

Christos Malatras

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STUDIES

2013: Doctor of Philosophy (Phd) in Byzantine Studies, Centre for Byzantine, Ottoman and Modern Greek Studies, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom.

2008: Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Byzantine History, Department of History and Archaeology, University of Crete, Greece.

2004: Certificate of the School of Letters (BA), Department of History and Archaeology, University of Crete, Greece.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

2013–2014: Senior Research Fellow at the RCAC (Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations), Koç University, Istanbul.

2014: Summer Fellow at Dumbarton Oaks Research Centre, Harvard University.

2014–2015: Postdoctoral Researcher in the project "Towards an Institutional and Social History of Byzantine Asia Minor Based on Seals and Other Sources (7th–13th c.)" (ARISTEIA II-4492), Academy of Athens.

2015–2016: Postdoctoral Researcher at Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, funded by TÜBİTAK.

2017–2018: Adjunct Lecturer in the Department of History and Ethnology, Democritus University of Thrace.

2018–2021: Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Fellow, Department of Byzantine Studies and Modern Greek Philology, University of Cologne.

2019–2021: Adjunct Lecturer in the Department of History, Archaeology and Social Anthropology, University of Thessaly.

2021–2022: Fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies "*Migration and Mobility in Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages*", University of Tübingen, Germany.

2022–2023: Adjunct Lecturer at the Hellenic Army Non-Commissioned Officers Academy (Σ.Μ.Υ.), Trikala.

2023–2024: Contract Lecturer in the Department of History and Archaeology, University of Ioannina.

2023–2024: Researcher in the project "*DiBs: Creating a Sustainable Digital Infrastructure for Research-Based Teaching in Byzantine Studies*", Department of Byzantine Studies and Modern Greek Philology, University of Cologne.

2024–2025: Researcher at Sorbonne University with a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellowship under the European Commission's HORIZON 2020 programme.

2025– : Associate Researcher, Institute of Historical Research, National Research Foundation.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Byzantine Sigillography
- Administration of the Middle Byzantine State
- History of Byzantine Culture, with emphasis on questions of identity
- Social History of Late Byzantium
- Political History of Late Byzantium

RESEARCH AND OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- 10 invited lectures at academic institutions and 54 presentations at international conferences, seminars, and workshops in 16 different countries.
- Peer reviewer of scholarly articles and books for the journals *Byzantina Symmeikta*, *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies*, *Byzantinische Zeitschrift*, *Gephyra*, and *Phoenix*.
- 16 research missions to museums and research institutions (Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania, Germany, France, Russia, United Kingdom) for the study of archival or archaeological material and for scholarly collaborations.
- Organiser of the session "The Potential of Sigillography as a Source in Byzantine Studies" at the 24th International Congress of Byzantine Studies, 22–27 August 2022, Venice and Padua.
- Contribution to the creation, design, and management of the online scholarly database TAKTIKON: Structure and Prosopography of the Byzantine Themes of Asia Minor – <https://taktikon.academyofathens.gr>

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2023–present: Participant in the project "*DiBs: Creating a Sustainable Digital Infrastructure for Research-Based Teaching in Byzantine Studies*", Department of Byzantine Studies and Modern Greek Philology, University of Cologne.
- 2015–present: Participant in the project "*TAKTIKON: The Structure and Prosopography of the Byzantine Themes*", directed by Olga Karagiorgou, Academy of Athens.

- 2007–2008: Research Associate in the project “Mobility and Literacy in the Aegean World (15th–18th c.)”, Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Rethymno.
- Study and publication of unpublished Byzantine sigillographic material from: a) the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham; b) 11 regional archaeological museums in Turkey, in collaboration with Associate Professor Nilgün Elam (Anadolu University, Eskişehir); c) the State Historical Museum of Moscow and the State Museum of Munich, in collaboration with Dr Pantelis Charalampakis.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2025: Instructor of the course “Byzantine Sigillography” at the Seminar for Historical Sciences of the Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation.
- 2023–2024: Instructor of the international seminar “Approaching Byzantium through Seals: A Digital Exhibition” at the Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Cologne. The course was designed by me; 25 participants were selected through an open call and evaluation process.
- 2023–2024: Instructor of the undergraduate courses “Introduction to the History of the Steppe Peoples: Origins, Society and Politics, Migrations and Transformations (5th–15th c.)” (core second-year course) and “The Silk Road as a Catalyst of Political and Cultural Actions and Interactions: Convergences and Divergences (7th–15th c.)” (third- and fourth-year elective), Department of History and Archaeology, University of Ioannina.
- 2019–2021: Instructor of the undergraduate courses “Social History of Byzantium” (autumn term), “Byzantine Historiography” (autumn term), and “Byzantine Society and its Institutions” (spring term), Department of History, Archaeology and Social Anthropology, University of Thessaly.
- 2017–2018: Adjunct Lecturer, teaching the undergraduate course “History of the Late Byzantine Period (1204–1461)” in the Department of History and Ethnology, Democritus University of Thrace.
- 2013: Instructor at the “Byzantine Greek Summer School” (University of Birmingham), teaching 40 hours to international postgraduate students and researchers (Intermediate and Advanced Levels).

MAIN PUBLICATIONS

MONOGRAPH

- *The Earthly Order: Social Stratification in Late Byzantium*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press 2023, 608 pp.

EDITED VOLUME

- *TAKTIKON: Studies on the Prosopography and Administration of the Byzantine themata*, Academy of Athens: Athens 2021 (in collaboration with Dr Olga Karagiorgou and Dr Pantelis Charalampakis), 900 pp.

ARTICLES

- "Byzantine lead seals as expressions of power and identity", in M. Bodnaruk and A. Adanshikaya (eds.), *Art and Power in Medieval Societies in the Eastern Mediterranean from Late Antiquity to the Ottoman Era*, Budapest 2026.
- "Civil authority in the Byzantine provinces (7th–9th Centuries)", *Studia Ceranea* 24 (2024), 463–499.
- "Remarks on the collection of Byzantine lead seals of the Barber Institute of Fine Arts (University of Birmingham): mobility, networks, and identity in eastern Pontos", *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies* 48.2 (2024), 207–234.
- "Selected lead seals from an unpublished private collection in Germany", *REB* 81 (2023), 297–323.
- "The early history of the thema of the Boukellarioi (8th century)", *BZ* 116.1 (2023), 127–164.
- "Το Αιγαίο, οι Κυκλάδες και η θέση της Πάρου στο διοικητικό σύστημα κατά τη βυζαντινή εποχή", in D. Katsonopoulou (ed.), *Paros through the ages - from prehistoric times to the 16th century AD*, Paros V, Paros 2021, 437–460.
- "Trial process and justice in the late patriarchal court", in C. Gastgeber, E. Mitsiou (eds.), *The Patriarchate of Constantinople in context and comparison*, Vienna 2017, 161–174.
- "The 'social aspects' of the second civil war (1341–1354)", in M.-H. Congourdeau (ed.), *Thessalonique au temps des Zélotes (1342-1350). Actes de la table ronde organisée dans le cadre du 22e Congrès international des études byzantines à Sofia, le 25 août 2011*, Paris 2014, 99–116.
- "The making of an ethnic group: the Romaioi in the 12th–13th centuries", in K. Dimadis (ed.), *Proceedings of the IVth European Congress of Modern Greek Studies, 9–12 September 2010, Granada, Spain: Identities in the Greek world (from 1204 to the present day)*, Athens 2011, 419–430.