



Still Caput Mundi?

The Role of Rome between Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages in the Western Mediterranean

The decline of the Western Roman Empire is often accompanied by the decline of the city from which it all sprang: Rome. The city, the historical and moral center of the empire, had long since lost its role as capital city, yet it retained its symbolic and traditional authority as *caput mundi*, recognized and felt by everyone in the world. The Late Antique period and the early Middle Ages witnessed the gradual evolution of Rome from the city of the emperor to the city of the pope, on the one hand rising to the role of the center of Christianity, and on the other preserving the memory of its former status as the fulcrum of the imperial world.

The aim of this conference is to present in multiple aspects (literary, historical, archaeological) this transformation of Rome, particularly at the religious level. The proposed framework of study covers the late antique period and the early Middle Ages (4th-7th centuries). It intends to offer a case study of thematic and regional studies, with the clear aim of obtaining a comprehensive overview of this phenomenon and paying particular attention to the role of Rome as perceived in the individual socio-cultural and socio-religious realities of the Mediterranean area.

Thursday, 3.03.2022

- 18.00 H Welcome and Introduction
Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram
Dr. Rocco Selvaggi
Universität Hamburg
- 18.15 H **Prof. Dr. Carlos Machado**
University of St Andrews
Imagining pagan topography in Christian Rome
- 19.00 H **Prof. Dr. Fabrizio Oppedisano**
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
Subversive aristocracy: the Roman senate and the end of the ancient world
- 20.00 H Reception

International Conference 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)
from 3rd to 5th of March 2022 in the Warburg-Haus, Heilwigstr. 116, 20249 Hamburg

Friday, 4.03.2022

- ### History: Between Imperial Features and Religious Identity
- Moderation **Dr. Rocco Selvaggi**
Universität Hamburg
- 9.30 H **Prof. Dr. Christian Raschle**
Université de Montréal
Rome without emperor – the transformations of the “emperor cult” in the Western Empire from the 4th to the 6th century
 - 10.15 H **Prof. Dr. Umberto Roberto**
Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II
The pagan reaction to the decline of Rome in the 5th century
 - 11.00 H Coffee break
 - 11.30 H **Prof. Dr. Philippe Blaudeau**
Université d'Angers
The Petrinian primacy of Rome: claim and reception of an elaborated geo-ecclesiological conception (IV-VIIth centuries)
 - 12.15 H **Dr. Paolo Tedesco**
Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen
Economic Trajectories of the Italian Churches in Late Antiquity
 - 13.00 H Lunch break

Saturday, 5.03.2022

- ### Literature II: Communication between Rome and the Western Dioceses
- Moderation **Prof. Dr. Alberto D’Anna**
Università degli Studi Roma Tre
- 9.30 H **Prof. Dr. Geoffrey D. Dunn**
Katolicki Uniwersytet Lubelski Jana Pawła II
Hilary of Narbonne and Papal Correspondence with Bishops in Gaul: The Example of Boniface I, Ep. 12 (*Dificile quidem*)
 - 10.15 H **Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram**
Dr. Lorenzo Livorsi
Dr. Rocco Selvaggi
Universität Hamburg
Letters from Rome to the Iberian Bishops: The Case of Vigilius and Profuturus of Braga – Challenges and Problems
 - 11.00 H Coffee break
 - 11.30 H **Dr. Stanislaw Adamiak**
Uniwersytet Warszawski
Maintaining Autonomy and Asking for Intervention: the Relation between the Churches of North Africa and Rome in the Late Antiquity
 - 12.15 H **Prof. Dr. Francesca Tinti**
Universidad del País Vasco
Rome and the Anglo-Saxons in the 7th century
 - 13.00 H Lunch break



Contact

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Conference venue

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