

This international conference brings together experts from Medieval Studies, Islamic Studies, Byzantine Studies, Jewish Studies and Archaeology. It focuses on early medieval Southern Italy (including Sicily) as a multiple, constantly changing contact area and border region characterised by religious-cultural heterogeneity and shaped by various competing powers, traditions, ideas and perceptions. The chosen pluri-perspective approach allows presenting and discussing new insights in various fields and disciplines. The following questions form the common thread:

- Taking into account actual theoretical debates and the current state of research in the specific fields, which analytical challenges arise when examining Southern Italy as a (Mediterranean) contact and border region and when considering groups of different religious and cultural background acting there?
- How are – in this context – physical and non-physical spaces socially constituted, controlled, imagined and lived in everyday practice? Or: How can we describe the tension between the space/area of action and the actions within that space/area?

By including local and transregional dimensions, at that time partly connected with claims to "universality", both detailed studies and comprehensive overviews are presented. Beyond their specific research topics, all participants are also invited to reflect on predispositions and master narratives which might have influenced past and current analyses.

Conference venue | *Sede dell'incontro*
 Deutsches Historisches Institut in Rom
 Istituto Storico Germanico di Roma
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Southern Italy as Contact Area and Border Region during the Early Middle Ages

Religious-Cultural Heterogeneity and Competing Powers in Local, Transregional and Universal Dimensions



International Conference
 Rome, 4–6 April 2016
 Convegno Internazionale
 Roma, 4–6 aprile 2016

Fig.: John Scylitzes' Synopsis of Histories: Σουλδάνος (Sawdān) negotiates with a captive envoy of emperor Basil I to avoid Byzantine military supply for Benevento and Capua both besieged by Muslim troops in the aftermath of the conquest of the Emirate of Bari in 871 (Madrid, Biblioteca Nacional de España, MS Graecus Vitr. 26-2, fol. 97r, Sicily 12th cent. – © Wikimedia Commons)

Monday, 4 April, 14.30–19.30

- 14.30 Martin Baumeister | Roma
Welcome
Klaus Herbers | Erlangen, Kordula Wolf | Roma
Introduction
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I - Southern Italy as Part of Different
Mediterranean Spaces

Chair: Nikolas Jaspert | Heidelberg

- 15.00 Lutz Berger | Kiel
*Centres and Peripheries
in the Early Medieval Muslim Mediterranean*
- 15.45 Rudolf Schieffer | Bonn
*Die Politik der Karolinger in Süditalien
und im Mittelmeerraum*
- 16.30 Coffee Break
- 17.00 Ewald Kislinger | Wien
*Das byzantinische Italien: Imperiale Kontinuität
und marginale Provinz*
- 18.30 *Public Evening Lecture | Conferenza serale*
Hugh Kennedy | London
The World of the Muslim Frontier
- 19.30 Buffet

Tuesday, 5 April, 9.00–17.00

II - Muslim Presence in Southern Italy –
Transformations and Challenges

Chair: Amedeo Feniello | Roma

- 9.00 Vivien Prigent | Paris
La Sicilia, terra d'imperi (VII–X secoli)
- 9.45 Alessandro Vanoli | Bologna
*Una società mediterranea. I materiali della genizah
e alcune prospettive di indagine sulla Sicilia musulmana*
- 10.30 Coffee Break
- 11.00 Marco Di Branco | Roma
*L'emirato di Bari e la presenza musulmana
sulla terraferma durante l'età aghlabita.
Bilancio e prospettive*
- 11.45 Tommi P. Lankila | Princeton, Roma
*'Saracen Raids' in Southern Italy and the Early
Medieval Central Mediterranean*
- 12.30 Annliese Nef | Paris
Il ruolo della Sicilia kalbita nel Mediterraneo centrale
- 13.15 Lunch Break
- 14.30 Lucia Arcifa | Catania, Fabiola Ardizzone | Palermo
*Una 'frontiera' interna? La Sicilia tra IX e X secolo
alla luce dei nuovi dati archeologici*
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III - Local Dynamics between Constantinople and Rome

Chair: Vivien Prigent | Paris

- 15.15 Jean-Marie Martin | Roma, Paris
*I musulmani come sfida per l'Italia meridionale
bizantina e i ducati campani (IX – inizio X secolo)*
- 16.00 Federico Marazzi | Napoli
*Vittime di Pirenne? I confini del Mezzogiorno
negli scenari economico-politici di Europa
e Mediterraneo (secoli VII–IX)*
- 20.30 Conference Dinner (only for participants)

Wednesday, 6 April, 9.00–16.30

Chair: Vivien Prigent | Paris

- 9.00 Annick Peters-Custot | Nantes
*Gli Italo-Greci e la duplicità degli imperi
e della 'romanitas'*
- 9.45 Claudia Alraum | Erlangen
*Wirkungsfeld Roms? Tendenzen in der süditalieni-
schen Kirchenlandschaft im 8. und 9. Jahrhundert*
- 10.30 Coffee Break
- 11.00 Judith Werner | Erlangen
*Päpstliches (Re?-)Agieren im frühmittelalterlichen
Süditalien – diplomatische Aspekte*
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IV - Latin Configurations of Power –
Perceptions and Contacts

Chair: Irmgard Fees | München

- 11.45 Giulia Zornetta | St Andrews, Padova
*Alla periferia di due imperi: l'Italia meridionale
longobarda nell'VIII e nel IX secolo*
- 12.30 Veronika Unger | Erlangen
*Johannes VIII. und sein Verhältnis zu den kleineren
Herrschaften Süditaliens*
- 13.15 Lunch Break
- 14.30 Clemens Gantner | Wien
*Ad utriusque imperii unitatem? On the Relations
between Louis II of Italy and the Byzantine Empire*
- 15.15 Klaus Herbers | Erlangen
*Frühformen des Kreuzzugs in den päpstlichen
Verlautbarungen des 9. Jahrhunderts?*
- 16.00 Final Discussion
*Discussants: Daniela Rando | Pavia,
Jochen Johrendt | Wuppertal*