

CANADIO-BYZANTINA

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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The big event for Byzantinists in 2022 was the deferred congress, which took place in Venice and Padua in August, in which several Canadians took place. Below you can read reports by Cecily Hilsdale (who represented us at the meeting of representatives of the national committees) and Conor Whately. But you can also read other reports by two Turkish students, whose participation in the event was made possible by generous donations of Canadian and British Byzantinists – for which thanks are due to our members. Alex Vukovich was instrumental in organising this support, both in Canada and in the U.K.

This issue, like the last one, has benefited from the skills of Louis-Patrick St-Pierre of Queen’s University, who has again improved its whole aspect. He has also been redoing our website, which remains attached to that of scapat.ca: you can find our new site at www.scapat.ca/byzcan. We owe him a great debt for getting this sorted out once again.

For Canadian Byzantinists this year will be a notable one because the BSC will come to our country again, once more to Vancouver, B.C., at the invitation of Dimitris Krallis and the Hellenic Studies programme at Simon Fraser. See below, p.38, for his announcement. This is the first time the conference has taken place in

Canada since October 2014, when it was also hosted by Simon Fraser in downtown Vancouver.



The photo here is a reminder of this last conference as well as of the loss of Walter Kaegi, who died in February 2022 and was one of the founders of the BSC: here he can be seen, next to Alice-Mary Talbot, addressing the 40th BSC in Vancouver. I hope to see many of our members there this October in person.

Geoffrey Greatrex
President

If you have not renewed your subscription for this year, please send a cheque (\$30 or \$15 for students) payable to ‘The Canadian Committee of Byzantinists’ to Prof. Richard Greenfield, Department of History, Watson Hall, Queen’s University, 49 Bader Lane, Kingston ON, K7L 3N6. Electronic payments are also accepted: see the treasurer’s report in this issue.

ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS

George Amanatidis-Saadé (University of Ottawa – Inalco)

I am currently a doctoral candidate in the fourth year of my studies undertaken jointly at the University of Ottawa in Canada and the Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (Inalco) in Paris, France, under the supervision of Geoffrey Greatrex and Christelle Jullien. My SSHRC-funded Ph.D. project is centered around the character and memory of Marutha of Martyropolis, a frontier bishop, ambassador and satrap in the late-fourth and early-fifth centuries. Through the production of a critical biography, I seek to overcome modern scholarship's limited understanding of Marutha and to reposition him in a place of importance within the histories of the Romans, Persians and Syriac Christians.

I have just returned from my year-long stay where I immersed myself in French academic culture in various ways. Over the year, I registered to a couple graduate-level seminars, namely middle arabic at the ÉLASU with Perrine Pilette, and Syriac reading and history with Muriel Debié at the EPHE. In addition to these courses, I also attended two doctoral training sessions at the Inalco's library, the BULAC. My academic activities did not stop there, as I had access to many of Paris' specialized libraries. I spent many hours in the Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de la Sorbonne, the Bibliothèque Jean de Vernon BOSEB (byzantine studies) and the IFEB (Institut français d'études byzantines) of the l'Institut Catholique, and the BULAC.

In addition to my registration to the Inalco, I was placed alongside my co-supervisor Dr Jullien at the Centre de Recherche sur le Monde iranien (CeRMI), a lab of mixed scholars whose research spans the entirety of the Iranian world, past and present. The CeRMI hosts monthly seminars and yearly both a Journée Monde Iranien and a Journée des Doctorants. The latter of these brings together all third-year doctoral students (which I am!) to present their thesis and progress to the lab and receive extensive customized feedback from a chosen specialist. I just recently presented in November and found the experience quite enriching!

I also took the opportunity in Paris to present at the combined 14th Symposium Syriacum and the 11th Conference of Christian Arabic Studies on the topic of the status of Christianity in Iran at the turn of the fifth century.

This last year, I passed the University of Ottawa's Comprehensive Exam; meaning another step in completing my doctoral degree has been completed successfully. The writing of my thesis had begun with the hopes of finishing in a year's time.

Finally, I eagerly await the publication of the chapter I co-authored with Geoffrey Greatrex, "Les relations romano-perses sous Yazdgird I^{er} et Wahrām V," for the upcoming *Discourse, Power Issues and Images. Transversal Studies on the Reigns of Yazdgird I and Wahrām V*, éd. Christelle Jullien.

peter boudreau (McGill University, Montreal/Dumbarton Oaks, DC)

I spent most of the 2021-2022 academic year drafting two new chapters for my dissertation, one on personifications of the months and the other on manuscript traditions of illustrated menologia. I also presented new material at the 2022 Byzantine Studies Conference in LA that considered the relationship between time, the seasons, and the landscape in imperial calendar books, an avenue I hope to explore more in my next project.

In other news, I joined the faculty at Dawson College where I began teaching in the Winter 2022 term. I was also awarded a Junior Fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks for the 2022-23 academic year. While at DO, I am hard at work writing, thinking, and making extensive use of the rare books collections there and at the Walters Art Museum. I aim to complete my dissertation during my time there and to continue developing my next project.

Lindsay Corbett (McGill University, Montréal)

Over the course of the past year, I continued work on my second dissertation chapter, which considers the significance of visualizing tactile forms of piety across a group of late Byzantine icons. I presented this research at the annual Association des étudiants du monde byzantin Conference in Paris. In addition to my dissertation, I also collaborated on several curatorial projects at the Montréal Museum of Fine Arts. I co-developed a web application that enhances visitor engagement with a collection of Japanese netsuke using 3D-

photogrammetry. I presented this work with Dr. Laura Vigo at this year's UUAC conference at the University of Toronto. Currently, I am working as a Research Assistant on two upcoming exhibitions on Decorative Arts and Design at the MMFA. In addition, I received an FRSQC grant to conduct research on the museum's rich textile collection in 2023. Finally, I have had the immense pleasure of working as a historical consultant for a forthcoming video game that will be set in the Queen of Cities.

Hugh Elton (Trent University)

With Haldon, J. and Izdebski, A., 'Managing the Roman Empire for the Long Term: Risk Assessment and Management Policy in the Fifth to Seventh Centuries', in Izdebski, A. *et al.*, eds., *Perspectives on Public Policy in Societal-Environmental Crises, Risk, Systems and Decisions* (Cham, 2022), 237-246; https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-94137-6_16

With Jacobson, M., Pickett, J., Gascoigne, A., and Fleitmann, D., 'Settlement, environment, and climate change in SW

Anatolia: dynamics of regional variation and the end of Antiquity', *PLoS ONE* 17.6 (2022); <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0270295>

With Jim Newhard and John Haldon, 'Assessing Continuity and Change in the Sixth to Ninth Century Landscape of North-Central Anatolia', in Roosevelt, C.H. and Haldon, J., eds., *Winds of Change: Environment and Society in Anatolia* (Istanbul, 2021), 141-157

Eduardo Fabbro (University of Waterloo)

'Constructing the Enemy? Paul the Deacon and Byzantine History', in *Italy and the East Roman World in the Medieval Mediterranean: Empire, Cities and Elites, 476-1204*, edited by Thomas J. MacMaster and Nicholas S. M. Matheou. New York: Routledge, 2021, 70-94.

"'Out of Lust for Money"? Agency and Marital Strategies in Eighth-Century Italy', (*Gender and History* 34.2 (July) 2022: 384-400.

Michael Giavara (University of Ottawa)

I am a second year MA student at the department of Classics and Religious studies at the University of Ottawa under the supervision of Professor Greatrex. I am currently about to start writing the second chapter of my thesis, focused on the evolution of the Italian Senatorial Aristocracy, from the days of the last

Western emperors to the beginning of Lombard rule in the peninsula.

My BA thesis (University of Bologna, Italy) focused on an earlier attempt by *Magister Militum* Ricimer to salvage what was left of the Western Roman empire by reshaping it into the much more stable kingdom of Italy.

Alexandros Grammatikopoulos (University of Ottawa, University of Athens)

I am in the final stage of a new English translation of the fifth-century Syriac miracle story of *Euphemia and the Goth* (from now on, *Story*). I am also preparing a brief commentary on it also for my MA thesis in Classics. Additionally, I focus on comparing the *Story* with other philological sources, such as hagiographical and historiographical works of late antiquity and, most

importantly, the liturgical text of the Syriac Orthodox Church. Concerning the latter, I have already presented in a graduate colloquium (uOttawa & uToronto) new information overlooked from the previous scholarship, which might explain the historical reasons behind the creation of the *Story* and connect it with the miaphysite milieu of Edessa.

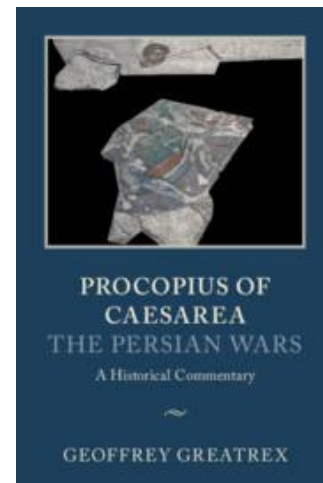
Geoffrey Greatrex (University of Ottawa)

Procopius of Caesarea. The Persian Wars. A Historical Commentary came out at last in October from Cambridge University Press, likewise *Procopius of Caesarea. The Persian Wars*, the accompanying translation, based on one made by Averil Cameron in the 1960s.

Articles:

‘Procopius: life and works’ in M. Meier and F. Montinaro, eds, *A Companion to Procopius* (Leiden, 2022), 61-9.

‘Procopius and the Kings of Persia’ in G. Mikkelsen and K. Parry (eds), *Byzantium to China: Religion, History and Culture on the Silk Roads. Studies in Honour of Samuel N.C. Lieu* (Leiden, 2022), 197-217.

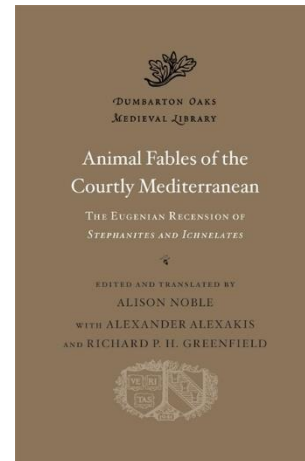


Review of P. Stephenson, *New Rome. The Empire in the East* (Cambridge, MA, 2021) in *Phoenix* 75 (2021)

Richard Greenfield (Queen's University, Kingston)

The collaborative edition and translation project in which I was involved with Alison Noble and Alexander Alexakis, *Animal Fables of the Courtly Mediterranean: The Eugenic Recension of Stephanites and Ichneutes*, was published in the spring in the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library series. I have continued to work as co-editor (with Alexander Alexakis of the University of Ioannina) for the DOML Greek Series. In 2023 you can expect three exciting volumes (one delayed from 2022) *John Geometres*, *The Life of the Virgin Mary*, edited and translated by Maximos Conostas and Christos Simelidis; *Saints at the Margins*, edited and translated by Stratis Papiroannou; and *Romanos the Melodist, Songs on Women*, edited and translated by Thomas Arentzen. We are always looking for potential projects for the DOML, so if you have one yourself or know of someone who might like to contribute to this prestigious Harvard UP series, please do get in touch with me.

Otherwise, apart from working on various current Byzantine magic and demonology projects (as a change from recent hagiography), I have been involved in keeping the Byzantine flame burning, or at least flickering, in the classroom. I taught a core seminar on Byzantine society to second



year students and a Grad seminar on Medieval Greece in the Winter term, but it was all Crusades in the Fall. This year I am supervising two MA and six PhD students. Congratulations to my three MA's (Hannah Bennet, James Condon, and Nicholas Schumacher) who completed their studies successfully in the summer; to Paul Gebhardt who has submitted his PhD thesis on "Gregory Palamas and Demetrios Kydones on God, Knowledge, and Humanity at the End of Byzantium," and will be examined in January 2023; and to my former students Julian (Hee Min) Yang, who landed a tenure track position in Ancient and Medieval Western History at Kangwon National University in South Korea, and Kerim Kartal who secured a full-year Adjunct position in Classics at Queen's.

Cecily Hilsdale (McGill, Art History)

This year I was awarded an *Insight Grant* from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for my research project: “Treasure: Power, Loss, and Historicity in the Medieval Mediterranean and Beyond” (2022-2026). I presented papers related to this research project at the Canadian Conference of Medieval Art Historians in Toronto (March 2022) and at the Conference on “Rethinking the Wearable in the Middle Ages” at the Bard Graduate Center in New York (April 2022).

For the 24th International Congress of Byzantine Studies in Venice and Padua (August 2022), I co-organized with Alicia Walker a round table session on “The Byzantine Idiom Beyond Byzantium’s Borders: A Historiographic Reflection.”

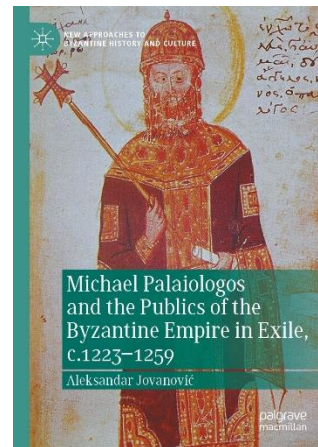
And since the last newsletter, the following essay has come into print:

Cecily J. Hilsdale, “Materials of Devotion: Reassessing the Textile Gift in Byzantium,” in *Textile Gifts in the Middle Ages: Objects, Actors, and Representations*, ed. Christiane Elster, Stephanie Luther, Tanja Michalsky, and Stefanie Seeberg (Rome: Campisanto Editore, 2022 = *Quaderni della Bibliotheca Hertziana* 8), 57-81.

At McGill I continue to work with a wonderful group of graduate students. Off campus I am rotating off the Governing Board of the Byzantine Studies Association of North America, but I continue to serve as a member of the Editorial Board for *Speculum* as a member of the Board of Review Editors for *The Medieval Review*.

Aleks Jovanović (University of the Fraser Valley, B.C.)

I work as a Limited Term Appointed Instructor in History at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV). This year was published my book, *Michael Palaiologos and the Publics of the Byzantine Empire in Exile, c.1223–1259*.



Kerim Kartal (Queen's University)

After completing my Ph.D. studies in the Department of History at Queen's University in 2020, I am currently employed in the Department of Classics as an adjunct instructor, teaching two levels of Ancient Greek as well as an interdisciplinary course in the Faculty of Arts and Science in 2022-2023. In Winter 2022, I taught a History course entitled Islamophobia, and in Summer 2022, I taught English at the School of English at Queen's University, instructing prospective undergraduate and graduate students.

2022 for me has thus been full of teaching diverse subjects, thanks to which I was, for the third time, nominated for the History Department's Departmental Award for

JaShong King (University of Ottawa)

The past academic year has been a productive one, it being the first since my return from parental leave.

I have just completed a full Latin and English TEI-XML edition of the Novels of Valentinian. The other remaining post-Theodosian novels are scheduled to be completed before the end of the year. They form the basis of my PhD research which has now evolved into performing digital sentiment analysis on these unabridged fifth century imperial laws in order to detect the political circumstances of their issuing. Ultimately the Latin portion of the digital edition will be released publicly as an appendix to my eventual dissertation.

Excellence in Teaching (which I won in 2017), and I was also chosen as a Champion for Mental Health.

Lastly, my book chapter entitled "Kız Tarafından Bir Çarşaf, Bir Vazo, Bir Dua Kitabı ve Üç Havlu: Geç Bizans Dönemi (1261-1453) Konstantinopolis Patrikhane Mahkemesi Tutanaklarında İktisadi Bir Meta Olarak Çeyiz [A Bedsheet, A Vase, A Prayer Book and Three Towels from the Girl's Side: Dowry as a Commodity in Late Byzantium According to the Records of the Patriarchal Court of Constantinople]", for an edited volume entitled *Ortaçağda Doğu Dünyasında Ticaret [Trade in the Eastern Medieval World]*, was published this year by Selenge Publications.

I have also just been accepted to present at the Medieval Academy of America's Graduate Student Committee's Digital Humanities Showcase in December, where I will highlight the research and career possibilities of the digital methodologies I am currently employing.

I am also just about to finish a rare two-semester online course in Classical Chinese (the very first of its kind), which is part of my long-term goal of being able to work with eastern as well as western primary sources for eventual projects relating to the idea of a global Late Antiquity.

Dimitris Krallis (Simon Fraser University, Burnaby)

In 2021-22 I continued fulfilling my duties as Director of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies at SFU. In that capacity I worked with professor Sharon Gerstel, Director of the SNF Centre for the Study of Hellenic Culture at UCLA, to bring to our Centres funding for a 3 year pilot program that will a) help bring scholars, artists, and public figures from Greece to the West Coast, b) facilitate faculty and student mobility between our two institutions, and c) help graduate students work together across two campuses to develop collaborative digital humanities projects that will enhance their academic CVs.

With Dr Gerstel we continued bringing students and academics together by way of the *West Coast Byzantinists Seminar* (WCBS), a cross-campus initiative based out of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Simon Fraser University (SFU), and the University of

British Columbia (UBC). In addition to that, Dr Gerstel and I run a separate seminar for graduate students of our two institutions and UBC, on Nikon's Sparta. As part of the set up for next year's digital humanities project, this seminar exposed students to the historiography, archaeology, and art history of Medieval Sparta.

Administrative and teaching duties aside, 2022 saw the publication of an article titled: "The Politics of War: Virtue, Tyche, Persuasion and the Byzantine General," in *Generalship in Ancient Greece, Rome and Byzantium*, a collected essays volume edited by R. Evans and S. Tougher and published by Edinburgh University Press. I also had a review of Danijel Džino and Ryan W. Strickler's *Dissidence and persecution in Byzantium: from Constantine to Michael Psellos* (Byzantina Australiensia, 26. Leiden; Boston: Brill, 2021) published in *BMCR*.

Justin Lamadeleine (University of Ottawa)

Je suis un étudiant à la maîtrise à l'université d'Ottawa. J'ai un baccalauréat en études anciennes avec une mineure en études celtiques. En ce qui concerne ma

thèse, je me concentre sur l'évolution de la religion ainsi que le développement de la culture des icônes vers la fin du sixième siècle.

Antony Littlewood (Western)

Research on his third cricket book is progressing at snail's pace. He travelled to Victoria (Vancouver Island) and to Oxford to visit his two sons and their families, and with his Australian friend toured

Newfoundland and the Maritimes. He hopes to do some more serious travelling in 2023 whilst he is still physically half-capable of it.

Georgios Makris (UBC, Vancouver)

In spring 2022, I taught a large survey course in art history from Prehistory to the 19th century and a graduate seminar. In the summer, I returned to the field after two years, and led the survey for the Molyvoti Thrace Archaeological Project (MTAP), an international collaboration between Princeton University and the Greek Ministry of Culture that investigates a Classical *emporion* near Komotini in northern Greece. Our survey produced, among other finds, significant quantities of late Byzantine ceramics that illuminate the landscape and lives of rural communities in this part of Thrace during the Late Middle Ages. In the fall, I taught the first lecture course on Byzantine Art and Architecture ever taught at the University of British Columbia and an undergraduate seminar on Byzantine monasteries. I also presented a paper on an archaeological excavation of a medieval cemetery in Epiros, northwestern Greece, and its

findings at the Byzantine Studies Conference; I was elected member of the BSANA Executive Board. This academic year, Dimitris Krallis and I joined forces to organize a lecture series on Byzantine Art and Material Culture at UBC's Green College, titled *Ways of Seeing Byzantine Art and Material Culture*. Andrea Achi (The Metropolitan Museum of Art) delivered the first lecture in October, followed by Evan Freeman (Regensburg) in November.

An article of mine appeared in 2022: "Pilgrimage in thirteenth-century Byzantine Greece: the *Life* of Barnabas and Sophronios," in Mihail Mitrea, ed., *Holiness on the Move: Mobility and Space in Byzantine Hagiography* (London: Routledge, 2022). One journal article and a couple of chapters in edited volumes are ready and with the editors, but still forthcoming.

Lucas McMahon (University of Ottawa)

In 2022 I defended my Princeton University PhD dissertation, "Information transmission and the Byzantine state: geography, logistics, and geopolitics, 600-1200." Subsequently I took up a SSHRC postdoc at the University of Ottawa in the Department of Classics and Religious Studies. I am currently working on transforming the dissertation into a book that examines surveillance and state control of information through an anarchist framework, with the ultimate intention of re-conceptualizing "empire" in the Byzantine world. I am also working on my SSHRC project, which looks at the spatial relations between capital cities (Constantinople and Damascus) and their distant hinterlands (central Italy, Khurasan) in the seventh and eighth centuries. During 2022 I submitted two articles to edited volumes, one on visibility and control of the landscape in early eleventh-century Byzantine northern Puglia, as well as a GIS-based time-distance study examining Nikephoros Phokas' blockade and capture of Antioch in 968-69. An article in preparation on the ninth-century fire beacon chain between

the Abbasid frontier in the Tauros and Constantinople won the Delaware Valley Medieval Association's digital project prize in spring 2022.

Articles:

'Digital perspectives on overland travel and communications in the Exarchate of Ravenna (sixth through eighth centuries)' *Studies in Late Antiquity* 6, no. 2 (2022), 284-334.

Short articles:

'From one margin to another, Rome and Ravenna at the end of empire', *Intersections* 5, no. 1 (2022), 24-25.

Reviews:

Papaioannou, Stratis (ed.). *The Oxford Handbook of Byzantine Literature*, in: *Comitatus* 53 (2022), 265-66.

Fabbro, Eduardo. *Warfare and the Making of Early Medieval Italy (568-652)*, in: *International Journal of Military History and Historiography* 42, no. 2 (2022), 422-24.

Glenn Peers (Syracuse University)

An essay appeared and my book is still forthcoming (though with a different publisher now):

'The Iconography of Healing and Damaged Bodies in The Menil Collection and in the Kariye Cami: Methodological Reflections', in *Iconography Beyond the Crossroads: Image, Meaning, and Method in Medieval*

Art, ed. Pamela Patton and Catherine A. Fernandez (University Park-London: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2022), 121-45.

Byzantine Media Subjects (under contract for the *Medieval Societies, Religions, and Cultures* series at Cornell University Press).

Katrina Rosie (Queen's University)

Katrina is a fourth year PhD student supervised by Richard Greenfield in the history department at Queen's University. She is currently working as a Teaching Fellow at Bader College in England. Her dissertation focuses on the development of domestic protective practices in 5th-9th century Byzantium and aims to shed light on lived religion and rites which blur the boundary between religious and magical thinking. Outside of the boundaries of Byzantine history, she is also interested in ritual theory, folk

traditions, material history and new approaches to cultural conservation.

She recently published her first article: "Protective Magic on the Byzantine Periphery: The Development of Apotropaic Devices." *ARC: Journal of the School of Religious Studies*, Vol. 48. She will be giving a public lecture on November 10th as part of the 'Being Human Festival' (the UK's nationwide festival celebrating humanities research) entitled "Demons and the Rhythms of Domesticity in 4th-9th century Byzantium."

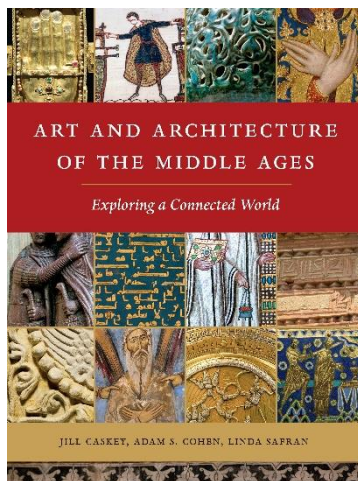
Dan Russell (University of Ottawa)

My MA thesis, which was recently accepted, concerns literary depictions of Moors from Herodotus to Procopius. My work highlights the similarities in stereotypes employed by authors when depicting Moors over the course of this timeline, arguing that the reasons for these

similarities depended largely on authorial objectives, political context, and genre conventions. My interests generally lay in late Roman/early Byzantine military and political history, non-Roman and Roman relations, and depictions of non-Romans in written source material.

Linda Safran (PIMS, Toronto)

My new textbook, *Art and Architecture of the Middle Ages: Exploring a Connected World*, co-authored with Jill Caskey and Adam S. Cohen, is available from Cornell University Press after December 5, 2022 (<https://www.cornellpress.cornell.edu/book/9781501702822/>; contact me for a 30-percent-discount coupon). The companion open-access website, <https://artofthemiddleages.com>, has already launched, with lots of goodies for Byzantinists and others. The 2018 D.O. symposium volume, *The Diagram as Paradigm: Cross-Cultural Approaches*, which I co-edited by Jeffrey F. Hamburger and David Roxburgh, appeared this summer, with Byzantine essays by Benjamin Anderson, Alexandre Roberts, Divna Manolova, Anne-Laurence Caudano, Petros Bouras-Vallianatos, and me (<https://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780884024866>).



In addition to my essays there (one an introduction to Byzantine diagrams, the other on “Diagramming Byzantine Orthodoxy”), I published several articles this year on Byzantine topics: “Beyond Books: The Diagrammatic Mode in Byzantium,” in *Illuminations: Studies Presented to Lioba Theis*, ed. Galina Fingarova, Fani Gargova, and Margaret Mullett (Vienna: Phoibos), 93–104; “Early Byzantine Art in China: A Test Case for Global Byzantium,” in *Global Byzantium: Papers from the Fiftieth Spring Symposium of Byzantine Studies, University of Birmingham, 25–27 March 2017*, ed. Leslie Brubaker, Daniel Reynolds, and Rebecca Darley (London: Routledge), 289–315; and short Greek and Hebrew translations from southern Italy in *Sources for Byzantine Art History*, vol. 3, *The Visual Culture of Later Byzantium (1081–ca. 1350)*, ed. Foteini Spingou (Cambridge: CUP), 2:217–21, 354–58, 359–64, 408–11.

I gave talks about Byzantine architecture for the Toronto Friends of the Visual Arts and about spatial and temporal diagrams for the “Byzantium in Ankara” lecture series (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DFqbzQWBgq0&t=16s>). Anthony Kaldellis kindly invited me to talk about Byzantine diagrams on his “Byzantium and Friends” podcast (<https://byzantiumandfriends.podbean.com>).

Louis-Patrick St-Pierre (Queen's University)

I am currently in the sixth year of my doctoral studies, which I have been undertaking under the supervision of Richard Greenfield and joint supervision of Anthony Kaldellis (University of Chicago). My Ph.D. project, which has received the support of the FRQSC and SSHRC, focuses on Byzantine Roman identity and the modulation of its underpinning ethnocultural indicia. In other words, I am investigating when aspects that mattered in Byzantine life (i.e. religion, language, customs, and the like) had normative power or lay dormant in identity expression. Four of my five chapters are now drafted (two of these are finished). I will spend the next year on finishing the remaining drafts with the hope to bring the thesis to completion.

In parallel, I taught this winter a seminar entitled "Topics in Byzantine History,"

offered at Queen's University. The course went well and some students who followed the course with me are now applying to our MA programme.

In the summer, I obtained a Summer Fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks, which gave me the opportunity to spend two months there and carry my research forward.

I am still collaborating with the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library and Collection as proof-reader, a duty I have been fulfilling for three years and which has initially started through a Research Fellowship and Assistantship offered by my university. My most recent contributions include the review of the proofs of *Saints at the Limits: Seven Byzantine Popular Legends*, edited and translated by Stratis Papaioannou.

The content of the new version of the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists' website is now released. Please let me know if there are any omissions, especially in the part concerning the offer in graduate studies in Canada, which I seek to have completed for the benefit of prospective students. You can reach me by email at: l.stpierre@queensu.ca.

Conor Whately (University of Winnipeg)

I co-edited one volume which appeared in 2022:

The Routledge Handbook of Identity in Byzantium, Routledge, co-edited with David Parnell and Michael Stewart

I had three book chapters published in 2022:

'Chapter 1. Bodyguards in the Ancient Mediterranean World', in M. Hebblewhite and C. Whately (eds.), *Brill's Companion to Bodyguards in the Ancient Mediterranean World*, Brill, 1-18

'Ammianus' Identification of Named Legions and Its Literary Significance', in M. Hanaghan and D. Woods (eds.), *Ammianus Marcellinus From Soldier to Author*, Brill, 140-169.

'Ammianus and the Heroic Mode of Generalship in the Fourth Century (AD)', in R. Evans and S. Tougher (eds.), *Generalship in Ancient Greece, Rome and Byzantium*, Edinburgh University Press, pp. 151-163.

I reviewed two books:

M. Meier et al., 2021, *Brill's Companion to Procopius*, Leiden, *Plekos* 24: 325-336.

J. Howard-Johnston, 2021, *The Last Great War of Antiquity*, Oxford, *AHB* 12: 34-37.

I gave three conference presentations, two in person, one virtual:

Conference Paper, October 2022: 'Military Expression in Rome's Southeast', *Roman Army Congress*, Lyons

Conference Paper, August 2022: 'Roman Soldiers, Treason, and Collaboration during Justinian's Reconquest of the West', *Byzantine Congress* panel on Treason and Collaboration in Late Antique Warfare, Padua/Venice

Conference Paper, June 2022: 'The Mechanics of Battle in the Sixth-Century (CE) Roman Empire', International Ancient Warfare Conference 2022, hybrid/online (South Dakota)

I continued to work on my SSHRC Insight Grant (2021-2026), 'Soldiers and Civilians in Rome's Southeast'. Some of that work has appeared on a website, which I plan to continue over the course of the grant and possibly beyond: romanarabia.wordpress.com.

Julian Yang (Kangwon National University, Korea)

Julian Hee Min Yang (a former student of Dr Richard Greenfield at Queen's University) has been appointed to a tenure track assistant professorship position in Ancient and Medieval History of the West at Kangwon National University in Korea. KNU is one of the top ten national flagship universities in Korea. His research interest is Byzantine hagiography and cultural/religious history of the eastern

Mediterranean world. He is currently working on the Byzantine Syntipas story and its popular reception in Byzantium. His contact information is julian@kangwon.ac.kr. His URL can be found here:

[https://knuhisto.kangwon.ac.kr/knuhisto/professor/professor.do?mode=view&key=\\$cms\\$IwBgHAzALBQ&](https://knuhisto.kangwon.ac.kr/knuhisto/professor/professor.do?mode=view&key=cmsIwBgHAzALBQ&)

REPORTS

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our membership in 2022 remains steady with a total of somewhere under 40 full and student members. We have been pleased to welcome several new members, although one or two of our long-term members appear to be lapsing. As usual I would encourage you to pay your dues, if you have not already done so by the time you read this. In particular I would like to thank those generous supervisors who continue to support us by paying memberships for their students.

The shift to e-transfer payments by Interac on autodeposit appears to be a success and the majority of members now take care of the transaction that way. Please do consider doing this as it is much simpler than writing and working with cheques these days! To do so, please use your

online banking service and my email address – greenfie@queensu.ca – to send your membership fee. As you make the payment you will see The Canadian Committee of Byzantinists as the recipient (not me personally!). I receive an email once a deposit has been made so record keeping is simple. But, if you don't do or like online banking, you may of course continue to send a cheque payable to 'The Canadian Committee of Byzantinists' to me:

Prof. Richard Greenfield
Department of History, Watson Hall
Queen's University
49 Bader Lane
Kingston ON
K7L 3N6

BATURYN IN 2022

Volodymyr Mezentsev has sent in the following brief report.

Because of the war in Ukraine during 2022, any excavations in Baturyn located in north-eastern Ukraine were cancelled. Thanks to God, Baturyn and its environs have not been occupied and destroyed by the Russian invaders. So far, the town's

museums and architectural and archaeological monuments have survived intact, and the local scholars continue the research and popularization of museum's antiquities.

LECTURE/CONFERENCE REPORTS



Participants of the 26th International Congress of Byzantine Studies (photo taken by Jeffrey Featherstone)

A Joint Report from the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists and the United States National Committee for Byzantine Studies

Delivered at the BSANA Business Lunch, Saturday, November 5, 2022 (lightly edited)

Cecily Hilsdale and Derek Krueger, USA

The 26th International Congress of Byzantine Studies was held in August of this year in Venice and Padua. Most sessions were held at the San Giobbe campus of the University of Venice, Ca' Foscari, with the opening sessions at the Opera House, La Fenice, and a day at the University of Padua. Congress attendance was good given the stage of the pandemic: 1350+ registered; 1015 in actual attendance; 296 virtual attendees.

Significant AIEB funds assisted 50 young scholars attending the meeting.

The general Assembly was held in the Salone Sansoviniano of the Biblioteca Marciana.

Official minutes of the meeting can be found on the Association Website:

<https://aiebnet.gr/statutes-en/>

Dues for each member Committee rose recently to 250 Euros per year. Looking ahead, the board is considering establishing financial tiers to reflect differential national economies, populations, and size of Byzantine Studies communities. Some committees aren't paying dues directly to the AIEB, for various reasons. One committee re-directed its funds to support Ukrainian scholars.

Prof. Antonio Rigo of the University of Venice was elected the next president of the Association. Christos Stavrakos was appointed as Secretary. Béatrice Caseau will continue as Treasurer.

The next congress will take place in Vienna on 24-30 August 2026. The Congress will be organised jointly by the University of Vienna and the Austrian Academy of

Sciences. The main venue of the Congress will be the University of Vienna, where the rooms have already been reserved; and the Academy of Sciences will provide additional space. A reception will be held in City Hall. The Organizing Committee will include Claudia Rapp, Andreas Rhoby (who will also chair the Programme Committee), Christophe Erismann, Andreas Külzer. The proposed theme is "Byzantium beyond Byzantium" and it already has a logo.

Between now and Vienna, the USNCBS and the Canadian Committee will send representatives to AIEB's Inter-congress meeting, although the dates are not set. For the reports from the various Commissions of the AIEB, readers may turn to the AIEB website and the minutes of the General Assembly.

Report by Conor Whately

The 24th International Congress of Byzantine Studies was held in Venice (Picture 1, 2) and Padua (Picture 3) between the 22nd and the 27th of August of 2022. The congress opened with a lecture by Paul Magdalino in the Teatro La Fenice (Venice) in the morning on the Monday (22nd), and it finished late morning on the Saturday (27th) on the San Giobbe campus of the Ca' Foscari university in Venice, where most of the sessions were held. There was a large and diverse array of papers spanning the gamut of Byzantine studies both chronologically and topically. Among the many panels and sessions, topics included war and warfare in the medieval Balkans, Byzantine prosopography, Nubia, military *realia* in Byzantine art, south Sinai, time in the Byzantine Empire, Byzantium and Venice, Byzantine music, and much more besides. I can only speak to the papers I sat in on, but anecdotally it seemed to be very well attended. With respect to individual sessions, I participated in a two-session panel, "The Edge of Traitors", on dissent and collaboration in early Byzantium, which were remarkably cohesive, and overall, they provoked a great deal of discussion. To stay with the personal, I made a short jaunt to Torcello to see some of the oldest remains from Venice (Picture 4). I also made two brief forays to Ravenna – not part of the congress – to see the remarkable early Byzantine buildings and mosaics (Pictures 5 and 6).



Picture 1



Picture 2



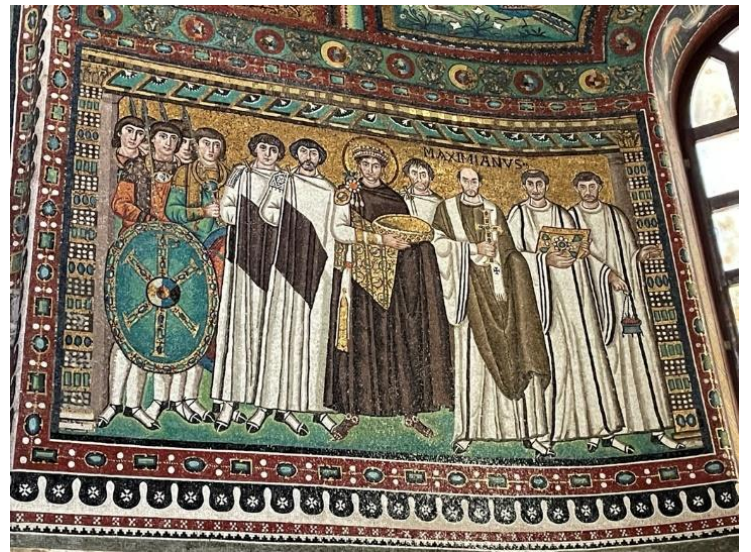
Picture 3



Picture 4



Picture 5



Picture 6

Report by Bahattin Bayram (Istanbul Medeniyet University)

As Turkish participants, for us, the 24th International Congress of Byzantine Studies of 2022 started and ended with a stressful process. The rising counter-discourses of the current government of Turkey created a range of economic and diplomatic problems for Turkish Byzantinists researching, excavating, and surveying in the Byzantine cities of Turkey. Through the generous fundings of diverse institutions such as **Canadio-Byzantina** and **SPBS**, many young Turkish Byzantinist including me had a chance to attend the congress. With the sincere efforts of John Haldon, the president of **AIEB**, the increasing diplomatic problems that we experienced during the visa process received attention. Under the shadow of these collaborations, we felt that we were not alone, although, during and after the congress, Turkish participants, and independent platforms like **Bizantolog** (<https://www.bizantolog.org/>) were threatened by Turkish magazines and newspapers as traitors who try to give life to the medieval Byzantine empire. Founded by four graduate students including me, **Bizantolog** is a gathering point that organizes summer schools such as a Greek Summer School, Written Sources Summer School or Byzantine Coins and Seals Summer School and many other significant events. With a presentation, **Bizantolog** was also introduced in detail to the academic area in the congress. For this reason, before passing on my report, I would like to thank all Byzantinists who support Byzantine studies in Turkey.

Before and during the congress, the landscape of Venice was filled with not only Byzantine-based monuments but also Byzantinists coming from different

continents. It was unusual in a small city to see academics gathering in a café and exchanging their ideas. In this intellectual environment, I personally encountered academics and had a chance to discuss my ongoing studies. The useful side of these gatherings was to gain answers and most importantly new questions and problems for my thoughts. In this framework, I got new perspectives especially about the intellectual borders and the intellectuals of the fourth century, and I plan to discuss these assessments in the **Oxford Byzantine Graduate Seminar**, which I will attend at the end of this year.

On the one hand, the congress allowed me to learn about ongoing studies and projects since many presentations were a part of a larger project. On the other hand, the well-established sessions offered comprehensive perspectives to the participants and addressers. For instance, my paper was roughly related to the de-Christianisation of the Byzantine countryside in the case of the province of Lycia, and it claimed a more colourful world than the hagiography tradition and the rising Byzantine archaeology show by emphasizing the existence of other minorities and secular or middle-ground landscapes in which Christians lived and had experiences. Since the other papers in the session focused on different methods, sources, regions, and aspects of society, the whole session offered an integrated approach.

Lastly, it should be noted that Byzantium is a term “beyond” itself. After the congress, the humorous words of Paul Magdalino found a place in Turkish newspapers: “The last time so many people interested in Byzantium gathered

in Venice was 800 years ago... for the Fourth Crusade.” With a distorted view, these newspapers marked the congress as an “academic crusade” and blamed Turkish scholars for remaining silent in the face of these efforts to give life to the medieval Byzantine empire. And many readers of these newspapers requested an

investigation into Turkish scholars. Although these reactions come from a small minority and do not reflect the common view, the congress once more showed that Byzantium is still perceived as a big threat as well as a resistance point by some classes.

Report by İrem Kısacık (İstanbul Medeniyet University)

For a young graduate student, attending ICBS 2022 was a very valuable learning experience. This congress not only gave me a chance to participate in very interesting sessions, but also provided a great opportunity for fruitful discussions with colleagues before and after the presentations. It was a very special experience for two reasons: first, it was the first international congress I have ever attended, and by attending I have learnt different perspectives and approaches on various topics. Secondly, all this experience was made possible through the generous support we, as young Turkish scholars, have received from our colleagues and friends. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of this support without which it would be impossible for me to gain this experience. This support for solidarity not only helped me attend the congress but also gave me motivation for continuing my academic activities. Therefore, I would like to thank here Alexandra Vukovich for her guidance and support from the beginning to the end, and Canadio-Byzantina for their kind and generous support.

By attending the congress, I also got the chance to present my own research to an international audience, which was very exciting and rewarding because I was able to exchange ideas. In my presentation, I

evaluated the experience and perception of “grief” in early Christianity through an examination of examples from Late Antique funeral orations. I argued that grief was a problematic, highly normative and gendered emotion and I presented examples from the orations to show what my points are based on. I also discussed how through these orations the Church Fathers shaped their emotional communities by regulating the expressions of grief and becoming role models for mourning to their communities. Presenting in the congress was a great experience and the feedback I got will be very helpful for my future studies.

As for my experiences before and after the congress, they were not the best. When we got the support and solved the financial problem, there was yet another problem facing us called a ‘visa’. The Schengen visa has become a real problem in Turkey recently because of the highly increased rejection rate and the processes that take so long. I needed to wait for a very long time and my visa process was completed only one week before the congress. After the congress, on the way back home, I saw that some Turkish newspapers called the congress “scandalous”, which was very disappointing. They described the congress as an environment where people

who had invasion plans on their minds came together and Turkish academics that were present in the congress were blamed for not protesting. Even though seeing such a distorted perception of what we do is very sad, I stay motivated by focusing on

the positive comments and support that we receive from both Turkey and other countries. Despite the unfavorable sides of this stressful process, my experience of the congress was so beneficial that I am so glad I had this chance.

Appendix to the Short History of the Canadian Committee of Byzantinists

In the last issue of Canadio-Byzantina (no. 33 for 2022) we reprinted an article on this topic written by Franziska Shlosser with additional comments by Antony Littlewood. We also included an index of articles published up to that point. In the meantime, Antony has also put together a list of members over the years, which he here presents. Some new members, who have just joined may not yet appear there.

Since no records of membership survive anterior to Richard Greenfield's tenure of the treasury position in 2012, this list is hopelessly inadequate, although it does at least name most at least (114) of the members in the Committee's history. I have gone through all numbers of *Canadio-Byzantina* and noted the first mention of members' names, but have little idea of exactly when they joined or when they left. Included here are, thanks to Richard, all those who have paid for membership from 2012 to the present, but the date given for

their departure may encourage some laggards to bring their subscriptions up to 2022/2023. To a few members I have written personally and received replies expressing their willingness to do just that, a promise that I have rewarded with the entry "- present" without a question mark, just as those who have dutifully paid every year will find themselves mentioned. As this list must include many errors, I should be grateful if you could send me (splinter@uwo.ca), Richard or Geoffrey any corrigenda that you spot.

Amanatidis-Saadé, George 2020 - present
Andreopoulos, Andreas 2002 - pre-2015
Anjelkovic, Jovana 2019 - present ?
Baboula, Eva 2004 - pre-2012
Baldwin, Barry 1994 ? - pre-2012
Belanger, Caroline 2021 - present
Bevan, George pre-2012 - 2015
Bigham, Stéphane 1993 - pre-2012
Booth, Allan 1991 - pre-2012
boudreau, peter 2019 - present ?
Bourbouhakis, Emmanuel 1998 - present
Bradley, Thomas 2019 - present
Brieger, P. Honorary President in 1965
Brodén, Nancy 1994 - pre-2012
Buck, David 1998 - present
Burgess, Richard 2016 - ?

Bych, Oleh 1991 - pre-2012
Camaño, Aurora 2013 - 2014
Campbell, Sheila c.1990 - present ?
Carrier, Marc 2004 - pre-2012
Cassis, Marica 2008 - present
Caudano, Anne-Lawrence 2007 - 2018
Charowska, Ewa 2016 - 2018 ?
Christou, Ted 2019 - ?
Cichan, Alex 2019 ?
Comnene, Angela pre-1992 - pre-2012
Condon, James 2021 - present
Corbett, John 1994 ? - pre-2012
Corbett, Lindsay 2020 - present ?
Dickert, Chris 2017 - 2018
Dimnik, Martin pre-1992 - 2020
Dodd, Erica 1965 - present
Durand, Georges-Mathieu de c.1973 - pre-2012
Elliott, T.G. 1991 - pre-2012
Elton, Hugh 2011 - present ?
Fabbro, Eduardo - pre-2012
Faulkner, Andrew 2009 - 2016
Fisher, Greg 2009 - 2016
Foreman, John 2001 - 2013
Fotiou, Athanasios 1994 ? - 2019
Friedman, Joan 1994 ? - pre-2012
Gagniers, J. des 1965 - pre-2012
Galavaris, George 1965 - 1994
Garstad, Benjamin 2015 -2017
Gebhardt, Paul 2016 - present ?
Giavara 2021 ?
Gordon, Colin 1965 - pre-2012
Grammatikopoulos, Alexandros 2020 - present ?
Gray, Patrick c.1994 - 2016
Greatrex, Geoffrey 2001 - present
Greenfield, Richard 1991 - present
Hanson, J. 1997 - pre-2012
Hartstone, Jon c.1993 - pre-2012
Hayes, W.M pre-1993 - pre-2012
Hill, Barbara 1996 - pre-2012
Hilsdale, Cecily 2010 - present
Isar-Lock, Nicolletta 1995 - pre-2012
Jessop, Lucinda 1992 - pre-2012
Kamberides, Lambros c.1994- pre-2012
Kartal, Kerim 2015 - present
Kelebay, Alexandra 2020 - present ?
Kiernan, Philip 1998 - pre-2012

King, JaShong 2016 - present
Koumarianos, Pavlos 2002 - pre-2012
Krallis, Dimitri 2007 – present
Lamadeleine, Justin 2022
Littlewood, Antony c.1969 - present
Lock, Charles 1995-1998
Magny, Ariane 2011
Makris, George 2019
McCoy, Shamus 2019 - 2020
McGeer, Eric 2001 - 2011
McMahon, Lucas 2012 - 2019
Mergialis-Sahas, Sophie 1997 - pre-2012
Mezentsev, Volodymyr 2001 - present
Millwright, Marcus 2002 - pre-2012
Mladenovic, Milos 1965 - pre-2012
Moffatt, Stefan 2016 - present ?
Moore, Paul pre-1992 - 2014
Morin, Adam 2018 - present
Morin, Neil pre-1992 - pre-2012
Mouratides, Anastasio c.1973 - 2012
Myers, Gregory 1992 - pre-2012
Neuru, Lucinda 1992 - pre-2012
Oguz, Mete 2018 - present ?
Oikonomides, Nikolaos 1969 - 1984
Osborne, John ? - 2015
Payton, James 1993 - pre-2012
Peers, Glenn, 1993 - present
Rosie, Katrina 2019 - present
Russell, Dan 2020 - present
Russell, James 1992 - pre-2012
Safran, Linda 2005 - present
Sahas, Daniel c.1968 - pre-2012
St-Pierre, Louis-Patrick 2019 - present
Saradi-Mendelovici, Helen pre-1992 - 1998
Schrama, Grant 2015 - present
Shlosser, Franziska c.1970 - 2014
Silbergeld, Emily 2020 - present
Sinkewicz, Robert pre-1993 - pre-2012
Smith, Allan c.1994 - pre-2012
Snider, Phillip 1999 - 2002
Sotiroff, George 1965 - pre-2012
Terpoy, Kristina 2014 - 2017
van Veuren, Luke 2019 - present
van Winkoop, 2019
Violette, Jean-Guy c.1992 - pre-2012
Vukovic, Alexandra 2009 - present

Whateley, Conor 2010 - present
Williams, J.A. 1965 - pre-2012
Winges, Scott 2016 - present ?
Woloch, Michael c.1967 - pre-2012
Wortley, John pre-1973 - 2019
Yang, Julian 2016 - present ?
Young, Susan 1994 ? - 2018

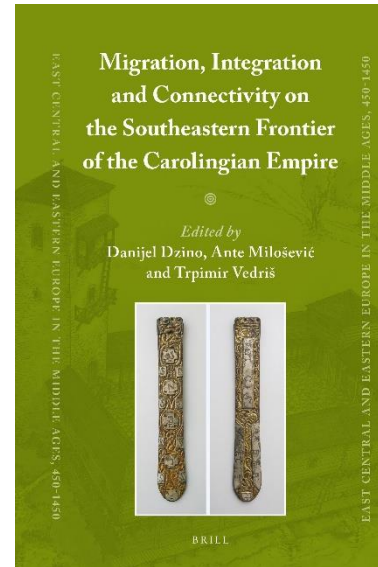
BOOK REVIEWS

Dzino, Danijel, Ante Milošević, Trpimir Vedriš (editors), *Migration, Integration and Connectivity on the Southeastern Frontier of the Carolingian Empire* (Leiden and Boston: Brill, *East Central and Eastern Europe in the Middle Ages, 450-1450* Volume 50, 2018) xix + 365 pp.

This book is about early medieval Dalmatia and the northern Adriatic Sea, between the Carolingian Empire and Byzantium. The book is a development on a conference held in Split, Croatia in 2000 about early medieval Croatia. This conference sought to re-evaluate existing theories about early medieval Croatia. It partly built on the work of Lujo Margetić concerning the earliest appearance of Croats in Dalmatia, and focused on Carolingian influence on Dalmatia. This was a major shift from the older view that Byzantium had had a greater influence on early Dalmatia than the Carolingian Empire.

The book is divided into six parts: an introduction, sections on “Historiography”, “Migration”, “Integration”, “Networks”, and a concluding chapter. The introduction by the editors outlines the notion of frontier in the book’s subject and summarizes each author’s contribution. Frontiers are influenced by the themes of *migration*, *integration* and *connectivity* mentioned in the book’s title, and therefore each of them occupies a section in the book.

The historiography section is made up of two chapters. Following a brief outline of Croatian historiography on the early middle ages of the region over the past century or so, heavily based on the 10th century Byzantine document *De Adminisrando Imperio (DAI)*, Danijel Dzino states that the 2000 Split conference was one that acknowledges the growing influence of the Carolingian Franks on



Croatia. Neven Budak discusses artistic and cultural developments in 8th and 9th century CE Dalmatia. He discusses concepts of “Renaissance” and “Romaness” to point out that these cultural developments were based on Byzantine and Lombard influence, rather than Carolingian. The “reawakening” of local élites’ power was part of the development of Croatia.

The Migration section begins with Mladen Ančić’s chapter on physical migrations of Slavs into Dalmatia. Contrary to Francesco Borri, Ančić believes that the report of a migration in the *DAI* is accurate. It consisted of small parties of Slavic warriors invited into this frontier area by Carolingian lords to act as a deterrent to rebellious locals. Ančić also uses the *Placitum* of Rižana (*Placitum Rizianense*) from 804 CE to explain the role of these

warriors who were supported by peasants to occupy the region, as colonisers. These foreign warriors developed into networks tied into a frontier zone of the Carolingian empire that stretched from the Baltic to the Adriatic Sea.

Ante Milošević explores a local decorative style entitled “Tetgis style”, a combination of zoomorphic and Christian motifs, that is found on swords of supposed northern origin, belt buckles and local architectural decoration. The artifacts are considered the property of local warriors, who developed into local élites by means of their frontier networks. By means of zoomorphic motifs, these Slavic élites in a frontier zone still identified with aspects of their pagan heritage. Goran Bilogrivić challenges the views of Ančić and Milošević and claims that the meaning of Carolingian objects buried with Slavs is evidence of closer ties with the Franks. Bilogrivić considers the swords discussed by Milošević to be Frankish, and the élites developed locally over generations.

Peter Štih begins the section on *integration* by discussing the integration of the *Carantanian* Slavs into the Carolingian empire, the earliest Slavs to create bonds with Franks through marriage between local élites. They were the first Slavs to adopt Christianity, another essential step to their equal footing with local Bavarian élites. They also adopted “Frankish-Bavarians” or Christian names. Although they chose their own leaders, these élites swore oaths of fidelity to the emperor, an important part of their integration into the Carolingian world. The Slavic élite was equal to the Bavarian élite.

Miljenko Jurković describes the absorption of the peninsula of Istria into the Carolingian empire, about 788 CE.

Architectural styles between the cathedral of Novigrad in Istria with the cathedral in Aquileia is considered evidence of this integration into the Carolingian sphere of influence. Controlling the territory was based on settlements, monasteries, and private estates, evidence of which is the fortified settlement of Guran and the churches mentioned in the *Placitum* of Rižana.

Krešimir Filipec provides an English synthesis about the research of early medieval Lower Pannonia, roughly the area occupied by Zagreb and Varaždin, at the turn of the 9th century CE. Following a demographic decline at the beginning of the 9th century CE (associated with the decline of Avar hegemony in the area), the area was quickly repopulated.

Ivan Basić writes about the “Majestic discourse” present in Byzantine diplomatic documents, and that was witnessed and used by the Frankish priest Gottschalk of Orbais. Gottschalk’s use of this form of terminology demonstrates the integrative power of the transmission of these local Byzantine traditions to a Frankish audience.

On the theme of *connectivity*, Marko Petrak focuses on the so-called *Liber Methodius*, a translation of Byzantine legal handbooks into Slavonic, and concludes that it is a real publication in the form of the *Nomocanon of Saint Methodius*, compiled by Saint Methodius and in existence in 9th-10th century CE Croatia. Nikola Jakšić writes about the patron saints of the city of Zadar. The author concludes that Saints Anastasia and Chrysogonus were venerated at the earliest in the 9th century CE in Zadar, arriving from the West with the help of the early 9th century bishop Donatus of Zadar.

The burial of children is discussed by Florin Curta, noting that child burials in early medieval Croatia and Bulgaria follow a different pattern from neighbouring Moravia and Zalavár in Hungary, and concluding that the earliest burial in Croatia and Bulgaria were élite, not communal, cemeteries, based on the social stratification of burials. Finally, Richard Hodges explores the role played by the Benedictine monastery of San Vincenzo al Volturno and its landed property in the late 8th and early 9th century CE. The monastery, allied to the Lombard duchy of Beneventum, was not a centre for long-distance trade, but rather created movable gifts for its élite donors. Based on the underdeveloped nature of the trade networks of the Adriatic and Tyrrhenian Seas, the author concludes that there was discontinuity in Mediterranean Sea trade between the Roman period and the year 1000 CE.

Trpimir Vedriš's afterword handily summarizes the contents of the book and states confidently that although the revision of early medieval Croatian history in 2000 was partially motivated by ideology, the results of the conference have found

their way into international scholarship since, thus validating the conference's results.

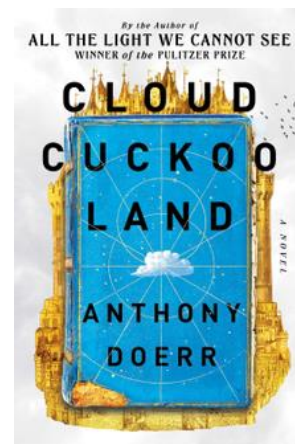
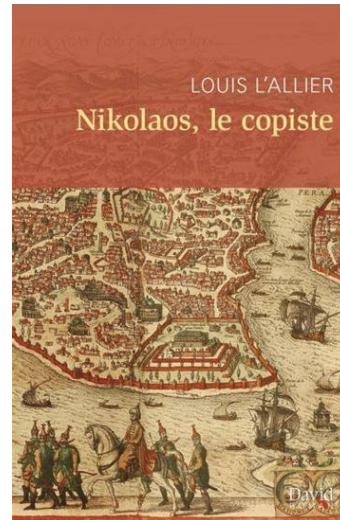
The book has been reviewed by Rutger Kramer on April 5, 2021 in *The Medieval Review*. There are some missing citations: Florin Curta's edited volume from 2005 entitled *Borders, Barriers, and Ethnogenesis. Frontiers in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages* is cited on page 2, footnote 6, but doesn't appear in the bibliography. Other sources that may have contributed to the discussion on the various topics addressed in the book include András Németh's doctoral dissertation from 2010, "Imperial Systematization of the Past: Emperor Constantine VII and his Historical Excerpts", and Hans-Werner Goetz's chapter entitled "Concepts of Realm and Frontiers from Late Antiquity to the Early Middle Ages: Some Preliminary Remarks", from the edited volume *The Transformation of Frontiers. From Late Antiquity to the Carolingians* (2001).

Stefan Moffat

Louis L'Allier, *Nikolaos, le copiste* (Ottawa: David, 2016) and Anthony Doerr, *Cloud Cuckoo Land* (New York: Scribner, 2021)

It is interesting to find the siege and fall of Constantinople in 1453 play a crucial part in two recent novels, written, I am quite sure, wholly independently. While Doerr's ambitious work, which is as much science fiction as historical fiction, has attracted praise from the likes of Barak Obama and Oprah Winfrey, L'Allier's has enjoyed no such prominence, alas.

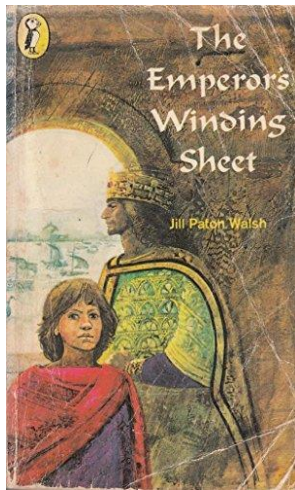
Both novels narrate the escape from the besieged city of young people desperate to escape its imminent fall. They also concern the transmission of texts and knowledge. In Doerr's novel, a poor orphan, Anna, whose sister works as a seamstress, has the good fortune to be taught to read by a stranger and is introduced to Homer's poetry. She acquires a manuscript of a story composed by the second-century (A.D.) author Antonius Diogenes, *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, which entrances her with its tales of the tribulations of a simple shepherd, Aethon. Doerr alludes to an author known from Photius' *Bibliotheca* here, but the work itself is his own invention. She is able to escape from the city and ends up marrying an ox-herd, Omeir, whose animals had been commandeered for the siege; together they return to his homelands to the north. But this is only one strand in a novel that constantly intercuts between the fifteenth century, the twentieth century and the twenty-second. In the twentieth century, Doerr devotes much time to the figure of Zeno Ninis, a Korean war veteran in rural Idaho, who learns ancient Greek and prepares an English translation of the fragments of the work to survive (which are themselves scattered through the



novel); there is also a troubled teenager, Seymour, in the same town, whose life intersects with Zeno's. And then there is the narrative of another girl, Konstance, described as one of a small group of people aboard a spaceship, escaping from an earth that is no longer habitable. At her disposal on the ship is an interactive library encapsulating all human knowledge as well as interactive maps of earth; through these she becomes acquainted with Antonius Diogenes' novel. It is hard to do justice to this complex

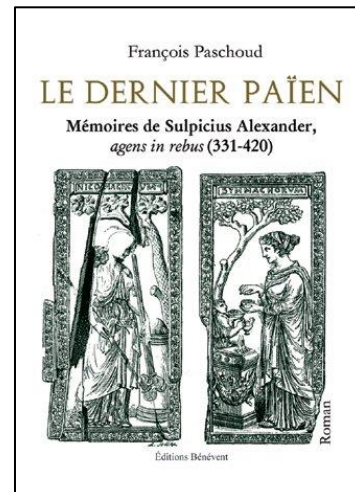
work, which has generally received favourable reviews, though some find its piecemeal structure unsatisfactory.

The theme of the work is story-telling itself and the power it exercises – first over Anna, who treasures her manuscript and preserves it, then over her husband and children. Thanks to Omeir the manuscript, albeit in a very damaged state, survives, so that children later, e.g. in Idaho, come to appreciate the work, and finally even in the twenty-second century.



L'Allier's work is a more conventional narrative, following the adventures of the young copyist, Nikolaos, who likewise flees Constantinople, armed with an important manuscript, that of Eratosthenes' *Geography*, which he succeeds in bringing with him to Mistra. En route he encounters a group of Roma among whom is a Greek girl called Pyrrha with whom he falls in love. Her prophecies to him, rooted in classical quotations, come to exercise an increasing influence over him; after they part, he will spend much of his life searching for her. In Mistra he encounters Gemistus Plethon, who appreciates the importance of the work he has brought. The description of life in this

intellectual centre is particularly vivid and is clearly the fruit of careful research. Nikolaos' travels subsequently take him to a monastery near Otranto in south Italy, where his skills as a linguist and copyist are highly appreciated, and from there to Genoa and eventually to Cadiz. From there in 1492 he embarks for the New World with Christopher Columbus, still seeking his beloved Pyrrha. This might all seem somewhat far-fetched, though it is worth noting that one descendant of the Palaeologan dynasty is buried in Barbados, as Patrick Leigh Fermor recounts in his *The Traveller's Tree* (London, 1950), 143–7. The novel is presented as a transcription of a manuscript given to the author in Ecuador by a student, although the work is entirely in the third person. The introduction, in which the discover of the work is presented, recalls a somewhat more elaborate description in the little-known (but entertaining) novel by the scholar François Paschoud, *Le dernier païen*. *Mémoires de Sulpicius Alexander, agens in rebus* (331–420) (Nice, 2008).



I have deliberately been brief in reviewing these two novels; much more could be said. Both are very well written, L'Allier's style is especially vivid and evocative.

There is perhaps more of a feel for fifteenth-century Greece in his work than in Doerr's, which is of course very wide-ranging and ambitious. The siege of Constantinople and, more particularly, the preservation of the knowledge accumulated there over centuries, are evidently themes that strike a chord today: the spaceship described by Doerr, in which the computer named Sibyl has been programmed to store all humanity's accumulated knowledge, is another

Constantinople. Yet it's worth noting that both Mistra and Constantinople were already the focus of a prize-winning book for young adults by Jill Paton Walsh in 1974, which follows the adventures of a young English boy taken into the service of Constantine XI just at the moment he ascends the throne.

Geoffrey Greatrex

SHORT NOTICES

BYZANTINE MUSIC IN CANADA

Readers may not be aware of the existence of a musical ensemble called Constantinople, based in Montreal, which incorporates Byzantine music in its repertoire, as well as many other traditions from the Mediterranean more broadly. They engage in extensive research in medieval manuscripts to bring such music to light.

Their autumn concert series in Quebec and British Columbia was entitled 'From Byzantium to Persia... a song'. Akram Moussa kindly sent me the programme notes from this concert, although I was unable to take up his kind offer of tickets to one of the performances in Montreal. I reproduce them below. More details about the ensemble may be found at their website,

<https://constantinople.ca/en/home/>

Both ensembles « En Chordais » and « Constantinople » have devoted special attention and energy to the promotion of intercultural dialogue, identifying and promoting the many levels at which the musical heritages of the Mediterranean and beyond are intimately connected and interdependent. By this project both ensembles join their talents again and propose a unique opportunity for the audience to hear the sounds of Eastern Mediterranean Art Music in the 14th to 19th centuries.

The recent research undertaken by Dr Kalaitzidis on Byzantine and Post-Byzantine music manuscripts is the cornerstone of this program. These manuscripts allow us with a fair degree of certainty to reach historical depths that



were previously unattainable. It is worth noting that from the middle of the 10th century Byzantine music teachers developed a system of music notation based on phonetic signs. About 7,500 Byzantine and Post-Byzantine music manuscripts survive today. This project deals with the phenomenon of the use of this Byzantine system of notation for the writing down of secular music, whether of Greek, Persian, Ottoman or Arabic origin. Today, the Post-Byzantine music manuscripts are considered one of the most significant written sources for secular music of the East: a total of 4,200 pages containing transcribed secular pieces. The manuscripts mention seventy-four named composers including Greeks, Turks, Persians, Arabs, Jews, as well as many anonymous composers, with a total of approximately 1060 works recorded within them: Ottoman court music, Phanariot songs, Persian Art Music, as well as a few Greek folk songs. Some of these compositions have been transcribed into staff notation and published recently by the National Music University, Bucharest.

These written sources provide us with an astounding possibility to know and hear examples of the Mediterranean Art Music from these centuries. We believe that it would be most interesting to present these musical works that represent tangible evidence of the relationships that obtained within the Byzantine and neighboring musical heritages and the curiosity and openness of the musicians at the time to understand and integrate idioms other than their own. Furthermore, this concert will underline the presence of Mediterranean music culture and its dialogue with the other major cultural forces throughout a significant phase of

the history of what is today the Middle East. The fruitful collaboration of the two ensembles « En Chordais » and « Constantinople » go back to 2000. Since then, they have worked together on numerous projects and presented near 50 concerts all around the world. This project is for them a dream becoming reality, after so many years of collaboration, discussion, and research on the manuscripts. Rediscovering and reinterpretation of these masterpieces composed by visionary composers of the passed centuries are an overwhelming process and bring to light the beauty and intercultural facet of this musical art.

JUSTINIAN II AND DONALD TRUMP ON BBC RADIO 4

Lucas McMahon spotted that a recent 30-minute discussion programme on Radio 4, available on the BBC website, draws comparisons between the return to power of Justinian II in 705 and the projected return of Donald Trump in 2024. Rebecca

Darley of the Leeds University discusses the parallels while a narrator reads out gory extracts from Theophanes. The programme may be found at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m001fm9n>.

SECOND ONLINE EDINBURGH BYZANTINE BOOK FESTIVAL (9-12 MARCH 2023)

The website for this event is not yet up and running, but there is a draft programme, which I have seen: my own Procopius volumes will be presented. A chair will present each work, after which the author is available to answer questions. A wide range of works published in 2022 and 2023 will be on show, while publishers

will be giving discounts on the books for participants. The website may well be something like:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/history-classics-archaeology/news-events/events/2nd-online-edinburgh-byzantine-book-festival>.

OPEN-ACCESS DATABASES OF THE NATIONAL HELLENIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION

The Institute of Historical Research (IHR) of the National Hellenic Research Foundation (NHRF) provides open access to 16 databases concerning Byzantine History and especially Byzantine Greece: <https://anavathmis.eu/?lang=en>.

Based on the scrutiny of a large body of primary and secondary sources by members of the Section of Byzantine Research of the IHR/NHRF and associated scholars, the databases provide various search possibilities in certain types of texts (historiography and hagiography) and in specific topics (e.g. gastronomy, bookbinding, imported ceramics, raw materials, natural resources and agricultural products, domestic and wild fauna, Greek merchants), as well as a catalogue of the Byzantine documents

kept in the archives of the monastery of Saint John the Theologian in Patmos, notes found in manuscripts of the same monastery, the diplomatic transcriptions of Greek post-Byzantine documents kept in the archives of the monasteries of Mount Athos, a gazetteer of late Byzantine conflicts, a prosopographical index (for the Venetian colonies in Greece), a catalogue of western religious orders in Greece. Of special note is the “Kyrtoou Plegmata” platform, which offers search possibilities in the trade and communication networks in and around Greece from Prehistory to the nineteenth century. The IHR/NHRF also provides open access to a number of e-books regarding Byzantine History:

<https://anavathmis.eu/e-books/?lang=en#1573422809019-ffd3837c-0760>

BYZANTIUM BETWEEN ORIENT AND OCCIDENT: RESEARCH RESULTS

Byzantium between Orient and Occident Research results are now available for open access. In the current situation, access to online research resources is essential for many scholars to still be able to work. Extraordinary situations require extraordinary measures. For this reason, all volumes of

the series *Byzanz zwischen Orient und Okzident: Veröffentlichungen des Leibniz-WissenschaftsCampus Mainz/Frankfurt* are going to be available in Open Access at <https://www.byzanz-mainz.de/publikationen/byzanz-zwischen-orient-und-okzident/>.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 24TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF BYZANTINE STUDIES

Two volumes have been published on-line and are freely available for download; see above for reports on the congress itself. Volume 1 of the Plenary sessions may be found here: <https://edizionicafoscari.unive.it/it/edizioni4/libri/978-88-6969-590-2/>, while volume 2, which brings together the abstracts of communications etc., is available here: [\[foscari.unive.it/it/edizioni4/libri/978-88-6969-634-3/\]\(https://edizionica.foscari.unive.it/it/edizioni4/libri/978-88-6969-634-3/\). If one continues leafing through the publications of the Edizioni Ca' Foscari one will find further publications linked to exhibitions at the congress, e.g. on Cyprus and the Bibliotheca Marciana and Bessarion's work in defence of Plato.](https://edizionica</p></div><div data-bbox=)

NEW INFORMATION RESOURCE: *STUDIA CERANEA*

Studia Ceranea is an international, peer-reviewed, open access scholarly journal published by Lodz University Press (Poland), devoted to various aspects of the Mediterranean Area and South-East Europe within the chronological limits of the first through to the eighteenth century AD. We welcome research articles as well as book reviews in all areas of Late Ancient, Byzantine and Slavic studies: philosophy, religion, archaeology, history,

law, politics, literature, philology and art. We accept manuscripts written in English. The high standard of the journal is ensured by its current presence in the Web of Science Core Collection (Emerging Sources Citation Index) and the Scopus database. All volumes and more information available at: <https://czasopisma.uni.lodz.pl/sceranea/index>. Contact with the Editorial Board: s.ceranea@uni.lodz.pl

BYZANTINA SYMMEIKTA

Byzantina Symmeikta is a peer-reviewed open-access electronic journal published by the Byzantine Section of the Institute of Historical Research, National Hellenic Research Foundation. From 1966 to 2005 (vols. 1–17) the journal was published under the title *Symmeikta*. *Byzantina Symmeikta* accepts for publication articles of original research in all fields of Byzantine studies (history, literature, archaeology and art) as well as book reviews. Accepted languages are English, French, German, Greek and Italian. A rigorous publication process ensures that the journal adheres to the highest standards of scholarship. In its electronic version *Byzantina Symmeikta* is

an open-access journal. All articles become available online as soon as a new volume is published on the journal's platform. A print edition appears about one year after the electronic publication. All volumes from 2008 onwards (vols. 18–) are also available in print.

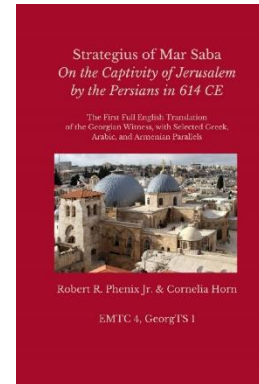
In the first 15 years of its online presence (2008–2022) 155 research articles and more than 200 book reviews and shorter bibliographical notes have appeared in the journal.

Webpage:
<https://ejournals.epublishing.ekt.gr/index.php/bz>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW TRANSLATION

A new translation of the important seventh-century work attributed to Antiochus Strategius on the Persian capture of Jerusalem has been brought out by Cornelia Horn and Rob Phenix, published by Abelian Academic in September 2022. Because this press is not widely known, I draw the book to readers' attention; the two authors were my collaborators for a translation of the Syriac work by Pseudo-Zachariah of Mytilene in 2011. The volume provides the first complete English translation of the best-preserved version of *On the Captivity of Jerusalem by the Persians in 614 CE* in Classical Georgian, along with translations of parallel materials in Greek, Armenian, and Arabic, including excerpts from the longer Arabic recensions. The translation



is accompanied with notes to the Latin translation that was published together with the critical edition by Gérard Garitte and to the older Russian translation of Nikolai Marr, explanations of terms and data, and an introduction to the historical background, the text, and its reception and critical editions.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

On behalf of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Centre for Hellenic Studies and the Department of Global Humanities at Simon Fraser University, I am delighted to invite you to the 49th parallel for the 49th annual BSANA Byzantine Studies Conference. This year's event will be held October 26-29 at SFU's Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue in downtown Vancouver, a hop skip and a jump from the city's scenic waterfront, a buzzing restaurant and bar scene, and much more. The members of the SNF Centre for Hellenic Studies, who now count two Byzantinists and one Late Antique specialist among them, after the recent hire of Dr Evan Freeman in the Hellenic Canadian Congress of BC Chair in Hellenic Studies, are looking forward to hosting you in our city next year.

UNDERGRADUATE ESSAY COMPETITION

There were very few submissions to the essay competition this past year. So the decision was made to postpone the prize for one year. Those who submitted this past year will be included in next year's competition, the details of which are included below.

We are pleased to announce the next Undergraduate Essay Contest in Byzantine Studies, which is designed to celebrate and reward exceptional research undertaken by undergraduate students in Canada who have written essays, in English or French, on any theme relating to Byzantine studies, i.e., concerning the eastern Roman Empire from A.D. 312 to 1453. Applicants do not need to be a major in a pertinent discipline (Archaeology, Art History, Classics, History, Medieval Studies, Near Eastern Studies, etc.) to submit their work. Furthermore, the course for which the essay was written need not be focused specifically on Byzantine Studies. The prize for the winner will be \$100. Essays should be submitted electronically (from a university e-mail address) by either the student or the instructor on the student's behalf. In either case, the student should have the instructor's endorsement. They should be sent in pdf format to:

Dr Conor Whately
Department of Classics
University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Ave.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada
Tel.: 204-786-9879
c.whately@uwinnipeg.ca

There should be no indication of the student's identity on the essay document itself. Instead, the required information

should be provided on a separate document (also sent electronically) that indicates the student's name, email address, university affiliation, and the title of the paper. If the essay is being submitted by an instructor the name and email address of the applicant should be included.

The essay should be submitted as it was written for its course without revisions, with the exception of typographical corrections. It should be 10-20 pages in length (including bibliography and double-spaced). Students may submit only one essay per year.

The judging is based on both the essay's content and its form: the winning essay must be well written, clearly organized and free from errors of grammar and syntax; and the contest winner will have made good use of the pertinent sources, have covered their chosen subject thoroughly, and ideally have provided new insights on their chosen topic. The deadline for submitting material to the competition is **May 31st, 2023**. The winner will be notified in August (2022) and will be announced in a subsequent CAN-BYZ newsletter.

It is possible to submit the essay both to this contest and to that organised by SCAPAT (www.scapat.ca).