16.15 Benoît GRÉVIN (CNRS Paris): “Epistolographic Communication and Political Rhetoric. The Dynamics of *Ars dictaminis* in Comparative Perspective, c. 1000–1500”

16.35 Christian LAMOUROUX (EHESS Paris): “Centralization or Decentralization: The Accounting Policy of Zonglingsuo 總領所 during the Southern Song”

16.55 Discussion

17.40 Conference dinner

**FRIDAY, 29 MAY**

Session 4: Political Communication and Empire (Chair/Discussant: Jean-Philippe GENET)

09.00 LEE Sukhee (Rutgers University): “Getting Things Done: Fighting Famine and Political Communication within the Local Bureaucracy in Thirteenth Century China”

09.20 Mark WHITTOW (University of Oxford): “Communication and Empire: Byzantium in Perspective”

09.40 Discussion

10.25 Coffee

10.40 Final roundtable:
1. Briefing on publication
2. Panel and open floor discussion

13.00 Lunch

14.00 End of conference
Political Communication in the Medieval World, 800-1600

Jointly organized by the ERC-funded research group “Communication and Empire: Chinese Empires in Comparative Perspective” (Leiden University) and Koninklijk Nederlands Instituut Rome (KNIR).

WEDNESDAY, 27 MAY

13.30 Registration

14.00 Word of welcome
Arthur WESTSTEIJN (KNIR) / Hilde DE WEERDT (Leiden University)

Session 1: The Challenge of Comparative Political History (Chair/Discussant: Robert HYMES, Columbia University)

14.15 Jeroen DUINDAM (Leiden University): “Connected, Entangled, or Comparative? The Global History of Dynasty as an Example”

14.35 John WATTS (University of Oxford) and Hilde DE WEERDT: “Towards a Comparative Political History: Mediation and Communication, c. 1000-1500”

14.55 Discussion

15.40 Coffee

16.00 Keynote lecture

17.30 Welcoming reception

THURSDAY, 28 MAY

Session 2: Networks from Letters – Towards a New Historiography of Elite Communication (Chair/Discussant: Robert HYMES)

09.00 Bernard GOWERS (Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Oxford): “Masculinities and Political Communication, c. 800-1200”

09.20 CHU Mingkin (Leiden University) and Julius MORCHE (Leiden University): “Political Elites and Intellectual History: Europe and China”

09.40 Discussion

10.25 Coffee

10.40 Beverly BOSSLER (University of California, Davis): “Yao Mian’s Letters: The Epistolary Networks of a Late Song Literatus”

11.00 CHEN Song (Bucknell University): “Slanderous Reports’: Political Communication and Political Culture in Southern Song”

11.20 Julian HASELDINE (University of Hull): “Friendship and Social Networks in the Medieval West: The Evidence of Letter Collections”

11.40- Discussion

12.40 Lunch

Session 3: Political Elites and Imperial Governance (Chair/Discussant: Wim BLOCKMANS, Leiden University)

14.00 Margaret MESERVE (University of Notre Dame): “Publicatio in valvis: The Politics of Promulgation in Papal Rome, 1420-1520”

14.20 Patricia EBREY (University of Washington): “Informing the Public by Posting Notices in Song China”

14.40 Ari Daniel LEVINE (University of Georgia): “Imaginaries of Empire: Constituting Political Communities in Southern Song Memorabilia Literature”

15.00 Discussion

16.00 Coffee