Technical Excursions: comfortable shoes, weather-appropriate clothing, and sun protection if needed.

Participants are of course welcome to dress in a way that reflects their **personal, cultural, or religious background**. The overall aim is to create a professional, **welcoming, and comfortable atmosphere for everyone**.

What to Do

Coming soon. More info will be provided at MUK

My favourite Restaurants: