

**Late Rome, Byzantium and the Early Medieval West**  
A Graduate Student Conference

Princeton, Oxford, University of Vienna, Mainz, Free University of Berlin

2-3 June 2022, Vienna

Conference accommodation: Hotel IBIS, Döblinger Hauptstraße 2, 1190 Wien

Conference venue: Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna, Augasse 2-6, 1090 Vienna; Block A, third floor, Seminar Room 3

**Thursday, 2 June**

14,00-14,20 – Coffee

14,20-14.30— Welcoming Remarks

14,30-16,00 – Session 1 (Chair: Stefan Esders)

Sait Can Kutsal (Mainz)

*Crete in Late Antiquity: Current Perspectives and Problems*

Philipp Margreiter (Mainz)

*Reflections on Constructing and Financing Early Byzantine Fortifications in North Africa. The Architectural and Epigraphic Record*

Aikaterini Vavaliou (Oxford)

*The Fortifications of Medieval Mendenitsa: Armed Gatekeeper, Secure Lookout, or Display of Prosperous Neutrality?*

16,00-16,30 – Break

16,30-17,30 – Session 2 (Chair: Johannes Pahlitzsch)

Eliav Grossmann (Princeton)

*The Mathani of the Jews: Polemical Fiction or Lost Corpus?*

James Miller (Oxford)

*Gregory the Great, the Body of Benedict and the Meaning of Relics: Exegetical Readings of Dialogues II at Tenth-Century Fleury*

19.00 Dinner at a 'Heuriger' (Austrian outdoor winery)

Feuerwehr Wagner, Grinzinger Strasse 53, 1190 Wien (U4 to Heiligenstadt, then Bus 38A):

<http://www.feuerwehrwagner.at/home.html>

## Friday, 3 June

10,00-11,30 – Session 3 (Chair: Helmut Reimitz)

Sina Becker (Berlin)

*Seizing Power in the Monastery: Finding Traces of Aristotelian Rhetoric in the First Letter (A27) of Shenoute's Canon 1*

Cosimo Paravano (Vienna)

*Rhetoric and Citizenship in Early Byzantine Antioch (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> c.)*

Joshua Hitt (Oxford)

*"The Giant Emperor... Who Brought the Wrinkled Old Woman Back to Her Prime": Ageing and Rejuvenation in Twelfth-Century Byzantine Rhetoric*

11,30-12,00 – Break

12,00-13,00 Session 4 – (Chair: Walter Pohl)

Sandra Wabnitz (Vienna)

*Chinese and European Perceptions of Steppe Peoples*

Maria Rukavichnikova (Mainz)

*Quod licet... bovi? Two Types of War Narrative in John Kantakouzenos' Histories*

13,00-14,00 – Lunch

14,00-15,00 – Session 5 (Chair: Bernhard Palme)

Lucia Waldschütz (Princeton)

*Using Sureties in Late Antiquity: The Imperial Legislation vs. the Papyrological Evidence*

Linda Putelli (Vienna)

*Administering Large Estates in Late Antique Egypt: The Role of the Antigeouchos*

15,00-15,30 – Break

15,30-16,30 – Session 6 (Chair: David Addison)

Omri Matarasso (Princeton)

*Confessional Blockchains between Byzantium and Islam*

Óscar Perdomo Ceballos (Berlin)

*Miracles and Networks: The Spread of the Cult of Ildefonsus of Toledo and the Re-Interpretation of his Treatise 'De Verginitate Mariae' in Gaul and Hispania (8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> Centuries)*

16,30—Closing Remarks

19,00 –Dinner (details to follow)

**Saturday, 4 June**

10,00 – Guided visit of the Papyrussammlung (Austrian National Library), with Bernhard Palme (optional)

11,30 – Student-organized sight-seeing (optional)