

## **Dr. Despoina Ariantzi**

Postdoctoral Researcher at the Austrian Academy of Sciences Institute for Medieval  
Research, Division of Byzantine Research Address: Hollandstraße 11-13 / 4, 1020 Vienna

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### **Research Interests**

Social and cultural history of the Byzantine Empire

History of Childhood

Coming of Age

History of Family

Hagiography and monasticism

Pilgrimage

Marginalization and subculture groups (Prostitutes, actors and tavern- keepers)

Gender in Byzantium

### **Education**

2005-2009 PhD. in Byzantine Studies with distinction, Department of Byzantine and Modern  
Greek Studies, University of Vienna, Thesis: Aspekte der Kindheit in Byzanz  
vom 6. bis zum 11. Jahrhundert im Spiegel hagiographischer  
Quellen (Supervisor: Johannes Koder)

1997-2001 M.A. in Byzantine Studies with distinction, Interdepartmental Postgraduate  
Program in Medieval Studies, School of Philosophy – University of Ioannina,  
thesis entitled "The „Augusta“ in the De Cerimoniis aulae Byzantine" (Supervisor  
Taxiarches Koliass)

03.-06.1999 Erasmus Program, University of Vienna, Institute of Byzantine and Modern  
Greek Studies

1993-1997 Diploma in History, Department for History and Archaeology - University of  
Ioannina

## Professional appointments

- 2021-2024 Postdoctoral researcher (full time) at the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Medieval Research / Division of Byzantine Research, FWF-Project: Medieval Smyrna/Izmir: The Transformation of a City and its Hinterland from Byzantine to Ottoman Times (Project leader Prof. Andreas Külzer)
- 2016-2020 Postdoctoral researcher (full time) at the Department for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna, FWF-Project: Marginalization and subculture groups: Prostitutes, actors, and tavern-keepers in Byzantium (6th to 12th centuries) (Project leader Prof. Ewald Kislinger)
- 2018 Lecturer in Byzantine History 23- 27 April 2018 (with the European program “Erasmus teaching Mobility”) in National and Kapodistrian University of Athens / Faculty of Philology / Department of Byzantine Literature and Folkloristics
- 2015-2016 Project leader (full time) of the Project “For the sake of salvation and happiness in life. Studies of Byzantine pilgrimage and its origins” at the Research Institute of Roman-Germanic Central Museum in Mainz (funded by the Leibniz Association)
- 2014 – 2015 Participation by Editing of the Book: Byzanz. Historisch – kulturwissenschaftliches Handbuch (Der Neue Pauly - Supplemente 11)
- 2015 (Spring Semester) Lecturer in Byzantine History at the Viennese Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies
- 2011 – 2014 Postdoctoral researcher (full time) at Department for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna, FWF-Project: Coming of Age, Leaving the Nest: Models of Adolescence in Byzantium (6th to 11th century) (Project director Prof. Johannes Koder)
- 2010-2011 Visiting Lecturer (full time), Department for History and Archaeology – University of Cyprus-Nicosia
- 2002-2008 Research associate (part time) in the project „Lexikon zur byzantinischen Gräzität“ at the Austrian Academy of Sciences
- 2007-2008 Research associate (part time) in the project „Sigillography“ at the Austrian Academy of Sciences
- 09.2000–04.2001 Research associate (part time) at the Austrian National Library
- 01.1999-02.1999 Research associate (part time) in the project in the Archive of the Metropolitan Church of Ioannina

## Teaching

2018 Lecturer in Byzantine History 23- 27 April 2018 (with the european program “Erasmus teaching Mobility”) in National and Kapodistrian University of Athen / Faculty of Philology / Department of Byzantine Literatur and Folkloristics

Undergraduate Course: Childhood in Byzantium

2015 Lecturer in Byzantine History (Spring Semester 2015), Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Vienna

Undergraduate Course: Stage of life in Byzantium

2010-2011 Lecturer (full time), Department for History and Archaeology – University of Cyprus-Nicosia

Undergraduate Courses:

Introduction into Byzantine History: Spring Semester 2009-2010;

Byzantine Monasticism and Society: Fall Semester 2010-2011

Child and Family in Byzantium: Spring Semester 2009-2010

Graduate Seminar:

State and Society

07.2000-08.2000 Instruction of Greek language at the Centre for Greek Language and Culture at the University of Ioannina (Director: Univ. Prof. Dr. G. Giannakes).

1998-1999 Tutorial: “How to write an essay on Byzantine history”, Department of History and Archaeology - University of Ioannina.

## Research Grants, Scholarships, Memberships

2016-2020 Research Grant for Byzantine History, Austrian Science Fund (co-author of the research proposal together with Prof. Ewald Kislinger)

2011-2014 Research Grant for Byzantine History, Austrian Science Fund (co-author of the research proposal together with Prof. Johannes Koder)

2000-2001 Scholarship of the European Programme „Leonardo da Vinci“: study of the Patriarchal chancellery documents extant in the Cod. Vind. Hist. Gr. 47 in the collection of the Austrian National Library

1998-1999 M.A. Scholarship of the Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program in Medieval Studies, School of Philosophy - University of Ioannina

Member of the Austrian Byzantine Society

Member of the German Byzantine Society

Member of the Greek Byzantine Society

### **Organisation of conferences and Management**

1. Organisation and administration of the International symposium “Marginalization and subculture groups: Prostitutes, actors, and tavern-keepers in Byzantium”, Vienna, 16-17 May 2019
2. Coordination of the Project “For the sake of salvation and happiness. Studies of Byzantine pilgrimage and its origins”, at the Research Institute of Roman-Germanic Central Museum in Mainz (funded by the Leibniz Association) 2015-2016
3. Organisation and administration of the International symposium “For the sake of salvation and happiness. Byzantine pilgrimage and its Origins”, Mainz, 1-4 December 2015
4. Organisation and administration of the International symposium “Coming of Age – Adolescence and Society in Medieval Byzantium”, Vienna, 3-4 February 2014

### **Supervision / Support of Database**

#### **Byzantine Pilgrimage: Bibliographic Database**

The bibliographic database was compiled in correlation with the research project *For the sake of salvation and happiness in life: Studies on Byzantine pilgrimage and its origins* funded by the [Leibniz Association](#) from 2013-2016 at the RGZM. Academic supervision: The head of the project Dr. Despoina Ariantzi is taking care of the academic supervision. Recorded are over 1100 titles compiled by the project members and supplemented by Annika Post under supervision of Despoina Ariantzi. The bibliography will not be updated systematically after the end of the project. But it is intended to supplement important Subbibliographic data made known to us regularly. <http://www3.rgzm.de/pilgrimage.bibliography>.

#### **Languages**

Modern Greek (native), English (fluent), German (fluent), French (very good), Italian (good reading knowledge)

Ancient: Ancient and Medieval Greek (excellent), Latin (very good)

## CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

1. Ο ανάδοχος και ο ρόλος του μέσα από τους βίους των Αγίων της πρώιμης και μέσης βυζαντινής περιόδου (6ος- 11ος αι.). Έκτα συνάντηση Βυζαντινολόγων Ελλάδος και Κύπρου, Αθήνα 2005.
2. Kinderarbeit in Byzanz im Rahmen der Familie auf Grund der hagiographischen Quellen vom 6. bis zum 11. Jahrhundert“. Conference „Laetae Segetes Iterum“, Telč 2007 (Czech)
3. Σχέση παιδιού και γονέων: Μορφές έκφρασης του συναισθηματικού δεσμού παιδιού και γονέων στον καθρέφτη αγιολογικών κειμένων (6ος-11ος αιώνας). Διάλεξη στο Εργαστήρι Βυζαντινών Σπουδών του Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου. Κύκλος διαλέξεων, θερινό εξάμηνο 2010. Nicosia, 12 March 2010 (invited speaker)
4. Κατανομή του ρόλου του Πατέρα και της Μητέρας στη Βυζαντινή Οικογένεια. Διάλεξη στο συμπόσιο με θέμα „Οίκος και Πόλις: Ζητήματα φύλου από την Αρχαιότητα ως σήμερα“. Διατμηματικό μεταπτυχιακό πρόγραμμα Σπουδών Φύλου του Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου. Nicosia 8-12 November 2010 (invited speaker)
5. Evelyne Patlagean’s Ideas of Childhood: Presentation of her views and their Importance for Future Research. Conference „Réseaux familiaux à la fin de l’antiquité et au moyen âge“ in remembrance of A. Laiou et E. Patlagean. Paris, 12-13 November 2010 (invited speaker)
6. „Kinderkrankheiten“ und elterliche Reaktionen im Spiegel hagiographischer Quellen. Talk in the 23th Conference of the German Byzantine Society. Leipzig, February, 24-26, 2011
7. „Kinderkrankheiten“ und elterliche Reaktionen im Spiegel hagiographischer Quellen. Talk at the University Johannes Gutenberg of Mainz. June, 7, 2011(invited speaker)
8. Arbeitsleben und Berufsausübung bei Kindern und Jugendlichen in Byzanz. Workshop „Arbeit“ 30.11.2012 FSP Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft aus historisch-kulturwissenschaftlicher Perspektive, Universität Wien (invited speaker)

9. Beobachtungen zur byzantinischen Terminologie der Adoleszenz. Talk in the 24th Conference of the German Byzantine Society. Cologne, 31.1-2.2.2013
10. „Kindheit und Adoleszenz in Byzanz“. Vortrag im Rahmen der Vorlesung von Frau Prof. Claudia Rapp „Wirtschaft und Sozialgeschichte in Byzanz“ (Oktober 2013) (invited speaker)
11. Approaches to Byzantine Adolescence (6th -11th centuries): An Introduction. Symposium „Coming of Age – Adolescence and Society in Medieval Byzantium“ 3.- 4. February 2014, Institute for Byzantine and modern Greek Studies, Vienna University (Organiser)
12. Autonome Sozialisierung der Adoleszenten in Byzanz: Fallstudie (6.-11. Jahrhundert). Symposium „Coming of Age – Adolescence and Society in Medieval Byzantium“ 3.- 4. February 2014, Institute for Byzantine and modern Greek Studies, Vienna University (Organiser)
13. Early life of Byzantine Princess and Empresses, in: international Workshop “Lives, Roles and Actions of the Byzantine Empresses (4<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> c.), 11-12. September 2015, Slavonic institute of the Czech Academy of Science, Prague (invited speaker)
14. Das Byzantinische Pilgerwesen, in: Ringvorlesung „Auf dem Weg zu heiligen Orten“ at the Johannes Gutenberg University, October 2015, Mainz (invited speaker)
15. Byzantine Pilgrimage: An Introduction, in: international Symposium “For the Sake of Salvation and Happiness. Byzantine Pilgrimage and its Origins”, 1.-4. December 2015, RGZM – Mainz (Organiser)
16. Beobachtungen zum kaiserlichen Pilgerwesen, in: international Symposium “For the Sake of Salvation and Happiness. Byzantine Pilgrimage and its Origins”, 1.-4. December 2015, RGZM – Mainz (Organiser)
17. Jung und Alt zwischen Transformation und Tradition, in: Leibniz-WissenschaftsCampus Mainz International Conference "Transformations of City and Landscape in the Byzantine Period", 16-18 November 2016, RGZM – Mainz (invited speaker)
18. „Social history and subculture groups in Byzantium“. Lectures as a part of semester lecture of Mrs. Prof. Claudia Rapp „Economic and social history in

- Byzantium“. Department of Byzantines and Modern-Greek Studies, University of Vienna, Dezember 2017 (invited speaker)
19. Peergroups in Byzantium. 25 April 2018, National and Kapodistrian University of Athen / Faculty of Philology / Department of Byzantine Literatur and Folkloristics (invited speaker)
  20. Marginalization und subcultur groups in Byzantium, 29 May 2018 in National Hellenic Research Foundation / Institut of historical Research, Athen (invited speaker)
  21. „Children, youth and subculture groups in Byzantium“. Lectures as a part of semester lecture of Mrs. Prof. B. Hamarneh, Institute of Classical Archeology, University of Vienna, June 2019 (invited speaker)
  22. D. Ariantzi, „Children, youth and subculture groups in Byzantium“. Lectures as a part of semester lecture of Mrs. Prof. Basema Hamarneh, Institute of Classical Archeology, University of Vienna, June 2019
  23. Approaches to „Marginalization and subculture groups: Prostitutes, actors, and tavern-keepers in Byzantium Byzantine Adolescence: An Introduction. International Symposium „Marginalization and subculture groups: Prostitutes, actors, and tavern-keepers in Byzantium Coming“ 16-17 May 2019, Institute for Byzantine and modern Greek Studies, Vienna University (Organiser)
  24. Frauen am Hof der makedonischen Dynastie: in international Conference zum Thema Frauen im Umfeld des Herrschers. Herrschaft im interkulturellen Vergleich 21-22.10. 2019 Akademie der Wissenschaften und Literatur, Mainz.