

Irina Variash

Irina Variash, holder of a Doctorate in Habilitation in History and a specialist in medieval Spain, defended her doctoral thesis titled "Interaction of Muslim and Royal Law in the Crown of Aragon in the fourteenth century" at Moscow State University in 2017. She worked at Moscow State University during twenty five years until 2023 and held the position of Professor in the Department of Medieval History. Since 2022, she has been a visiting scholar at the University of St Andrews.

Her research interests encompass the history of Medieval Law, the interrelations between Muslims and Christians in Medieval Spain, and the history of state and power in Medieval Europe. Irina is the author of four monographs, one of which is in English, focusing on the socio-anthropological aspects of legal relationships between the Christians and Muslims under the rule of Christian kings. She also edited the Russian translation of the "Book of the Sunnah and Xara of the Moors," a unique Valencian monument of Mudejar law from the fifteenth century. She developed a conceptual framework with a notion "legal space", that enabled the complex and multilayered co- and interactions of Muslim and Christian laws to become visible within a common and shared structure.