

Medieval Mount Athos between Wealth and Poverty

The Inaugural Workshop for the ERC Starting Grant “Mount Athos in Medieval Eastern Mediterranean Society: Contextualizing the History of a Monastic Republic (ca. 850-1550)”

June 17th-18th, 2021
Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz

The participants in this workshop will give presentations exploring the relationship between wealth and Mount Athos. A particular emphasis will be laid upon discussion and how new avenues of research might nuance or change scholarship's understanding of the Holy Mountain's economic role throughout history.

The workshop will be held virtually via Zoom, while coffee breaks will take place in Wonder. Those interested in attending the workshop should send an e-mail to mamems@uni-mainz.de by June 14th, 2021. Attendees will be then sent a Zoom-link for all of the workshop sessions.

Thursday, June 17th

10:00-10:30 a.m.: Welcome, Opening Remarks

10:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.: Session 1: Capital Connections: Athonite *metochia* in Byzantine and Ottoman Constantinople

- Nicholas Melvani (Mainz): Mount Athos and the Wealth of Constantinople (14th-16th Centuries)
- Daniel Oltean (Leuven): Athonite *metochia* and dependencies in Constantinople (10th-12th c.)

12:00-1:00 p.m.: Lunch Break

1:00-3:00 p.m.: Session 2: Problems of Property: Monastic Landholding and Its Alternatives

- Zachary Chitwood (Mainz): Annuity Endowments and Sovereign Foundations on Mount Athos

- Mihai-D. Grigore (Mainz): Endowment, Rule and Theology. Political Theology in the Endowment Deeds for Mount Athos of Fifteenth and Sixteenth-century Wallachia.
- Kirill A. Maksimovič (Mainz): Legal Aspects of Monastic Property in Byzantium: The Evidence of Church Canons and State Laws

3:00-3:30 p.m. Coffee Break

3:30-5:00 p.m.: Session 3: The Price of Heaven: The Value of Liturgical Commemoration in Iviron Monastery

- Tinatin Chronz (Mainz): Liturgisches Gedenken und dessen materieller Wert im georgischen Aġapenbuch des Ivironklosters
- Apolon Tabuashvili (Tbilisi) / Vladimer Kekelia (Tbilisi): Dynamics of Donations to the Monastery of Iviron in Mount Athos and Its Economic Analysis (According to the *Synodicon* of Iviron Monastery)

5:00-5:30 p.m.: Final Discussion, Day One

Friday, June 18th

10:00-11:30 a.m.: Session 4: Mount Athos and the Ottomans

- Grigor Boykov (Vienna): Spatial Distribution of Zograf Monastery's Landed Estates: An Analysis of the Endowment Deed (*Waqfiya*) of 1569
- Vanessa R. de Obaldía (Mainz): *Servet-i Aynaroz*: Interpreting Ottoman Documents as Sources of Athonite Wealth

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.: Session 5: The Big Picture: Situating Athonite Monasticism within the Byzantine Economy

- Michel Kaplan (Paris): Pourquoi fondait-on des monastères sur l'Athos?
- Kostis Smyrlis (Athens): The Athonite Monasteries and the World. The Abbacy of Paul of Iviron, 1170-1183/4

1:00-2:00 p.m.: Lunch Break

2:00-3:30 p.m.: Session 6: Material Remains: Athonite Manuscripts and Seals

- Martina Filosa (Cologne): Resource Management in Monasteries and Charitable Institutions as Shown by Lead Seals: Some Prosopographical Remarks
- Zisis Melissakis (Athens): Manuscripts as Part of Athonite Monasteries' Wealth

3:30-4:00 p.m.: Coffee Break

4:00-6:00 p.m.: Session 7: Tracking Investments

- Olivier Delouis (Paris): Loans, Deposits, Participations and Other Investments: The Monastery of Chilandar and Its Booming Activities in a Time of Crisis (1320-1335)
- Alexander Watzinger (Vienna): OpenAtlas - An Open Source Application to Map Historical data with CIDOC CRM

6:00-6:30 p.m.: Final Discussion, Day Two