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Rome's fortunes have always been closely linked to the fortunes of the Roman Empire: a city flourishing during the period of expansion and at the apogee of the Empire, a city in decline during the disintegration phase of the Roman Empire, particularly the Pars Occidentis. It was precisely the crisis of the Western Roman Empire that slowly marked a turning point in the history of Rome, as, in the various dioceses, some cities gradually assumed a leading role in the Mediterranean area, clearly challenging the hitherto undisputed primacy of the ancient capital city.

Following in the footsteps of the March 2022 meeting, in which the role of Rome in the context of its transition from the city of the emperor to the city of the pope was discussed, this conference aims to investigate the development of all those urban realities that, for various reasons and in different ambers, entered in competition with Rome.

Unlike the 2022 meeting, which focused exclusively on the Western Mediterranean, this workshop also looks to the Eastern Roman Empire, where the evolution of certain cultural, political, and religious phenomena entails the rise of as many cities, primarily Constantinople, that are bidding for the role of caput mundi.



**The Role of Rome
between Late Antiquity
and the Early Middle Ages
in the Mediterranean Area
Part 2: Different Forms of
Urban Competition**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
15-17 February 2023
Sala del Consiglio
Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici
Università Roma Tre

Workshop of the **Center for Advanced Study "RomanIslam – Center for Comparative Empire and Transcultural Studies"** (Universität Hamburg) and the Dipartimento di **Studi Umanistici** (Università degli Studi Roma Tre)

PROGRAM

Wednesday, 15.02.2023

18.00 Welcome and Introduction, **Prof. Dr. Manfredi Merluzzi** (Direttore Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Università Roma Tre)
18.15 *The reshaping of Classical City in the long Late Antiquity*, **Prof. Dr. Arnaldo Marcone** (Università Roma Tre)
19.00 *How did the catacombs change Rome in Late Antiquity?*, **Dr. Norbert Zimmermann** (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut Rom)
20.00 Dinner

Thursday, 16.02.2023

Eastern Mediterranean: Diocesis Orientis/Aegypti

Moderation: **Prof. Dr. Alberto D'Anna** (Università Roma Tre)

9.30 *Following a new caput mundi. Antioch on the Orontes: topographical and architectural considerations*, **Prof. Dr. Marcello Spanu** (Università Roma Tre)
10.15 *"The catholicos, Peter to us". Western models and (apocryphal) letters of legitimation: the Seleucian See and his claiming for a legitimating link with Rome, the Emperors and the West (4th–6th c.)*, **Dr. Annunziata Di Rienzo** (Sapienza Università di Roma)
11.00 Coffee break

11.30 *The other Fall of Rome. Alexandrian Miaphysite views on the See of Peter and the failing of its incumbents (mid 5th–late 6th century)*, **Prof. Dr. Philippe Blaudeau** (Université d'Angers)
12.15 *Church of Alexandria and Church of Rome in the fourth century between concordance of ideological positions and distinction of ecclesial identities: canon law, archives, foundation myths and liturgy*, **Prof. Dr. Alberto Camplani** (Sapienza Università di Roma)
13.00 Lunch break

Eastern Mediterranean: Diocesis Thraciae/Daciae

Moderation: **Prof. Dr. Carla Noce** (Università Roma Tre)

15.30 *Latin Books and the Elites in Constantinople and Egypt in Late Antiquity*, **Prof. Dr. Gabriel Nocchi Macedo** (Université de Liège)
16.15 *The "greek" Popes and the last hope for an imperial Rome*, **Dr. Giandomenico Ferrazza** (Università Roma Tre)
17.00 Coffee break
17.30 *Ideal Twinning and monumental 'citations' between Rome and Constantinople in the 4th and 5th century*, **Prof. Dr. Lucrezia Spera** (Università di Roma "Tor Vergata")
18.15 *Diocesis Moesiae: A Short-Lived Diocese that had a Major Long-Term Impact for East-West Relations*, **Prof. Dr. Dominic Moreau** (Université de Lille)

Friday, 17.02.2023

Western Mediterranean: Dioecesis Hispaniarum / Galliarum / Septem Provinciarum

Moderation: Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram (Universität Hamburg)

9.30 *A world of cities: evolving urban models and ways of life in the Dioecesis Hispaniarum in Late Antiquity*, **Dr. Pilar Diarte Blasco** (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas – CCHS-CSIC)
10.15 *Beyond Rome? Toledo and the administration of Visigothic Iberia*, **Dr. Paulo Pachá** (Universidade federal do Rio de Janeiro)
11.00 Coffee break

11.30 *The provincial capitals of southern Gaul in Late Antiquity*, **Prof. Dr. Marc Heijmans** (Aix Marseille Université – CNRS-CCJ)
12.15 *The West Wing: Rome and the Cities of Gaul in Fourth- and Fifth-Century Latin Poetry*, **Dr. Biancamaria Masutti** (Università di Padova)
13.00 Lunch break

Western Mediterranean: Diocesis Italiae/Africae

Moderation: **Dr. Rocco Selvaggi** (Universität Hamburg)

15.30 *The Ostrogoth kings and aristocrats fleeing Rome in the first half of the 6th century*, **Prof. Dr. Pierfrancesco Porena** (Università Roma Tre)
16.15 *To Rome or not to Rome? War, Government, and the Forging of Late Roman Italy*, **Dr. Jeroen Wijnendaele** (Universiteit Ghent)
17.00 Coffee break
17.30 *The role of Ravenna in the late antique and medieval Mediterranean*, **Dr. Enrico Cirelli** (Università di Bologna "Alma mater studiorum")
18.15 *The Carthage of Geiseric: An Alternative to Rome?*, **Prof. Dr. Konrad Vössing** (Universität Bonn)
19:00 Conclusions, **Prof. Dr. Riccardo Santangeli Valenzani** (Università Roma Tre)

The meeting can be joined online by clicking on the link below
<https://tinyurl.com/4k3ucz86>

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