



FARHAD EBRAHIMI WORKSHOP

THE ACHAEMENID-PERSIAN EMPIRE AT ITS HEYDAY?

THE ERA BETWEEN DARIUS II AND DARIUS III

NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 2, 2023
PSK (Eingang Große Kassenhalle)
BESPRECHUNGSRAUM 4.A1
GEORG-COCH-PLATZ 2
1010 VIENNA



NAWA CHAIR

The last 100 years of the Achaemenid-Persian Empire are commonly described as a period of stagnation and decline. However, these traditional views have been challenged in recent years giving way to a more nuanced perspective on the history of the empire. The workshop follows this new line of research. It aims at re-evaluating the period between the Great Kings Darius II and Darius III focussing on processes of transformation and change. This way, the workshop intends to further develop a critical approach on a broader and more interdisciplinary level. The proceedings will be published in an international series.

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 16:00–16:30** **Opening**
Robert Rollinger | Innsbruck/Wrocław
Touraj Daryaee | Irvine
Florian Schwarz | Vienna
- 16:30–17:00** **Robert Rollinger** | Innsbruck/Wrocław
A reevaluation of a neglected period and the reasons why
- 17:00–17:15** COFFEE BREAK
- 17:15–18:15** **Mischa Meier** | Tübingen
The historians' manifest interest in the beginning and end of empire: problematizing a rather common approach
- 18:15** BUFFET

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

MORNING SESSION

Panel I: Approaches and Conceptions

Chair: Florian Posselt | Innsbruck, Doctoral College "Entangled Antiquities"

09:00–09:45 **Josef Wiesehöfer** | Kiel
Opening up new perspectives I: a static empire vs. an empire of ongoing change and dynamics

09:45–10:30 **Julian Degen** | Trier
Opening up new perspectives II: the end of empire vs. a period of transmission and restructuring

10:30–11:00 COFFEE BREAK

Chair: Cassandra Lamche | Innsbruck, Doctoral College "Entangled Antiquities"

11:00–11:45 **Gabriele Puschnigg** | Wien
Digging up politics: about historical narratives, mundane archaeological evidence and the difficulties in reconstructing past realities in late Achaemenid Persias

Panel II: The Sources

11:45–12:30 **Sabine Müller** | Marburg
The classical world and the empire

12:30–14:00 LUNCH BREAK

AFTERNOON SESSION

Chair: Elisabeth Pangerl | Innsbruck, Doctoral College "Entangled Antiquities"

14:00–14:45 **Michael Jursa** | Vienna
The Babylonian World and the Empire

14:45–15:30 **Michael Alram** | Vienna
Empire and coinage

15:30–16:00 COFFEE BREAK

Chair: Felix Schulz | Innsbruck, Doctoral College "Entangled Antiquities"

16:00–16:45 **Holger Gzella** | Munich
The Aramaic superstrat and the empire

16:45–17:30 **Melanie Wasmuth** | Helsinki
The Egyptian world and the empire

17:30–18:15 **Krzysztof Nawotka** | Wrocław
Epigraphic evidence from western Asia Minor and the islands

19:00 CONFERENCE DINNER

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

MORNING SESSION

Panel III: Organization of Empire

Chair: Erich Kistler | Innsbruck

09:00–09:45 **Silvia Balatti** | Kiel
Bagoas' murders and the alleged power of the eunuchs at the court of the last Achaemenids

09:45–10:00 **Kai Ruffing** | Kassel
Economy and Empire

10:30–11:00 COFFEE BREAK

Chair: Bernhard Palme | Vienna, Commission "Transformation of empire in ancient Afro-Eurasia"

11:00–11:45 **Hilmar Klinkott** | Kiel
The dynamics of imperial administration: roads, satrapies and connectivity in the Achaemenid empire

11:45–12:30 **Shervin Faridnejad** | Hamburg
Zoroastrianism/Mazdaism and the empire

12:30–13:30 LUNCH BREAK

AFTERNOON

Excursion

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

MORNING SESSION

Panel III – Organization of Empire (continued)

Chair: Alexander Steiner (Innsbruck), Doctoral College “Entangled Antiquities”

09:00–09:45 **Verena Lepper** | Berlin
A special case: Elephantine

Panel IV: Reception

09:45–10:30 **Kerstin Droß-Krüpe** | Bochum
The European reception

10:30–11:00 COFFEE BREAK

Chair: Clemens Steinwender | Innsbruck, Doctoral College “Entangled Antiquities”

11:00–11:45 **Florian Schwarz** | Vienna
The Middle Eastern reception

11:45–12:30 **Jörg Schwarz** | Innsbruck
The Achaemenid-Persian empire as a model? A typology of kingship and its Medieval outreach

12:30–13:00 **Concluding Remarks | The Organizers**

Farewell and end of conference

ORGANIZER:

Robert Rollinger, Touraj Daryaei and Florian Schwarz

INSTITUTIONS:

Austrian Academy of Sciences, Commission “Transformation of empire in ancient Afro-Eurasia”

University of California, Irvine, Dr. Samuel M. Jordan Center for Persian Studies and Cultures

Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Iranian Studies

University of Innsbruck, Department of Ancient History and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

University of Wrocław, NAWA Project “From the Achaemenids to the Romans”

University of Innsbruck, Doctoral College “Entangled Antiquities”

Cluster of Excellence “EurAsian Transformations”

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