

CALL FOR PAPERS: Space and Governance: Towards a New Topography of Roman Administration

The call for papers for our conference is now open! **The deadline for abstracts is December 1st**. The conference will be held at the Royal Academy of Spain at Rome (Real Academia de España en Roma), on April 3rd – 4th 2020.

The purpose of the conference is to explore the transformation of public space and administrative activities in Republican and Imperial Rome through an interdisciplinary exploration of the topography of power.

The emergence of the Roman Republic produced a reorganization of the administrative structures, leading to the emergence of various entities and institutions responsible for organization and governance of Rome, its civic life and public spaces. In different ways, this spatial model was exported to the colonies with the expansion of the Republic. Throughout the Roman world, building projects created spaces, the topography of the city, for different civic purposes: for the meetings of assemblies, senate meetings, the administration of justice, the public treasury, and the management of the city through different magistracies, offices and even archives. These administrative spaces –open and closed– characterized the Roman life throughout the Republic and High Empire, until the profound administrative and judicial transformations of the Dominate. This conference aims to study the public and private spaces related to administration through the urban development, the existing interrelation between the different administrative bodies, the analysis of the architecture of the spaces already discovered and the study of the written sources. We will try to find an answer to the dilemmas such as where did the administration work? Were there offices and where were they located? Were there social class differences between the different levels of administration?

Themes:

- Urban development and dynamics related to the expansion of the administration
- New discoveries on the institutions and spaces of Roman administration
- Architecture of spaces for public meetings and trials: Assemblies, Senate, courtrooms, basilicas
- Private spaces in the administration: Residences of magistrates and the elite
- Magistracies, offices and archives
- Epigraphy related to the Roman administration
- Development of institutions between early Republic and Late Antiquity
- New methodologies in Roman topography
- Gender, intersectionality and public space



The conference is organized by the ERC funded project **Law, Governance and Space: Questioning the Foundations of the Republican Tradition (SpaceLaw)** based at the University of Helsinki. There is no conference fee. The organizers are unfortunately unable to aid in either travel or accommodation arrangements or the cost of travel or accommodation.

Keynote speakers: Paolo Liverani (Università degli Studi di Firenze), Elena Isayev (University of Exeter) and Pier Luigi Tucci (Johns Hopkins University).

Abstracts should be 300 words maximum, for 20-minute papers to be delivered in English. Proposals should be sent to lawgovernanceandspace@gmail.com

Questions may be sent to Antonio Lopez Garcia (Antonio.lopezgarcia@helsinki.fi).

