

CONTINUITY – STABILITY – CRISIS

Antoninus Pius and Infallible Signs of Changes in the 2nd c. AD



International Conference
11th-12th October 2018
Austrian Historical Institute, Rome

Call for Papers

Hadrian tried hard to settle the succession and finally decided to choose a candidate who initially was not under discussion. The election of Antoninus Pius, who was related to Hadrian through Faustina Major and Vibia Sabina, has been evaluated in a nuanced manner by scholars: as a 'placeholder' and temporary ruler, who should prepare his nephew Marcus Annus Verus to undertake the imperial power and rule the Imperium Romanum. The reign of Antoninus Pius, which lasted for 23 years, is generally assumed by scholars as a continuation and preservation of the *status quo* which existed at the time of his accession to the throne after the death of his adoptive father.

The aim of the conference is to assess critically the person and the family of Antoninus Pius, his path to the succession and his politics, especially his foreign policy.

Keynote speakers: Prof. Dr Tonio Hölscher
Dr Claudio Parisi Presicce

Lectures of 30 minutes' length are welcome on the following subjects:

1. Origin and family: relationship as a driving force for succession and family policy
2. Antoninus Pius as a person (intellectual pursuits, character and temperament, etc.)
3. *Cursus honorum* and political ambition
4. The adoption: juridical foundations
5. Power: internal and foreign politics, the military organization
6. Relationship between the emperor and the provinces, and questions of integration (as part of the Imperium Romanum)
7. Foresight? – Crises in and around the Imperium Romanum
8. Building policy and representation of the imperial family
9. Antoninus Pius and the Roman people
10. The handover of power to Marcus Annus Verus

Further suggestions are welcome and open to discussion.

Proposals for papers, including name, title, and an abstract (ca. 300 words), are invited until **15th October 2017** and should be sent to alice.landskron@uni-graz.at.

Conference languages: German, English, Italian

Organizing Institutions:

Austrian Historical Institute
Viale Bruno Buozzi, 111-113
I-00197 Rome



www.oehirom.it

Institute of Archaeology
University of Graz
Universitätsplatz
A-8010 Graz



<https://archaeologie.uni-graz.at/de/institut/>

Scientific organization/contact: PD Dr Alice Landskron alice.landskron@uni-graz.at

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