

RSA Annual Meeting Calls for Papers Submission

Session Title *

Christian, Jewish and Muslim cultures of marriage in the Early modern Italian Peninsula. A comparative approach

Type *

Paper Panel

Session Abstract (Max. 300 words) *

In the last decades, historical scholarship has focused on marriage in the Italian Peninsula with increasing intensity, acknowledging its crucial role to capture the tensions that run through communities. The adoption of a long-term perspective made it possible to observe changes in the doctrine, and in the ways in which the latter has been interpreted "from below", in a constant tension between norms and practices. A widespread culture emerged that bent marriage in favor of family, economic, and political strategies and, albeit more rarely documented, individual initiatives driven by emotions. Moreover, by examining intermarriage and marriage between Christians and converts, its role as an instrument of confessionalization has also become clear. However, the focus on Catholic doctrine and practice still tends to prevail, identifying the Council of Trent as an all encompassing turning point. The presence of significant Jewish communities, the centrality of the slave trade, and the exchange with the Muslim world, particularly the Ottoman Empire, has been acknowledged by studies paying attention to social, religious and political dynamics. This makes the Italian Peninsula a unique context for observing marriage rituals, norms and practices in a comparative perspective, including those outside the Christian sphere but in continuous interaction with it.

We welcome papers encouraging a comparative approach, focusing on Christian, Jewish and Muslim marriages in the early modern Italian Peninsula, exploring the following topics:

- Marriage norms, rituals and practices
- Jurisdiction on marriage, institutions and authorities involved in its control
- Theological, juridical and scholarly works on marriage
- Marriage as an instrument of confessionalization and discipline
- Relationships among and within communities through marriage
- Women's and gender roles within marriage
- Dowries and material interests involved in marriage
- Marriage and sexuality
- Marriage and violence

Primary Field *

History

Additional Fields

History and Sexuality, Religious History, Minorities Studies, Jewish Studies, Mediterranean History

Organizer *

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Co-Organizers

Guido Bartolucci (guido.bartolucci@unibo.it), Serena Di Nepi (serena.dinepi@uniroma1.it)

Sponsor (if applicable)**Proposal Deadline ***

July 19

Notification Date *

August 1

Comments

Proposals should be submitted by email to Fernanda Alfieri (fernanda.alfieri2@unibo.it), Guido Bartolucci (guido.bartolucci@unibo.it), and Serena Di Nepi (serena.dinepi@uniroma1.it) with full name, current affiliation, and email address; a paper title (15-word maximum), an abstract (150-word maximum), keywords, and a brief CV (150 words maximum). Inquiries about the content of the CFP can be directed to the same email addresses.

This call has been issued within the research project PRIN-PNRR P20229JXJE "Jewish and Christian Marriages. Rituals, Rights, Interrelations (15th-17th Centuries, Papal States)", funded by the European Union - NextGenerationEU.