Political Communication in the Medieval World, 800-1600

27-29 May 2015, Koninklijk Nederlands Instituut Rome

This international conference addresses questions and methods in the study of political communication in European and Chinese history. It aims to stimulate discussion on the historical interpretation of relevant sources, the institutional parameters of elite discourse, and the structures of networks that contributed to the strengthening or fragmentation of polities and political identities. The comparative framework interrogates the premises underlying Chinese and European historiographies of political culture and allows for a global perspective on long-term societal and political developments.

Keynote:
Jean-Philippe Genet (University of Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne) - “Language and Political Communication in France and England, c. 1100-1500: A Comparison”

Panels:
The Challenge of Comparative Political History
Networks from Letters - Towards a New Historiography of Elite Communication
Political Elites and Imperial Governance
Political Communication and Empire

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

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