



DANUBIUS  
ANR-JCJC n° 18-CE27-0008  
I-SITE ULNE EXPAND 2017

Organisation ecclésiastique et topographie chrétienne du Bas-Danube pendant l'Antiquité tardive (III<sup>e</sup>-VIII<sup>e</sup> siècle) / Ecclesiastical Organisation and Christian Topography of the Lower Danube during Late Antiquity (3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Century)

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## Call for Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Late Antiquity

### *Prosopography and Epigraphy*

(University of Lille, France /  
HALMA-UMR 8164 research unit), 10 months

#### **DANUBIUS. Ecclesiastical Organisation and Christian Topography of the Lower Danube during Late Antiquity (3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Centuries)**

The DANUBIUS project, funded by the ANR and the I-SITE ULNE Foundation for the period 2018-2021, and which is hosted by the University of Lille, within the HALMA-UMR 8164 research unit, offers **one (1) Postdoc Fellowship** in the field of Christian prosopography and epigraphy, starting in October 2019. This position is limited to **10 months**.

Postdoctoral offer in Humanities and Social Sciences

Required degree: Ph.D. (mandatory)

Type of contract: Fixed-term contract

Duration: 10 months

Desired start: 2019-10-01 (negotiable)

Type of contract: full-time

Remuneration: Gross monthly salary from 2,603.09 euros/month

#### **Context and Work Environment:**

The candidate appointed will work in the HALMA-UMR 8164 research centre, located in Villeneuve d'Ascq (France), within the DANUBIUS project. The work will be carried out in collaboration with the members of the centre involved in the project, mainly: Ivan Gargano, PhD student at the University of Lille and the Pontificio Istituto di Archeologia Cristiana, doctoral fellow of the DANUBIUS project; Dominic Moreau, associate professor/permanent lecturer in Late Antiquity at the University of Lille, scientific coordinator of the project; and a second postdoctoral fellow, to be recruited.

#### **Description of the DANUBIUS Project**

The DANUBIUS project proposes to study the Christianisation of the Lower Danube, between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup> centuries AD. That research topic has not resulted in any complete synthesis since Jacques Zeiller's *Les origines chrétiennes dans les provinces danubiennes de l'Empire romain* (Paris, 1918). The project presented here – which is the first stage of a long-term international and interdisciplinary research program – will thus reconsider the question in the light of the scientific advances made in the last hundred years, both in terms of history and archaeology, for a better understanding of the simultaneous evolution of its ecclesiastical organisation and



Christian topography. At first, the project will, however, focus more on the last reaches of the Danube to be lost by Constantinople, which is also the part of the river which is best documented from literary sources, *viz.* the Lower Danube (the Late Roman provinces of *Dacia Ripensis*, *Moesia Secunda* and *Scythia*). To do so, it will develop a geographic information system (GIS) model of the episcopal sees and other Christian sites, structured around three axes. The first axis foresees the compilation of a database of the written and material evidence of Christianisation. The second axis is planned around the archaeological explorations of a little-known Late Roman site, *viz.* Zaldapa (Krushari, Bulgaria), which may be unique in being the only episcopal see of the region planted in an agglomeration that predates the Romans. The third axis, proceeding from part of the documentation collected in the other two, intends to offer a prosopography, as the first step towards the publication of the Balkan volumes of the *Prosopographie chrétienne du Bas-Empire* (PCBE) series. Globally, this collection of data and case studies will be the laboratory for innovative conceptual tools and a new synthesis. For more information about the DANUBIUS project, cf. <https://danubius.huma-num.fr>.

### **Job Description:**

The main functions of this position will be contributing to the prosopographical database on the *Dioecesis Thraciarum*, as well as the database of epigraphic sources on the Christianisation of the Lower Danube, between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> centuries. It should be noted that the authorship of this work done on behalf of the DANUBIUS project will be recognized and fully attributed to the post-doctoral fellow and to none other.

The candidate appointed will also be invited:

- to be actively involved in the International Archaeological Mission at Zaldapa, according to his skills and experiences (usual campaign period: July).
- to represent the DANUBIUS project in the context of conferences or workshops, in France or abroad (especially in Eastern Europe).

It should be noted that the candidate appointed will be perfectly able to develop his personal research, as long as this activity does not have a tangible impact on his/her duties in his principal functions.

### **Conditions of Eligibility:**

- Relevant PhD degree in Late Roman History (a dissertation topic on Ancient Christianity would be a real asset, without being an obligation).
- Interest in the main topic and digital humanities (knowledge of geomatics – GIS models – would be an asset, without being an obligation).
- Willingness to work on a highly interdisciplinary, collaborative and international research project.
- Competences in epigraphy, and knowledge of its bibliography and its issues.
- Knowledge of Ancient Greek and Latin.
- Proficiency in French and English (level B/C).
- Knowledge, even rudimentary, of German, Serbian, Bulgarian and/or Romanian would be an asset.

### **Application File:**

- Cover letter
- C.V.
- Proof of PhD degree (with the mark or the Latin honours received)
- A sample of work (publication)
- Two letters of recommendation

Complete applications are to be submitted by **1 June 2019**, by e-mail, in PDF, to both following addresses: [dominic.moreau@univ-lille.fr](mailto:dominic.moreau@univ-lille.fr) and [marie-pierre.sampson@univ-lille.fr](mailto:marie-pierre.sampson@univ-lille.fr).

The recruitment commission will meet a first time to shortlist the applications, and those which have been selected will be promptly invited to an interview by videoconference, which will take place in the second half of June.