

Italy and its Rulers in the Ninth Century: Was there a Carolingian Italy?

International Workshop • 25 - 26 April 2016

Organized by:
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In most divisions of the Carolingian realm, the imperial dignity remained attached to Italy. In contrast, some North Alpine commentators saw the Italian kingdom as a mere appendix to the Frankish empire. The Carolingian rulers in Italy did not inspire histories or texts that depicted them in a very favourable light. Carolingian rule introduced some momentous texts and practices in Italy – capitularies, the Carolingian minuscule, counts, placita to name just a few of the innovations. Nevertheless, in many respects, we may wonder how deep their impact in Italy really was.

Italian Carolingian rulers turned out to be rather luckless and maybe because of this were also depicted as quite weak kings or emperors, both by contemporaries and in modern research. Were they really so ephemeral? Or were they the self-confident rulers we find Louis II's famous letter to the east-Roman emperor Basil I? How did the Carolingians, starting with Pippin of Italy, govern their Italian realm and how, if at all, did they try to expand it? How did they shape their relationship with the other Carolingian realms?

This international workshop brings together specialists on ninth-century Italy in a discussion-oriented event. It addresses the question how Carolingian “Carolingian Italy” was in the end, and how the Carolingian rulers in the century after Charlemagne (814-924) governed.

LOCATION

Hotel Mercure Wien City
Hollandstraße 3
1020 Wien

INFORMATION

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ERC Advanced Grant social cohesion, identity and religion in Europe, 400-1200

PROGRAMME

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Transformation of the CAROLINGIAN World
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Monday, 25 April

Was there a Carolingian Italy?

Presentations and enlarged discussion
Moderation: Walter Pohl

Session 1
9:30 - 11:45

Tom NOBLE
What was “Carolingian” about ninth-century Italy?

Paolo DELOGU
Problemi della dominazione franca in Italia

François BOUGARD
C’era una Italia carolingia? Perché fare la domanda?

Coffee Break, 30 minutes

Politics of Identity

Session 2
12:15-13:00

Stefano GASPARRI
Il governo di un’area periferica: I Carolingi e l’Italia nord-orientale

Lunch Break, 13:00-14:00 (buffet at hotel)

Giuseppe ALBERTONI
Vassalli senza feudalesimo: il caso dell’Italia carolingia



Literacy and Documents

Session 3
14:45-16:15

Elina SCREEN
Italians in Francia as seen in the charter evidence

Flavia DE RUBEIS
Signum manus: l’alfabetismo tra miti e realtà in Italia italo-settentrionale nel corso del secolo IX

Coffee Break, 30 minutes

Two Young Carolingian Rulers of Italy

Session 4
16:45-18:15

Marco STOFFELLA
Pippino, re d’Italia

Clemens GANTNER
Louis II of Italy in his early years

Tuesday, 26 April

Mothers and the Court Life

Session 5
10:00-11:30

Roberta CIMINO
Mothers in Italian ruling dynasties

Giorgia VOCINO
A country of poets or a country of disputers? Rhetoric and dialectic between court life and judicial debate in Carolingian Italy

Coffee Break, 30 minutes

Rome, Ravenna ... and the Carolingians

Session 6
12:00-12:45

Dorine VAN ESPELO
Representations of Carolingian kings and Italy in the Roman Liber Pontificalis

Lunch Break, 12:45-13:45 (buffet at hotel)

Session 6
13:45-14:30

Tom BROWN
A Byzantine cuckoo in the Frankish nest? The relations of the Exarchate of Ravenna with the Kingdom of Italy in the long ninth century

Urbanism and Symbolic Capital

Session 7
14:30-15:15

Caroline GOODSON
Urbanism in the politics of power in Early Medieval Italy

Coffee Break, 30 minutes

Session 7
15:45-17:15

Cristina LA ROCCA
Building a new Carolingian capital: Verona in the 9th and 10th century

Francesco VERONESE
Rome and the Others: Saints, relics, and hagiography as social and political tools in Carolingian Italy

