

Rethinking Empire
Byzantine Spring Symposium
Dumbarton Oaks
April 21–22, 2017

Friday, April 21, 2017

8:30 a.m. Morning Registration and Coffee

9:00–9:15 Welcome: Elena Boeck, Dumbarton Oaks

Chair: John Duffy

9:15–10:00 Dimitar Angelov, Harvard University
Paul Magdalino, University of St. Andrews
Defining Empire

The Roman and late antique matrix

10:00–10:45 Emma Dench, Harvard University
Learning from the Past, Learning from the Future: Contemporary Approaches to the Earlier Roman Empire

10:45–11:15 Tea and Coffee

11:15–12:00 Sylvain Destephen, University of Paris
From Moving Center to Centralization: The Foundations of Byzantine Imperial Government

12:00–12:30 p.m. Discussion

12:30–2:00 Lunch

Territoriality and ethnicity

Chair: Ruth Macrides

2:00–2:45 John Haldon, Princeton University
Empire and Territory: Perceptions and Realities

2:45–3:30 Vivien Prigent, CNRS
One for All, All for One? Provincial Elites and the Empire

3:30–4:00 Tea and Coffee

4:00–4:45 Anthony Kaldellis, Ohio State University
Was Byzantium a “Multiethnic” Empire?

4:45–5:30 Commentator: Michael McCormick, Harvard University
Discussion

5:30–7:30 Reception in the Orangery

Saturday, April 22, 2017

8:30 a.m. Morning Registration and Coffee

Early medieval empires in the Roman world

Chair: Derek Krueger

9:00–9:45 Jennifer Davis, Catholic University of America
Rethinking Empire: The Carolingian Perspective

9:45–10:30 Angel Nikolov, University of Sofia
The Imperial Project of Symeon I of Bulgaria (893–927): Byzantine Frameworks and Aftermath

10:30–11:00 Coffee and Tea

Byzantium's culture of empire

Chair: Ioli Kalavrezou

11:00–11:45 Niels Gaul, University of Edinburgh
Recording, Writing, and Enacting Empire: Officeholders as Agents of Empire in the Middle and Later Byzantine Periods

11:45–12:30 p.m. Annabel Wharton, Duke University
Imperial Peripheries and Holy Sepulchres

12:30–2:15 Lunch

Comparative contexts

Chair: Robert Ousterhout

2:15–3:00 Cemal Kafadar, Harvard University
The Long and Winding Road to Empire: The Sublime State from the Late Fourteenth to the Mid-Sixteenth Century

3:00–3:45 Michael Puett, Harvard University
Comparative Reflections on Empires in Chinese Late Antiquity

3:45–4:15 Coffee and Tea

Concluding paper

4:15–5:00 Paul Magdalino, *Rethinking Theocracy*

5:00–6:00 Commentator: Maya Jasanoff, Harvard University