

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA DI STUDI BIZANTINI (A.I.S.B.)

NEWSLETTER

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Redazione: Donatella Bucca; Francesco D'Aiuto; Luigi D'Amelia

EDIZIONE DEL 15 LUGLIO 2026

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[7]. DATENBANK BYZANTINISCHER BLEISIEGEL (DBBS)

A. EVENTI

[1]. SYMPOSIUM: "SECURITY IN THE ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN: THEORY, EXECUTION AND MATERIALITY" (MISSOURI, COLUMBIA, 09-10.04.2027): CALL FOR PAPERS (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 31.07.2026)

Da: Jake Ransohoff (bsana-listserv@googlegroups.com)

"Security in the Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean: Theory, Execution, and Materiality"
University of Missouri, Columbia, April 9-10, 2027

CALL FOR PAPERS

In 1981, the Menil Collection in Houston, Texas opened its exhibition, "Security in Byzantium: Locking, Sealing, Weighing". The exhibition featured Byzantine objects centered around three "genres" of security, as defined by Gary Vikan and John Nesbitt, including, "locks and keys, sealing and stamping implements, and official weights" [Vikan and Nesbitt, "Security in Byzantium: Locking, Sealing, and Weighing" (Washington, D.C.: Dumbarton Oaks Center for Byzantine Studies), 1980, p. 1]. It was a groundbreaking initiative that opened the door to new questions dealing with the materiality of security in Byzantium. Currently, a new exhibition, "Byzantine Security: How to Protect an Empire in the Palm of your Hand", is being prepared for the spring of 2027 at the University of Missouri Museum of Art and Archaeology. It aims to build upon questions raised by the Menil Collection exhibition and expand its scope. It will feature objects from both the Byzantine collection and from earlier Mediterranean cultures, and it will combine objects from the three "genres" established by the Vikan and Nesbitt, with other objects used to protect their owners from harmful forces through metaphysical processes, such as amulettes and objects of veneration or ritual that could induce miraculous intervention by gods or saints.

The symposium, "Security in the Ancient and Medieval Mediterranean: Theory, Execution, and Materiality" will accompany the exhibit, with the goal of generating scholarly discussion pertaining to the idea of security from a wider vantage point. In addition to the study of small objects, such as those exhibited in the museum, the symposium will call on the examination of textual sources and large-scale material sources such as architecture and monumental decoration. During the symposium, scholars will reflect on the different ways in which ancient and medieval people protected themselves, their property, and the broader social structures on which they depended. To begin, we will ask what defined security in the ancient and medieval Mediterranean world, and, consequently, against what forces people sought to be protected. How do authors describe security and protection? Are they linked to individual property and well-being or collective concerns? Do authors associate security and protection with negative emotions, like fear, or with more positive ones, like comfort? In writing about protection and security, are authors concerned with natural or spiritual forces?

Then, we will study the mechanisms and materials used to ensure security and how they were implemented. What objects and structures did medieval and ancient people use to protect themselves? Were there distinct private and public mechanisms devised to protect individuals and the state? Were there differences in the ways people protected their bodies and their souls?

Throughout our discussions, we will reflect on whether preoccupations with security and protection hindered or nurtured technological and artistic advancements and if they tended to promote fear and division or to strengthen communal bonds.

Some topics that could be addressed are:

- Mechanisms for protecting states from foreign enemies, such as fortifications, military strategies, and diplomacy.
- Questions concerning the use of violence and force for protection and how those in power justified it.

- Legal mechanisms for protecting oneself from violence within one's own community or for protecting personal property, such as legal procedures or prescriptions dealing with ownership and violent acts.
- Material mechanisms for protecting property such as locks, keys, caskets, and seals.
- Architectural mechanisms and clothing used for protecting people from the elements.
- Spiritual or metaphysical ways of protecting oneself from sickness, harm, and other evil forces, such as devotion to particular gods or saints and the performance of magic.
- Individual and collective understandings of security.
- Protection of the body vs. protection of the soul.

The symposium's topics will be related to ancient and medieval cultures from the broader Mediterranean, so that we can consider questions of both change and continuity over time.

Keynote Speaker:

George Demacopoulos, Fordham University

Please send abstracts of up to 400 words to Elizabeth Zanghi at ezvp@missouri.edu by July 31, 2026. Partial funding can be made available for speakers as needed.

[2]. SEMINARIO: "LETTERATURA, ERUDIZIONE E FILOLOGIA NELLA TESSALONICA DI ETA' PALEOLOGA / LITERATURE, ERUDITION, AND SCHOLARSHIP IN PALAEOLOGAN THESSALONIKE" (VENEZIA, 29-30.10.2026): CALL FOR PAPERS (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 31.07.2026)

Da: Aisbnews (aisbnews@gmail.com)

Call for papers:

"Letteratura, erudizione e filologia nella Tessalonica di eta' paleologa / Literature, erudition, and scholarship in Palaeologan Thessalonike"
(Venezia 29-30 ottobre 2026)

[English below]

La vita intellettuale della Tessalonica di eta' paleologa e il ruolo centrale di alcune figure erudite per la sopravvivenza, trasmissione e tradizione dei testi antichi hanno suscitato un rinnovato interesse nella critica degli ultimi decenni (basti menzionare D. Bianconi (2005), "Tessalonica nell'eta' dei Paleologi. Le pratiche intellettuali nel riflesso della cultura scritta" e N. Gaul (2011), "Thomas Magistros und die spaetbyzantinische Sophistik. Studien zum Humanismus urbaner Eliten in der fruehen Palaiologenzeit") e sono stati oggetto di studio e discussione anche in tempi molto recenti (si veda F. Pontani (ed., 2024), "Education and Learning in Byzantine Thessalonike"). Per sollecitare il dialogo e l'aggiornamento tra studiosi/i sulle tematiche concernenti l'erudizione e la filologia, gli studi linguistici e letterari nella Tessalonica paleologa, si invitano dottorande e dottorandi, giovani ricercatrici e ricercatori a inviare una proposta di intervento per un seminario dedicato che si terra' presso il Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici dell'Universita' Ca' Foscari di Venezia nel pomeriggio di giovedi' 29 (dalle ore 14:00) e nella mattinata di venerdi' 30 ottobre 2026 (fino alle ore 13:00). L'evento e' patrocinato dal progetto ERC PURA -- PURism in Antiquity (grant agreement no. 865817). Non e' previsto un rimborso spese per i relatori.

Gli interventi proposti dovranno avere una durata di 30 minuti, cui seguiranno circa 10 minuti di discussione. A titolo esemplificativo, si suggeriscono i seguenti macro-temi:

- trasmissione e circolazione di autori antichi nella Tessalonica di eta' paleologa, edizioni di testi antichi prodotte da filologi attivi nella citta';
- grammatica, lessicografia e scoliografia prodotte nella Tessalonica paleologa e loro rapporto con le tradizioni precedenti;
- la Hochsprache degli autori tessalonicesi e il suo rapporto con le prescrizioni linguistiche trasmesse dalla tradizione grammaticale e lessicografica circolante in eta' paleologa;
- ricezione e riuso di letteratura antica negli autori tessalonicesi di eta' paleologa.

Come keynote speakers saranno presenti i Proff. Filippomaria Pontani (Universita' Ca' Foscari, Venezia), Giuseppe Ucciardello (Universita' degli Studi di Messina) e Daniele Bianconi (Sapienza Universita' di Roma).

Le proposte di intervento, insieme a un breve profilo bio-bibliografico, dovranno essere inviate entro venerdi' 31 luglio 2026 tramite email alle organizzatrici dell'evento, Federica Benuzzi (federica.benuzzi@unive.it) ed Elena Mencarelli (elena.mencarelli4@unibo.it).

In the last decades, there has been a renewed interest in the intellectual life of Palaeologan Thessalonike and the pivotal role played by scholars in the survival, transmission, and tradition of ancient texts (to mention but a few notable examples, D. Bianconi (2005), "Tessalonica nell'eta' dei Paleologi. Le pratiche intellettuali nel riflesso della cultura scritta" and N. Gaul (2011), "Thomas Magistros und die spaetbyzantinische Sophistik. Studien zum Humanismus urbaner Eliten in der fruehen Palaiologenzeit"). Moreover, these topics have also been investigated very recently (see F.

Pontani (ed., 2024), "Education and Learning in Byzantine Thessalonike"). In order to encourage the dialogue and exchange among scholars in relation to erudition, philology, linguistic and literary studies in Palaeologan Thessalonike, we invite PhD candidates and early-career researchers to submit an abstract for a seminar that will take place in Venice (Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Università Ca' Foscari) in the afternoon of Thursday 29th (from 2:00pm) and the morning of Friday 30th October 2026 (until 1:00pm). The event is sponsored by the ERC project PURA -- PURism in Antiquity (grant agreement no. 865817). Please note that we cannot provide reimbursement for travel and accommodation fees.

Each paper shall last no longer than 30 minutes (followed by 10 minutes of discussion). Potential topics may include:

- the transmission and circulation of ancient authors in Palaeologan Thessalonike, editions of ancient texts made by scholars active in the city;
- grammar, lexicography, and scholiography produced in Thessalonike;
- the Hochsprache of Thessalonian authors and its relationship with the linguistic prescriptions preserved in the grammatical and lexicographical traditions in circulation during the Palaeologan period;
- reception and reuse of ancient literature in Thessalonian authors of the Palaeologan age.

The invited keynote speakers are Prof. Filippomaria Pontani (Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia), Prof. Giuseppe Ucciardello (Università degli Studi di Messina), and Prof. Daniele Bianconi (Sapienza Università di Roma). The abstracts (along with a short bio) shall be sent via email to the organisers Federica Benuzzi (federica.benuzzi@unive.it) and Elena Mencarelli (elena.mencarelli4@unibo.it) by Friday 30th July 2026.

[3]. 20th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PATRISTIC STUDIES (OXFORD, 02-06.08.2027) - WORKSHOP TITLE: "EXPERIENCING AND COPING WITH TRAUMA, GRIEF AND DEATH IN LATE ANTIQUITY (250-800 CE)": CALL FOR PAPERS (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 15.07.2026)

Da: Jake Ransohoff (bsana-listserv@googlegroups.com)

Call for Papers: XX. International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford, 2-6 August 2027.

Workshop Title: "Experiencing and Coping with Trauma, Grief and Death in Late Antiquity (250-800 CE)".

We invite individual contributions for a workshop to be held at the XX. International Conference on Patristic Studies in Oxford, 2-6 August 2027 (<https://www.oxfordpatristics.com/>).

The overall theme is "Experiencing and Coping with Trauma, Grief and Death in Late Antiquity".

In light of recent research on the history of emotions, particularly how individuals and religious communities managed the powerful emotions precipitated by Trauma, Grief and Death, the proposed workshop aims to investigate how people and cultures experienced and coped with physical and mental manifestations of illness-health, grief, and trauma in religious, philosophical and theological discourses.

We encourage the broad conceptualisation of these topics and by way of some examples, the workshop will include papers on trauma arising from medical intervention in Persian literature, and salvific understandings of death in Gnostic and Manichaean traditions.

We are particularly interested in contributions covering this topic in:

- Late antique Philosophy;
- Early Christianity;
- Gnostic and Manichaean traditions;
- Late antique Zoroastrianism;
- Early Islamic culture.

We welcome papers examining the topic through a wide range of historical sources, including legendary narratives, theological literature, philosophical literature, liturgical texts, medical writing, epigraphy and martyrologies.

We invite proposals on topics exploring (but not limited to):

- Trauma and Grief as Religious and Cultural Responses to Suffering and Death;
- Philosophical and/or Religious Discourses on Illness, Death, Trauma and Grief;
- The Fate of the Soul and the Body at Death;
- Martyrdom, Torture, and the Experience of Violence and Pain;
- Individual and/or Societal Responses to Loss through Ritualised Acts of Mourning, Grief, and Commemoration;
- Trauma as a Transformative or Redemptive Experience;
- Soteriological Interpretations of Death.

Individual contributions will last from 30 to 40 minutes, with substantial time allocated for introductory remarks by the convenors and final discussion.

Submission Guidelines:

Those interested in participating are kindly invited to submit:

- A title and a short abstract of max. 300 words;
- A short bio (max. 150 words)

to ScilipotiL@cardiff.ac.uk and AshouriS@cardiff.ac.uk by 15 July 2026.

The organisers will review submissions, and applicants will be notified of the outcome by 15 August 2026 to allow time for participants to register for the conference.

Please note that, should a proposal not be accepted for this workshop, it may still be submitted through the conference's general submission portal before the submission deadline.

For any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the organisers.

Organisers:

Lisa Scilipoti - MSCA Doctoral Fellow, Cardiff University

Sharareh Ashouri - MSCA Doctoral Fellow, Cardiff University

Emails:

ScilipotiL@cardiff.ac.uk

AshouriS@cardiff.ac.uk

[4]. INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE: "THE TIME WHEN KING SIGISMUND MARCHED AGAINST THE INFIDELS...": 630 YEARS SINCE THE CRUSADE OF KING SIGISMUND" (NIKOPOL, BULGARIA, 24-26.09.2026); CALL FOR PAPERS (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 07.08.2026)

Da: Aisbnews (aisbnews@gmail.com)

The Municipality of Nikopol, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", the Faculty of History, the Centre for Slavo-Byzantine Studies "Prof. Ivan Dujcev", the Sofia University Museum, and the Association of Byzantinists and Medievalists of Bulgaria are pleased to invite you to the international scientific conference:

"The time when King Sigismund marched against the infidels...": 630 Years Since the Crusade of King Sigismund"

The event will take place on September 24-26, 2026, in the city of Nikopol, Bulgaria.

We cordially invite you to submit your paper proposals by August 7, 2026, via the following form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1T9vVrmNXdae1SIyna6V9Np2MuswPIjxj6Ji1U1Yh2HY>

or by email to: obshtina.nikopol@gmail.com.

Each proposal should include the following information:

1. Full name;
2. Academic rank and affiliation;
3. Research interests;
4. Contact details (phone number and email);
5. Title of the paper;
6. Abstract (maximum 300 words).

The working languages of the conference are Bulgarian and English, although contributions in other languages may be considered upon request. Presented papers will be published in a dedicated collective volume.

We would be grateful if you could share this call with colleagues, PhD candidates, and Master's students who may be interested in this theme.

(...)

The Organizing Committee

[5]. SUMMER SCHOOL: "THE HISTORY OF GREEK WRITING (4TH-16TH CENTURY)" (THESSALONIKE, 29.09-02.10.2026; APPLICATION DEADLINE: 05.09.2026)

Da: AIEB Newsletter (aboutnewsletter@aiebnet.gr)

Summer School

The History of Greek Writing (4th-16th century)

The Summer School entitled "The History of Greek Writing (4th-16th century)" will take place between 29 September - 2 October 2026 in Thessaloniki.

It is a 25-hour course which aims to enhance participants' skills in the study of the Byzantine manuscript codex and the evolution of the Greek book from the 4th to the 16th century.

The program, organized by the Center for Education and Lifelong Learning of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

will be held in Greek and implemented with physical presence.

It will be delivered by Sofia Kotzabassi (Professor of Byzantine Philology, School of Philology, AUTH), Ilias Taxis (Professor of Byzantine Philology, School of Philology, AUTH), Dimitrios Nikou (Assistant Professor of Medieval Greek Philology, School of Philology, AUTH), and Demetra Samara (Assistant Professor of Medieval Greek Philology, School of Philology, AUTH).

It is open to all interested university graduates, as well as to undergraduate students in the fields of Humanities, Theology, and Education.

Applications are accepted from 10 June to 5 September 2026.

Further information available on the website: /kedivim.auth.gr/programs/programme-679/

[6]. VI BYZANTINE COLLOQUIUM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BUENOS AIRES (BUENOS AIRES, 25-26.03.2027): CALL FOR PAPERS (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 15.09.2026)

Da: Giulia Gollo (giulia.gollo97@gmail.com)

CALL FOR PAPERS: VI Byzantine Colloquium of the University of Buenos Aires (March 25-26, 2027, Buenos Aires)

VI Byzantine Colloquium of the University of Buenos Aires: "Temporality and Characterization in Byzantine Literature"

The conference will be held in person at the University of Buenos Aires and will be devoted to narratological approaches to Byzantine literary texts, with a particular, though by no means exclusive, interest in proposals addressing temporality and characterization.

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 15 September 2026. Applicants can expect to be notified of the outcome around mid-October.

The keynote lecture will be delivered by Prof. Dr. Ingela Nilsson.

The conference is jointly organized by Prof. Dr. Tomas Fernandez and Prof. Dr. Reinhart Ceulemans, with the assistance of Dr. Paloma Cortez, Dr. Giulia Gollo, and Dr. Niels De Ridder.

For further information, please see:

https://kuleuven-my.sharepoint.com/personal/reinhart_ceulemans_kuleuven_be/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Freinhart%2Fceulemans%2Fkuleuven%2Fbe%2FDocuments%2F%2Fshared%2FUBA%20conference%2FVI%20Byzantine%20Colloquium%20of%20the%20University%20of%20Buenos%20Aires%2FCFP%2Epdf&parent=%2Fpersonal%2Freinhart%2Fceulemans%2Fkuleuven%2Fbe%2FDocuments%2F%2Fshared%2FUBA%20conference&ga=1

[7]. HYBRID INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: "THE ART OF THE CHOIR IN THE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN MEDITERRANEAN WORLD" (NICOSIA AND ONLINE, 04-06.06.2027): CALL FOR PAPERS (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 30.09.2026)

Da: Jake Ransohoff (bsana-listserv@googlegroups.com)

"THE ART OF THE CHOIR IN THE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN MEDITERRANEAN WORLD"
HYBRID INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
University of Cyprus, Nicosia, 4-6 June 2027

Practice both shapes and is shaped by the spaces that encompass it. Although this may appear an obvious statement, it remains no less true, inviting a holistic consideration of architectural spaces, their adornment, and their furnishings in conjunction with the human agents that created and used them and the actions that activated and enlivened them. As a result of this dynamic, reciprocal relationship, no solution to the articulation and elaboration of an architectural space precisely replicates another, despite the presence of shared forms and common patterns of behaviour.

Fully cognisant of the potential for such immense variability in both architectural production and consumption, contemporary research on medieval and early modern Church buildings has prioritised the systematic concurrent examination of hitherto underexploited archival and/or assorted documentary evidence, objects in museum and other collections, and the extant edifices in their present state, often with the help of archaeology and modern technologies. Even though much has already been achieved in this field, there is still scope for further research with a view to ultimately graduating from individual case studies to broader and more comprehensive narratives of the uses (and abuses) of Christian sacred space in the medieval and early modern world.

The divergent paths pursued by the Roman- and Eastern-rite churches and their congregations after Late Antiquity led to

a multiplicity of approaches to the configuration and function of the most sacred and privileged part of ecclesiastical buildings, usually -- though not always -- located at their east end. This divergence is reflected, among other areas, in the vocabulary employed by scholars studying different Christian architectural and liturgical traditions to describe such spaces. Here, while acknowledging the arbitrariness of our choice, we employ the term "choir" as a generic yet recognisable term to indicate both the area of the sanctuary (comprising the bema, the prothesis and the sacristy/diakonikon) in Eastern-rite churches and the areas of the sanctuary (with its high altar) and the choir (accommodating the clergy's stalls), in all their pre- and post-Tridentine variants, in Roman-rite churches.

Scholarship on Western Europe has benefitted from a series of monographs, collective volumes, and conference proceedings that have attempted to reinstate the high medieval (re)configuration of the interior of Roman churches; to better comprehend the placement of the choir within the medieval and early modern sacred space; to trace the transformations of the choral spaces of Renaissance Florence; and to delve deeper into the arrangement and functions of the choir spaces of the mendicant orders throughout Europe. The aforementioned research, coupled with a wide variety of further case studies from all over medieval and early modern Latin Christendom, have demonstrated the fluidity and multiplicity of form, location, access, and function of choir spaces, which were as dependent on changes in liturgical requirements and the ecclesiastical calendar as on fashion and aesthetics. They have also highlighted the ways in which these privileged spaces, which were primarily (though not exclusively) the purview of the clergy, accommodated and amplified the veneration of saints, relics, and images, played a significant role in promoting local cults, and perpetuated the strictly hierarchical stratification of premodern societies, both in life and in death.

Conversely, with respect to Byzantium, the area of the sanctuary is studied primarily as a space where the divine is made manifest at the confluence of art and ritual. The understanding of the area of the sanctuary in medieval / post-Iconoclast (ninth century onwards) Byzantine churches as an area given almost exclusively to liturgical use and accessible only to male clergy has never been critically examined, nuanced, or contested. The focus of studies concerned with the area behind the templon or chancel screen has been on the evolution of its architectural form and on its monumental pictorial decoration in relation to the liturgy and in response to current theological discussions on the Incarnation and the nature of the Eucharist. Potential paraliturgical and other functions, especially those associated with lay piety, have yet to be systematically explored, despite some ground-breaking case-studies.

Regardless of this vivid interest in choral spaces in both Western Europe and the Byzantine East, these two cultural spheres have seldom been examined in tandem from the point of view of choir disposition, embellishment, and use. Following the example of the seminal symposium on religious screens held at Dumbarton Oaks in 2003 (and published as "Thresholds of the Sacred: Architectural, Art-Historical, Liturgical, and Theological Perspectives on Religious Screens, East and West", ed. Sharon E. J. Gerstel [Washington, DC, 2006]), this conference aims at bringing together scholars working on the art of choir spaces from the Iberian Peninsula to the Levant during the High/Late Middle Ages and early modernity (c. 1000-1600). It will attempt to venture beyond the relatively well-studied case of Italy to encompass case studies on the display, performance, and experience of art in choir spaces from both ends of the Mediterranean, with a particular interest in instances of transconfessional encounter. Questions such as how the different kinds of source material available for choir spaces West and East condition scholarly approaches to their study; whether it would be possible to identify Byzantine input in the way that choral precincts and furnishings developed in the West and vice versa; or what role, if any, the Latin East could have played in such interactions as an area of intense cultural and religious interchange lie at the heart of the meeting's agenda.

The stage will be set by our two keynote speakers, Prof. Donal Cooper (University of Cambridge) and Prof. Sharon Gerstel (UCLA), who will broach the theme of the conference from the point of view of Western European and Byzantine art history, respectively. Apart from these broad-brush critical overviews, we invite 20-minute papers in English that consider, but need not be limited to, the above questions. More specifically, we welcome papers on one or more of the following topics:

- Liturgical, paraliturgical, and profane uses of church choirs.
- The morphology of choir furnishings in relation to function and ritual.
- Lay and gendered access beyond the choir/templon/chancel screen, for both the living and the dead, physically or by proxy (i.e., in the form of effigies, inscriptions, graffiti, gifts).
- The ritual movement of people and objects to, from, and through choir spaces.
- Concealing and revealing reliquaries, images, funerary monuments, etc.
- Choir spaces as pilgrimage sites.
- Choir spaces and their art as seen through the lens of the Digital Humanities.

Paper titles and abstracts of about 300 words should be forwarded to Michalis Olympios (olympios.michalis@ucy.ac.cy) and Maria Parani (parani.maria@ucy.ac.cy) by 30 September 2026. Submissions should include the prospective speakers' name and affiliation, email address, and a statement indicating whether they intend to participate in person or remotely.

There is no registration fee. While we aim to secure discounted rates for participants at select hotels in Nicosia, please note that we are unable to cover travel or accommodation expenses.

[8]. INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM: "BETWEEN EAST AND WEST: GREEK MANUSCRIPTS IN THE PALAIOLOGAN ERA" (THESSALONIKE AND ON LINE, 15-16.12.2026): CALL FOR PAPERS (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 15.10.2026)

Da: AIEB Newsletter (aboutnewsletter@aiebnet.gr)

International Symposium:

"Between East and West: Greek Manuscripts in the Palaiologan Era"

Call for papers

On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Laboratory of Palaeography and Codicology of the School of Philology at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, the Laboratory of Palaeography and Codicology and the Department of Medieval Greek Studies are organizing an International Symposium entitled:

"Between East and West: Greek Manuscripts in the Palaiologan Era"

The Symposium will be held in a hybrid format on 15-16 December 2026.

Presentations should be 20 minutes in length, and abstracts should be submitted to Sofia Kotzabassi (kotzabas@lit.auth.gr) by 15 October 2026.

[9]. INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP: "ON THE FRINGES OF THE CATENA FORMAT: CATENA-COMMENTARIES, COMPOSITE EXEGESIS, AND THE POSTERITY OF CATENAE" (LEUVEN, 09-10.03.2027): CALL FOR PAPERS (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 15.10.2026)

Da: Jake Ransohoff (bsana-listserv@googlegroups.com)

On the Fringes of the Catena Format: Catena-Commentaries, Composite Exegesis, and the Posterity of Catena
International workshop at KU Leuven, 9-10 March 2027

Conveners: Tiphaine Lorieux, Sofia D'Urso, Reinhart Ceulemans

Rationale

In the immense corpus of Psalter catenae inventoried by G. Karo - H. Lietzmann (1902) and in the *Clavis Patrum Graecorum* (2018), we find a work attributed to Peter of Laodikeia (CPG C 38 = type XXV K-L). Composed in the tenth century, this text is clearly an exegetical compilation on the Psalter, produced through the reworking of excerpts removed from their original context. However, the absence of author attributions prevents it from being regarded as a catena in the strict sense. We know of several works of this kind, explaining the Psalms or another biblical book on the basis of diverse sources, without fully belonging to the genre of catenae. They are no longer concerned with preserving sections of commentary by authoritative patristic authors, but rather with the construction of an entirely new commentary with the help of selected fragments. The unstable terminology applied to these works reflects the uncertainty surrounding their definition: are they to be classified as catenae or not?

These works form the literary "posterity" of catenae (the term used by G. Dorival in his seminal paper from 1985), which includes the transformation of catenae into new commentaries, homilies and collections of scholia: compositions difficult to classify within a literary taxonomy. Another form of reception is the use of catenae in literary works that are not in essence interpretations of a biblical book or passage, but juxtapose, in specific sections, exegetical material drawn from a variety of sources. Editors need to ask whether the Byzantine authors of these texts reach back to independent commentaries or consulted, as the economy of sources could suggest, a catena. This question is being addressed by scholars working on texts as diverse as middle-Byzantine biblical paraphrases and the hymnography of Nikephoros Kallistou Xanthopoulos. Such works are often not on the radar of catena scholars, but deserve attention as a possible form of posterity.

Following the workshops *Negotiating Catena* and *Catena Research* (2025) and *On the Trail of the Bible of Niketas: A Transverse Approach to Catena* (2026) held at KU Leuven with the support of LECTIO, this third instalment of the Leuven Catena Encounters wish to put the spotlight on Greek works situated at the fringes of the catena format. We seek to explore catena-commentaries such as those of Peter of Laodikeia; the exegetical (catena?) sources of works such as the hymns of Nikephoros Kallistou Xanthopoulos; homilies, scholia, florilegia, Lives and other genres with an exegetical agenda, composed from diverse sources (including catenae), without being catenae themselves.

Invited speakers: Luciano Bossina (Padova), Maria-Lucia Goiana (Vienna)

Call for papers

The workshop welcomes proposals on:

- the exegesis of Peter of Laodikeia
- catena-commentaries
- catena-homilies
- the posterity and reuse of catenae

- hymns, treatises, saints' lives, and other types of texts incorporating exegetical insights drawn from different sources
- exegetical florilegia

Date: 9-10 March 2027

Venue: Mgr. Romerozaal, Sint Michielsstraat 2-4, Leuven (in the city centre)

Workshop format: on-site (Leuven) and in-person

Paper format: 30' for presentation, followed by QandA

Working Language: English, French, German

Output: a publication of qualitative papers will be envisaged, subject to editorial conditions.

Please submit your title and abstract (max. 300 words) together with a biographical note (max. 100 words) to Dr Tiphaine Lorieux (tiphaine.lorieux@kuleuven.be) and PhD researcher Sofia D'Urso (sofia.durso@student.kuleuven.be).

Deadline for submissions: 15 October 2026

Notification of acceptance: 6 November 2026

Registration fee: Eur 35

Practical information:

Participants are expected to arrange and cover their own travel and accommodation.

The program will be published early December, so speakers have enough time to make the necessary arrangements. We will try to offer some financial support to early career researchers without funding. If you think you qualify and wish to opt in on this support program, you can indicate this in your submission.

Information on how to reach Leuven from various locations within Europe, including from the Brussels South (Midi) and Liege railway stations and from Brussels Airport (Zaventem) and Brussels South International Airport (Charleroi), can be found [here](#).

An overview of options for accommodation in Leuven can be found [here](#). The workshop will take place in the Mgr. Romerozaal, Sint Michielsstraat 2-4, Leuven (in the city centre), close to bus stops and easily reachable from the Leuven railway station.

[10]. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: "VOICES FROM THE AMBO: HOMILETIC DISCOURSE IN BYZANTIUM AND BEYOND" (BUCHAREST, 27.11.2026)

Da: AIEB Newsletter (aboutnewsletter@aiebnet.gr)

"Voices from the Ambo: Homiletic Discourse in Byzantium and Beyond"

Bucharest, 27 November 2026

The international conference "Voices from the Ambo: Homiletic Discourse in Byzantium and Beyond" (Bucharest, 27 November 2026) brings together leading and early-career scholars to explore Byzantine and post-Byzantine homiletic literature. The papers examine a wide range of sermon collections and authors, including Theodore the Stoudite, Germanos II, Neilos Kerameus, Isidore Glabas, Makarios Chrysokephalos, Antonios of Larissa, Nicetas Myrsiniotes (Neilos II of Rhodes), Damaskinos the Studite, and Elias Miniatis, with a focus on their composition, transmission, and historical contexts. Part of an ongoing collaborative research agenda, the conference contributes to a broader reassessment of the role of preaching in Byzantine culture and beyond.

The keynote lecture will be delivered by Professor Antonio Rigo (President of the International Association of Byzantine Studies).

Venue: Library of the Holy Synod (Antim Monastery), Bucharest

Date: 27 November 2026

Further information: <https://srsb.ro/events>, <https://www.facebook.com/srsbyzantium.ro>

Contact: [http://mihail.mitrea@yahoo.com](mailto:mihail.mitrea@yahoo.com)

[11]. INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP: "THE SLAVONIC METAPHRASIS OF BYZANTINE COMPILATION LITERATURE. CHRONOGRAPHIC, DOCTRINAL, HAGIOGRAPHICAL AND SPIRITUAL COLLECTIONS" (LEUVEN, 08-10.09.2027): CALL FOR PAPERS (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 31.12.2026)

Da: Aisbnews (aisbnews@gmail.com)

"The Slavonic Metaphrasis of Byzantine Compilation Literature. Chronographic, Doctrinal, Hagiographical and Spiritual Collections"

International workshop at KU Leuven, 8-10 September 2027

Conveners: Lara Sels, Evelyne Diels, Reinhart Ceulemans

Rationale

In an ongoing collaborative WEAVE project, scholars in Innsbruck and Leuven study the Slavonic metaphrasis of

Byzantine orthodoxy. This research is informed by the handwritten card-index of Slavonic translation literature, which was composed by the late Francis J. Thomson (1935-2021) and is now part of KU Leuven Libraries Special Collections. The study of florilegia and other forms of compilation literature is of central importance in the project.

The process of translation from Byzantine Greek that decisively shaped medieval Slavonic literature also implied a translation of literary paradigms. The early formation of the literary culture of the Slavs coincided with the development of the Byzantine *cultura della sylloge* (or "florilegic habit"), which favoured compilations of selected texts from the past as means of knowledge transfer and instruction. This development lent the concept of textual authority another dimension, alongside that of authorship. It also blurred the lines between text production, compilatory reuse, and textual transmission. It is the aim of the WEAVE project to trace the history, the models, and the impact of this anthological attitude in early Slavonic literature, a literature of compilers and epitomizers rather than of individual authors, in which "the very notion of book expressed the idea of a collection, that is, a sylloge or sbornik" (Riccardo Picchio 1981). The Leuven team focuses on Greek question-and-answer literature that was transformed in Slavonic compendia. To expand this focus, scholars working on other forms of Slavonic reception of Byzantine compilations or on Slavonic compilatory reception of Byzantine literature in a broad sense are invited to share their expertise. After two thematic sessions at the ICBS in Vienna (27-28 August 2026), the Leuven workshop in September 2027 continues this approach.

Confirmed speakers: Staffan Wahlgren (Trondheim, Norwegian University of Science and Technology), Marijana Vukovic (Odense, Retracing Connections), Alessandra Bucossi and Nicolo' Ghigi (Venice, RAP), Juergen Fuchsbauer and Ekaterina Dikova (Innsbruck, REGEST), Ottavia Mazzon and Iris Karafillidis (Padova, CoMByN)

Call for papers

We invite papers that look at Slavonic compilatory reception of Byzantine literature in a broad sense. This includes Slavonic translations of Greek compilations, compilations originally made in Slavonic, as well as Slavonic miscellaneous manuscripts in which various (sorts of) works are combined.

Topics of focus include:

- the place of compendia in the textual tradition of Slavonic translated literature;
- the impact of Greek chronological literature on Slavonic literary culture (e.g. *Palaia*);
- Slavic traditions of doctrinal and polemical compilation in relation with their Byzantine models (e.g. anti-Latin collections);
- Slavonic collections of translated hagiography and/or apocrypha;
- Slavonic spiritual florilegia (e.g. *Pcela*).

We welcome proposals from scholars from Byzantine and Slavic studies and are looking for papers that bridge the gap between both fields.

Workshop format: on-site (Leuven) and in-person

Paper format: 30' for presentation, followed by 15' Q&A

Working Language: English -- proposals in German and French will also be considered

Output: a selection of papers will be invited for publication in an OA peer-reviewed volume.

Please submit your title and abstract (max. 300 words) together with a biographical note (max. 100 words) to thomsonindex@kuleuven.be.

Deadline for submissions: 31 December 2026

Notification of acceptance: 15 February 2027

Registration fee: Eur 50

Practical information:

Participants are expected to arrange their own travel and accommodation.

Information on how to reach Leuven from various locations within Europe, including from the Brussels South (Midi) and Liege railway stations and from Brussels Airport (Zaventem) and Brussels South International Airport (Charleroi), can be found here (<https://www.visitleuven.be/en/how-to-get-there>).

An overview of options for accommodation in Leuven can be found here

(<https://visitleuven.be/en/accommodation-summary#hotels-and-similar-accommodation>). The workshop will take place in the picturesque Arenberg Castle (<https://visitleuven.be/en/arenberg-castle>) on the outskirts of the city (Heverlee).

Attendees will receive information how to reach the Castle from the Leuven centre with public transport (bus) and on foot (25'-30'); at start of every conference day a group walk will be organized with the Irish College as point of departure).

For any inquiries regarding the call for papers, please contact the organisers through thomsonindex@kuleuven.be.

B. PUBBLICAZIONI

[1]. POTENZA, F. - RE, M. - ROGNONI, C. - VUTURO, F. P. (EDS.), "TERRITORI E CULTURE - LETTURE CONTEMPORANEE DEL MONDO BIZANTINO. ATTI DEL IX CONGRESSO NAZIONALE DELL'ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA DI STUDI BIZANTINI (PALERMO, 19-22 GIUGNO 2024)" (2026)

Da: Aisbnews (aisbnews@gmail.com)

"Territori e culture - Letture contemporanee del mondo bizantino. Atti del IX Congresso Nazionale dell'Associazione Italiana di Studi Bizantini" (Palermo, 19-22 giugno 2024) a cura di Francesca POTENZA, Mario RE, Cristina ROGNONI, Francesca Paola VUTURO, Palermo: Palermo University Press, 2026 (Atti e Convegni), 638 pp.

ISBN (a stampa): 978-88-5509-852-6

ISBN (online): 978-88-5509-853-3

Dal seguente link e' possibile scaricare gratuitamente il pdf integrale:

<https://unipapress.com/book/territori-e-culture-letture-contemporanee-del-mondo-bizantino/>

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[2]. BASSO, S., "DYNAMICS OF TRANSMISSION OF 'BARLAAM AND IOASAPH': ALONG THE SILK ROAD TO BYZANTIUM" (2026)

Da: Sergio Basso (sergio.basso.cina@gmail.com)

Sergio BASSO, "Dynamics of Transmission of 'Barlaam and Ioasaph': Along the Silk Road to Byzantium", Berlin-Boston: De Gruyter, 2026 (Transmissions Series, 15), 350 pp.

ISSN 2625-4018

ISBN 978-3-11-224315-2

ISBN 978-3-11-224316-9 (PDF)

ISBN 978-3-11-224317-6 (E-PUB)

DOI <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783112243169>

Abstract:

The spiritual crisis of a pagan prince, Ioasaph, is allayed only by the preaching of the Christian ascetic Barlaam. The standard claim is that the core of the novel was the Christianisation of the life of the Buddha. Basso's approach recurs to a new alternative explanation theory: the Karussell-Modell.

[3]. BRANDI CORDASCO SALMENA, G., "'SI QUADRUPES PAUPERIEM FECISSE DICATUR'. IL REGIME ROMANO DEL DANNO CAGIONATO DALL'ANIMALE" (2025)

Da: Giovanni Brandi Cordasco Salmena (giovanni.brandi@unibas.it)

Giovanni BRANDI CORDASCO SALMENA, "'Si quadrupes pauperiem fecisse dicatur'. Il regime romano del danno cagionato dall'animale, Roma: "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, 2025 (Studia Juridica, XCIII), 300 pp.

ISSN 0081-6698

ISBN 978-88-913-913-3639-2 (Brossura)

ISBN 978-88-913-3642-2 (Pdf)

DOI 10.48255/97891336422

[4]. STRANO, G., "GIOVANNI ZIMISCE. DIPLOMAZIA E GRANDEZZA MILITARE NELLA BISANZIO DEL X SECOLO" (2026)

Da: Aisbnews (aisbnews@gmail.com)

Gioacchino STRANO, "Giovanni Zimisce. Diplomazia e grandezza militare nella Bisanzio del X secolo", Perugia: Graphe.it edizioni, 2026 (I condottieri, 20), 153 pp.
ISBN 978-88-9372-284-1

Summary

Il regno di Giovanni Zimisce (che governò l'impero bizantino dal 969 al 976) fu caratterizzato da grandi vittorie, sia in Occidente sia nel Vicino Oriente. Egli proseguì nella linea di espansione territoriale già promossa dal suo predecessore, l'imperatore Niceforo II Foca, a cui era legato da vincoli di parentela, giacché Giovanni Zimisce era suo nipote (figlio di una sorella del Foca). Il legame di sangue non impedì tuttavia a Zimisce di congiurare contro lo zio e di assassinarlo. Asceso al potere, Giovanni Zimisce seppe affermare un proprio stile di governo e una personale (ed efficace) linea d'azione politica, rivelando grandi doti diplomatiche e militari. In politica interna il nuovo sovrano cercò il sostegno della Chiesa e della potente aristocrazia dell'impero. Ma fu nei confronti dei tanti nemici esterni che Zimisce manifestò le sue doti nel campo della strategia e della tattica militare.

C. NOTIZIE

[1]. 25th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BYZANTINE STUDIES - VIENNA 2026: REGISTRATION REMINDER

Da: Chrestos Staurakos (chstavra@uoi.gr)

ICBS - Vienna 2026: Registration policy

To participate in the Congress, registration must be completed by July 31 (<https://www.icbs2026.org/congress/registration/>).

Please be aware that speakers and their papers will be deleted from the program if they have not registered by July 31. The program is available at <https://www.icbs2026.org/program/>. Keep in mind that the ICBS 2026 is an in-person event only and papers may not be read out by another participant.

The ICBS also offers a wide variety of side events some of which require registration by July 31. This includes the free opening reception in the Vienna City Hall on Monday as well as the free closing reception at the Austrian Academy of Sciences on Saturday.

All information can be found here: <https://www.icbs2026.org/activities>.

[2]. RECEPTION INVITATION FOR DUMBARTON OAKS AND CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF HISTORICAL STUDIES' ALUMNI WITHIN THE ICBS 2026 (VIENNA, 26.08.2026; REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 31.07.2026)

Da: Jake Ransohoff (bsana-listserv@googlegroups.com)

Participants in ICBS Vienna 2026 are invited to note that Dumbarton Oaks and the Department of Historical Studies, Central European University, are organizing a reception for their alumni on 26 August, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., in the Arkadenhof, University of Vienna (Universitätsring 1, 1010 Vienna).

The reception will include refreshments and the opportunity to view Dumbarton Oaks' recent exhibition: "The Stimulant Sea: Sugar, Coffee, and the Acquisition of Taste".

RSVP: <https://univie.eventsair.com/icbs2026/regsideevents/Site/Register>

[3]. PHD POSITION: BYZANTINE HYMNOGRAPHY, GREEK LINGUISTICS, AND BYZANTINE STUDIES FOR THE PROJECT "VirMa: THE REPRESENTATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY IN THE THEOTOKARIA BY PHOTIOS, GEOMETRES, AND MAUROPOUS" / GHENT UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS (APPLICATION DEADLINE: 01.08.2026)

Da: Mariafrancesca Sgandurra (mariafrancesca.sgandurra@gmail.com); Carlo Alberto Rebottini (carloalberto.rebottini@gmail.com)

Overview

PhD Position: Byzantine Hymnography, Greek Linguistics, Byzantine Studies

Project: VirMa -- The Representation of the Virgin Mary in the Theotokaria by Photios, Geometres, and Maupous

Host Institution: Ghent University (UGent)

Duration: 4 years (full-time), at least 90 per cent research

Application deadline: August 1, 2026, 23:59 Brussels time

Start Date: 1 October 2026 at the earliest. Nota: The start date of the project is flexible (in any case, no later than 1 January 2027), so you may also apply even if you have not yet obtained your MA degree at the time of application.

Funding: FWO Senior Research Project nr. G005026N

Selection Committee: Andrea Cuomo, Kristoffel Demoen (chairs)

How: Send your application dossier via email at Prof. Dr. Andrea Cuomo at andrea.cuomo@ugent.be by the deadline.

Attention: letters of recommendation must be submitted separately by your referees, and sent directly to Prof. Cuomo (see below).

About VirMa

VirMa explores Middle Byzantine hymns dedicated to the Virgin Mary (Theotokaria), combining philology, metrics, and linguistics. The project aims to produce the first complete English translations of these texts, analyze their linguistic and rhetorical features, and understand their composition technique and reception.

Many are the aspects, hypotheses, and research questions that VirMa aspires to address. For example: (1) Can we say something about the representation of women by studying how the Virgin Mary is portrayed in the Theotokaria? (2) What can we say about the compositional techniques employed by Photios, John Maupous, and John Geometres? (3) To what extent can Construction Grammar, priming, and cognitive linguistics shed light on the poets' metrical, rhetorical, lexicographical, and linguistic choices? (4) The performativity of the Theotokaria and their reception: a synesthetic approach.

Which of these aspects should receive greater emphasis will ultimately depend on the expertise and priorities of the selected candidate.

Your Role

- To produce annotated translations of the three Theotokaria by Photios, John Geometres, and John Maupous;
- To study the rhetorical figures, lexicon, caesurae, and metrical solutions employed by the poets;
- To study the corpora and their metrical-linguistic features from the perspective of Construction Grammar and priming;
- To investigate the role of the Theotokaria in Byzantine liturgy and social life;
- To examine the relationship between the Theotokaria, music, and performance;
- To study the reception of the Theotokaria;
- To disseminate results via social media and publications, as well as by attending/co-organizing conferences, and workshops;
- To contribute to the Department of Greek at Ghent University (UGent) through academic service, outreach activities, and departmental meetings, as required;
- To spend up to 12 months in Vienna. This research stay is funded by the project.

What We Offer

- Full-time, 4-year scholarship as a Bursaal at UGent;
- International research environment with leading experts;
- Mobility opportunities (Vienna research stays; joint PhD possibility);
- Training in advanced DH tools and scholarly publishing;
- Opportunity to attend training courses offered by UGent in order to further develop your professional and scientific skills;
- Opportunity for participation in major conferences and workshops; funding for travel and Open Access publication;
- All Ghent University staff members enjoy a number of benefits, such as a wide range of training and education opportunities, 36 days of holiday leave (on an annual basis for a full-time job) supplemented by annual fixed bridge days, a bicycle allowance and eco vouchers. Click here for a complete overview of all the staff benefits: <https://www.ugent.be/en/work/talent/considering>.

Ideal Candidate

- Master's degree in Classics, Byzantine Studies, Greek Linguistics, or related field;
- Strong command of Ancient and Medieval Greek; excellent English writing skills;
- Interest in Digital Humanities;
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively; strong organizational skills.

Desirable

- Familiarity with rhetorical theory, linguistics, and metrical analysis;
- Knowledge of one or more of the following languages: Dutch, German, Modern Greek, Italian, or French.

Further, general info

- Language of the dissertation: English.
- Working language: English, but if you are not already proficient in Dutch, you are encouraged to reach a B1 level within the first two years of the PhD in order to participate more actively in the activities of our department.
- The start date of the project is flexible (in any case no later than 1 January 2027), so you may also apply even if you

have not yet obtained your PhD at the time of application.

- Ghent University is a world of its own. Employing more than 15,000 people, it is actively involved in education and research, management and administration, as well as technical and social service provision on a daily basis. It is one of the largest, most exciting employers in the area and offers great career opportunities. With 11 faculties and more than 80 departments offering state-of-the-art study programs grounded in research in a wide range of academic fields, Ghent University is a logical choice for its staff and students.

Application Procedure

Pre-selection

Documents required by August 1, 2026, at 23:59 (Brussels time).

Send CV, cover letter, and academic transcripts to andrea.cuomo@ugent.be.

Also:

2 letters of recommendation must be submitted separately and sent directly by the referees (one of whom is preferably the applicant's MA supervisor), with the subject line "VirMa Recommendation FAMILY NAME" to Prof. Cuomo. The letters, which will be treated as confidential, must include: (1) an assessment of the applicant's suitability for and alignment with the project's goals; (2) an evaluation of the applicant's linguistic competencies.

Shortlisted candidates will be notified by August 10, 2026.

They will receive further information pertaining to the project and will be required to submit a project proposal (outlining how they plan to achieve VirMa's scientific goals) of no more than 5 pages (bibliography excluded) by September 1, 2026. The proposal must include a timeline, milestones, and deliverables.

It is possible that shortlisted candidates will be asked to complete an additional assessment (e.g. a translation exercise or a commentary on (part of) a hymn). Further information will follow. The proposal will be discussed during the job interview, which will be held on Friday, 11 September 2026 in Ghent.

A lump-sum scholarship of 200 Euros will be provided to shortlisted candidates invited to attend an interview.

For inquiries, contact Prof. Andrea Cuomo (UGent) at: andrea.cuomo@ugent.be.

[4]. CALL FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE AIEB COMMISSION FOR THE HISTORY OF BYZANTINE ART (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 07.08.2026)

Da: Jake Ransohoff (bsana-listserv@googlegroups.com)

Call for Membership in the AIEB Commission for the History of Byzantine Art

The Commission for the History of Byzantine Art has currently several openings and is actively seeking new members. In compliance with the regulations for the management and functioning of commissions of the AIEB (Association Internationale des Etudes Byzantines), the Commission is circulating this call for applications. The members of this Commission ideally represent the many quarters of the Byzantine world and aspects of Byzantine art, as well as areas that are active today in Byzantine studies.

The mission of the Commission is the diffusion of information about Byzantine art, with an emphasis on making the monuments of all kinds easily accessible to scholars within the many fields of Byzantine studies and to those in other related fields of study. It is a strong voice for the preservation of Byzantine monuments everywhere. Its present, ongoing, project, entitled the Chalke Pyle, will be an online portal offering a guide to finding the websites of museums and libraries, scholarly institutions, monuments of Byzantine art (including information on excavations), and resources, including data bases, for the study of Byzantine art. While the Chalke Pyle is in progress, new projects for the Commission are being developed and new ideas are welcomed along with new members.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Commission for the History of Byzantine Art, please send the following documents (as a single PDF file) to:

Nancy Sevchenko (nsevchenko8@gmail.com) by 7 August 2026

1. A short letter explaining your interest
2. A short CV with a brief list of publications.

In accordance with AIEB guidelines, applications will be reviewed by the current members of the Commission. The new members will be officially announced at the International Congress of Byzantine Studies (Vienna, 24-29 August 2026).

Nancy Sevchenko, chair, Commission for the History of Byzantine Art of the AIEB.

[5]. BANDO CA' FOSCARI OPEN MONOGRAPH FUND (SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 30.09.2026)

Da: Alessandra Bucossi (alessandra.bucossi@unive.it)

Edizioni Ca' Foscari - Venice University Press, casa editrice open access dell'Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, promuove il Ca' Foscari Open Monograph Fund, un'iniziativa configurata come premio per la pubblicazione monografica più innovativa, istituita nell'ambito del Fondo di Supporto alla Ricerca dell'Università Ca' Foscari Venezia.

Il premio, fino a 10.000 euro, consiste in un contributo per la pubblicazione in open access assegnato mediante graduatoria e fino a esaurimento delle risorse disponibili.

Il bando intende favorire la scelta dell'open access come modalità editoriale qualificata per studi scientifici di elevato profilo, caratterizzati da originalità, solidità metodologica e significativo impatto disciplinare.

In particolare, l'iniziativa è rivolta a opere che, per la natura dei contenuti e la rilevanza per la comunità scientifica, possono trarre un beneficio significativo da una libera e ampia circolazione del sapere, resa possibile dalla diffusione digitale e dall'ecosistema dell'open access.

In questa prospettiva, Edizioni Ca' Foscari opera in qualità di soggetto attivo nella promozione dell'open access come opzione editoriale di alto livello, capace di valorizzare studi scientifici innovativi e di amplificarne l'impatto attraverso l'accessibilità, la citabilità e la riutilizzabilità dei contenuti.

Per maggiori informazioni, visita:

<https://edizionicafoscari.unive.it/it/edizioni4/initiative/ca-foscari-open-monograph-fund/>

[6]. POSITION: LIBRARIAN FOR CLASSICS, HELLENIC STUDIES, AND WESTERN EUROPEAN STUDIES AT PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY DATA, RESEARCH, AND TEACHING SERVICES - PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY (APPLICATION DEADLINE: 31.12.2026)

Da: Jake Ransohoff (bsana-listserv@googlegroups.com)

Position Title: Librarian for Classics, Hellenic Studies, and Western European Studies

Department: Princeton University Library Data, Research, and Teaching Services - Princeton, New Jersey

Application Link: <https://apply.interfolio.com/188832>

POSITION SUMMARY

Princeton University Library seeks a collaborative, imaginative, service-oriented subject specialist to shape and steward rich collections and provide exceptional research support in Classics and Hellenic Studies, as well as to contribute to the interdisciplinary field of Western European Studies. The successful candidate will help ensure that Princeton's collections, services, and instructional programs reflect diverse perspectives and support an inclusive academic community engaged in these fields of study. The position encompasses two spheres of work: primary responsibility for collections and research services for Classics and Hellenic Studies, and collaboration within the more distributed field of Western European Studies.

The incumbent selects collections materials in all media and formats, oversees collections, manages collections budgets, and provides instruction and research support services in all areas related to Classics and Hellenic Studies. They support teaching and research in the history, language, philology, literature, classical philosophy, and culture of ancient Greece, Rome, and Byzantium, and in all aspects of the study of modern Greece. They serve as liaison to the Department of Classics and work closely with both the Librarian for Ancient Mediterranean and Hellenic Special Collections and the Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies.

The incumbent will also help the Library achieve a fresh and holistic view of Western European studies with an aim to achieving a well-rounded and inclusive collection and instructional and research support for interdisciplinary Western European Studies, working with other specialist librarians across area studies, languages and literatures, the social sciences, humanities, and cultural studies.

Responsibilities include:

- Serve as the Library's liaison to the Department of Classics, to the Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies and its Program in Hellenic Studies, and the Program in European Cultural Studies.
- Select collections materials in all media and formats and generally oversee collections, including managing collections budgets, for Classics and Hellenic Studies.
- Provide orientations, bibliographic instruction and research assistance for faculty, students, post docs and visiting fellows whose academic inquiry involves Classics, Hellenic Studies.
- Interact with librarians across humanities, social sciences, and area studies in order to identify and fill gaps in the collections and services that support contemporary research and teaching focused on Western Europe.
- Oversee the collections and use of the Classics Graduate Study Room, and the Hellenic Studies Reading Room.
- Consult and coordinate closely with the Librarian for Ancient/Pre-Modern Mediterranean and Hellenic Special Collections; and consult with other staff units as needed to facilitate timely acquisition and processing of materials.
- Advise on preservation, digitization, and other aspects of collection maintenance, including offsite storage.

- Create and supervise the Digital PUL collections and resource guides related to Classics and Hellenic Studies, and contribute to resource guides, web sites and other promotional initiatives for Western European Studies.
- Contribute to University Library operations, services and initiatives through leadership and participation on committees, task forces, and working groups as assigned.
- Represent Princeton in relevant regional, national, and international professional and scholarly organizations, including collaborative collection development efforts for Classics, Hellenic Studies, and Western European Studies.

PUL is one of the world's leading research libraries, with over 300 staff and several specialized branches, supporting a diverse community of 5,500 undergraduates, 3,100 graduate students, 1,200 faculty members, and many visiting scholars. Further information: <http://library.princeton.edu>

Required Qualifications:

- Advanced degree in Classics or a field of Western European studies OR ALA-accredited MLS with a BA or higher in Classics or a field of Western European studies
- Minimum two years of professional experience in an academic research library
- Broad knowledge of Western European history, literatures, cultures, current affairs, and scholarly resources
- Reading knowledge of Modern Greek
- Proficiency in Latin and Classical Greek
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and the ability to work effectively with a diverse community of faculty, researchers, students and colleagues
- Knowledge of the Western European book trade and current research/publishing trends
- Familiarity with current research trends and print/digital publishing from and about Western Europe

Preferred Qualifications:

- PhD in Classics, Western European area studies, or in a major discipline covering Western Europe
- Experience with instruction, liaison work, outreach, and academic research support
- Experience with collection development and acquisitions budget management
- Experience with emerging technologies supporting discovery and learning in a rapidly evolving environment
- Reading skill in at least one other major language of modern Western Europe besides Greek
- Broad familiarity with Western European literatures and histories

The work location for this position is in-person on campus at Princeton University.

The successful candidate will be appointed to an appropriate Librarian rank depending upon qualifications and experience. Applications include a resume, cover letter, and a list of three references with full contact information. This position is subject to the University's background check policy. This position is not eligible for H-1B sponsorship that requires consular processing.

[7]. DATENBANK BYZANTINISCHER BLEISIEGEL (DBBS)

Da: AIEB Newsletter (aboutnewsletter@aiebnet.gr)

In collaboration with the CCEH Cologne the database of Byzantine lead seals has been published online at the web address

<https://dbbs.cceh.uni-koeln.de>.

It contains approximately 30,000 lead seals dating from the 5th to the 15th centuries that have been published since the late 19th century (excluding images). The database is based on an Excel spreadsheet and is fully searchable across numerous seal characteristics, including bibliographic references.

This website is free of charge, hosted by the University of Cologne, and will remain permanently online. In terms of its nature and purpose, it stands alongside the "Koelner Papyri -- Woerterlisten" (Cologne Papyri -- Word Lists) compiled by the papyrologists at the University of Cologne.

Its aim is to facilitate the rapid identification of similar and parallel seals, thereby saving users the time-consuming task of searching through the many published volumes and articles. Naturally, it will be continuously updated and expanded whenever possible. Criticism, additions or suggestions are welcome.

NORME PER LA SEGNALAZIONE DI INIZIATIVE BIZANTINISTICHE

La Newsletter AISB raccoglie e diffonde notizie relative a iniziative e attivita' d'interesse bizantinistico (congressi, giornate di studio, convegni, seminari, conferenze, pubblicazioni, presentazioni di volumi, mostre, e cosi' via). Ciascun annuncio inviato alla Redazione della Newsletter AISB (aisbnews@gmail.com) dovra' recare in primo luogo il titolo dell'iniziativa cui si riferisce (o un titolo in forma breve della pubblicazione segnalata). Di seguito andranno fornite le notizie relative all'iniziativa stessa, in maniera sintetica. L'annuncio che sara' divulgato nella Newsletter conterra', all'inizio, anche il nome del mittente e il suo indirizzo e-mail, che saranno diffusi insieme alla notizia stessa (salvo

esplicita richiesta contraria). Gli annunci devono essere formulati come corpo del testo del messaggio e-mail, SENZA FORMATTARE I CARATTERI IN ALCUN MODO, E SENZA AGGIUNGERE ALLEGATI: al fine di evitare la diffusione di virus, i messaggi contenenti allegati non verranno presi in considerazione. La Redazione si riserva il compito di selezionare, all'interno del materiale pervenuto, quanto si riterrà coerente con le finalità dell'Associazione. Chi desiderasse la disattivazione del servizio di Newsletter potrà inviarne comunicazione all'indirizzo e-mail sopra citato. IL PROSSIMO NOTIZIARIO (15 SETTEMBRE 2026) DIRAMERÀ I MESSAGGI PERVENUTI ENTRO IL 10 SETTEMBRE 2026. Le comunicazioni giunte dopo questo termine saranno inserite nel numero successivo del notiziario.