The conference aims to evaluate the relevance of concepts such as syncretism, hybridity, mélange, métissage and bricolage used to describe the processes of transmission of Buddhism by comparing case studies from various Asian cultural areas and from different historical periods. Of paramount importance in the conference is the contextualisation of the processes of transmission of Buddhism. Regardless of the period under examination, the transmission of Buddhism from one cultural context in Asia to another is always dependant on specific local circumstances and needs; thus, teachings and practices are always reinterpreted locally. Therefore, the transfer of Buddhism never results in the conservation of a supposedly authentic tradition, but rather is a dynamic process of constant renewal. In a nutshell, the goal of the conference is to typologize the historical, cultural and societal factors that induce religious innovation by considering global as well as local frameworks. Through specific case studies, cultural and religious complexities will become visible as dynamic phenomena which move beyond boundaries.

9:00: Welcome address by Dr. Béatrice Jaluzot, director of the East Asian Institute (IAO)

9:15: Introductory Remarks by Dr. Ester Bianchi (Università degli Studi di Perugia), Dr. Fabienne Jagou (École française d’Extrême-Orient, Paris/Institut d’Asie Orientale, Lyon), and Dr. Carmen Meinert (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)
Morning Session

Chair: Dr. Ester Bianchi (Università degli Studi di Perugia).

9:30 Dr. Nicoletta Celli (University of Bologna)
*Travelling Icons: Copying, Recreating, and Reinterpreting Indian Buddhist Imagery in Central Asia and China*

10:15 Coffee break

10:45 Dr. Carmen Meinert (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)
*The Relationship between Multi-culturalism and the Spread of Buddhism in Pre-modern Central Asia (10th-12th c.)*

11:30 Dr. Aurore Dumont (CNRS)
*Interactions between Shamanism and Lamaism in Hulun Buir (Inner Mongolia), 18th-20th c.*

12:15 Lunch in ENS cafeteria

Afternoon session

Chair: Dr. Fabienne Jagou (EFEO/IAO)

13:45 Dr. Gregory Forgues (University of Leiden)
*Toward an Interpretive Framework for Understanding the Interplay between Tibetan Culture and Dharma: The 19th Century Buddhist Gesar Rituals of Eastern Tibet as a Case Study*

14:30 Dr. Magdalena Maria Turek (Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn)
*The Devotion of the Han-Tibetan Monk Karma Jamyang*

15h15 Coffee break

Chair: Dr. Carmen Meinert (Ruhr-Universität Bochum)

15:45 Dr. Zhe JI (INALCO/USPC)
*Toward a Reflexive Globalization? New Tendencies of Chinese Transnational Buddhism*

16:30 Dr. Ester Bianchi (Università degli Studi di Perugia)
*The Conception of Pan-Asian Buddhism as a Context of Transfer: Relations between Buddhisms in China and Sri Lanka at the Beginning of the 20th c.*

17:15 Dr. Fabienne Jagou (EFEO/IAO)
*Political Events and their Consequences for the Globalization of Religion: The Example of the Tibetan Exile in the 20th c.*

18:00 General discussion and conclusion avec Arlo Griffith (EFEO)