



American Research Center in Sofia

Communication and Commerce in the Balkans from Alexander the Great to Alexander Battenberg

Conference Schedule

Thursday, October 25, 2012

9:15-9:30 Introduction by Eric C. De Sena (Director, ARCS)

SESSION 1 – Marketplaces and commodities

9:30-9:50 Dr. Chavdar Tzochev (Independent Researcher)
Marketplaces in the interior of ancient Thrace, Classical to Hellenistic periods

9:50-10:10 Zdravko Dimitrov (National Institute of Archaeology with Museum, BAS)
Recent excavations near Pchelarovo, Kurdzhali region – a commercial center (emporium) from the Hellenistic and Roman era?

10:10-10:30 Hristo Preshlenov (National Institute of Archaeology with Museum, BAS)
Places, instruments and artifacts of exchange along the southwestern Black Sea coast in the Roman period

10:30-11:00 Discussion

BREAK 11:00-11:30

11:30-11:50 Dr. Kamen Dimitrov (Institute for Balkan Studies with Center of Thracology – BAS) The commerce of the Odrysian Kingdom in Thrace with the Greek world, 5th to mid 4th c. BC

11:50-12:10 Dr. Artur Blazejewski (University of Wroclaw, Poland)
Barbarians and the Black Sea. Exchange and commerce in the 1st to 4th centuries AD

12:10-12:30 Dr. Elena Koytcheva (Institute for Balkan Studies and Center of Thracology, BAS)
Armenians – traders and friends of Frederick Barbarossa in the Balkans during the Third Crusade (1189-1190)

12:30-12:50 Discussion

LUNCH BREAK, 13:00-14:15

- 14:20-14:50** **Dr. Gergana Kabakchieva (National Institute of Archaeology with a Museum, BAS)**
Fine pottery in the markets of the Diocese of Thrace and Dacia in Late Antiquity
- 14:50-15:10** **Mr. Boyan Totev (Regional Historical Museum – Dobrich)**
Far Eastern imports and their impact on Old Bulgarian metalwork
- 15:10-15:30** **Mr. Jake Ransohoff (University of Chicago)**
“Trading” in Empresses: the politics of matrimonial commerce between Byzantium and Bulgaria (1261-1340)
- 15:30-15:50** **Discussion**
- 18:30-19:30** **RECEPTION AT THE NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM, SOFIA AND
OPENING OF EXHIBIT ON ROMAN COMMERCE IN THE BALKANS**

Friday, October 26, 2012

SESSION 2 – Communication, Language and Law

- 9:30-9:50** **Dr. Emil Nankov (American Research Center in Sofia)**
Macedonian military communications as a factor for the construction of city walls in the Hellenistic World
- 9:50-10:10** **Dr. Dimitar Iliev (Sofia University)**
Language contact, bilingualism, and communication as attested in the Greek and Roman epigraphic monuments from Bulgaria, 3rd century BC to 3rd century AD
- 10:10-10:30** **Ms. Ivelina Masheva (Sofia University)**
Ottoman commercial regulations during the Tanzimat period (1839-1876). Legislation reforms and their application in the town of Rusçuk
- 10:30-11:00** **Discussion**

BREAK 11:00-11:30

SESSION 3 – Rivers and Roads

- 11:30-11:50** **Dr. Daniel Weiss (University of Virginia)**
The Danubian dilemma: conduits and obstacles in Upper and Lower Moesia
- 11:50-12:10** **Dr. Boyan Dumanov (New Bulgarian University)**
Mobility as a factor in the migration south of the Lower Danube. The case of the Goths
- 12:10-12:30** **Dr. Snezhana Rakova (South West University of Blagoevgrad)**
From north to south across the Danube: trade between Brasov and Vidin in the 15th century
- 12:30-13:00** **Discussion**

LUNCH BREAK, 13:00-14:00

14:00-14:20 Dr. Liliana Simeonova (Institute for Balkan Studies and Center of Thracology, BAS)

The Via Egnatia – the most actively used overland route in the Balkans

14:20-14:40 Ms. Dimitrina Popova (Institute of Art Studies, BAS)

Accessibility of heavy load vehicles in Pautalia, Serdika, Philippopolis and Nicopolis ad Istrum

14:40-15:00 Dr. Penka Danova (Institute for Balkan Studies and Center of Thracology, BAS)

Buffalo: tractive power along fluvial and terrestrial routes in the Balkans in the Early Modern Period

15:00-15:30 Discussion

BREAK 15:30-16:00

16:00-16:20 Mr. Dragomir Garbov (New Bulgarian University)

The “Tabula Peutingeriana”, a changing value for the interpretation of Roman road networks and settlement topographies along the middle and lower Strymon

16:20-16:40 Mr. Darko Stojanov (Institute of National History, Skopje, Macedonia and Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, Paris)

Mobility, opportunities and risks of commerce in the mid 5th century Balkans: the story of the unnamed Greek merchant from Viminacium

16:40-17:00 Ms. Boriana Antonova (Sofia University)

Steam Revolution in Dobrudzha: the Ruse-Varna railroad and its economic impact

17:00-17:30 Discussion

RECEPTION AT ARCS, 17:30-18:30

Performance by American University in Bulgaria’s Applied Music Voice class

Prof. Dr. Hristo Krotev – Director
Anna Yakovleva – Soprano
Dana Omirova – Mezzo-soprano
Kristian Chichmanov – Baritone
Nikolina Kroteva – Piano accompaniment

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Conference organizer

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Thanks for ideas, encouragement and support

At the National Archaeology Museum, Sofia: Prof. Lyudmil Vagalinski (Director, National Institute of Archaeology with Museum – BAS), Prof. Maria Reho (Vice Director, National Archaeology Museum, NAIM-BAS), Pavlina Ilieva (NAIM-BAS), Krastyu Chukalev (NAIM-BAS), Petar Dimitrov (NAIM-BAS), Zdravko Dimitrov (NAIM-BAS)

In support of the Exhibiton: Valentin Krustev (translations), Dorothea Valentinova (translations), Chavdar Tzochev (maps)

Mr. Valentin Georgiev (Executive Director, American Chamber of Commerce Bulgaria)

Mr. Lenko Lenkov (America for Bulgaria Foundation)



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