

**Croatian Institute of History is pleased to invite you to participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> Triennial  
Scholarly Conference**

***Towns and Cities of the Croatian Middle Ages: The City and the Church***

**to be held on October 22-23, October 2019 in Zagreb  
in the Golden Hall of the Croatian Institute for History**

Dear colleagues,

Next year, the 4<sup>th</sup> Triennial Scholarly Conference “**Towns and Cities of the Croatian Middle Ages**” will be held at the Croatian Institute of History in Zagreb, a traditional gathering of scholars having the medieval city as their research interest. On this occasion, we will focus on the important and complex topic of “**The City and the Church**”, which is also the subtitle of the conference.

The Church was undoubtedly one of the crucial elements in the formation of medieval cities and their identities, and its influence on the daily life of the city, both public and private, was enormous. As Church institutions were very diverse, the nature of their impact varied accordingly, whether exerted by bishops or canons, parish priests or members of different monastic orders. Some ecclesiastical institutions were owners of large areas in the city, and thus significantly influenced its territorial organization. The Church also acted as the founder or master of some medieval cities. Thus, the role of the Church in the city was defined by various factors – depending on the period in question with its specific geopolitical and local circumstances.

With their architecture and topography, urban churches and monasteries were often the landmarks and symbols of urban space. They undoubtedly played an important social, political and economic role in the city: as repositories for the nobility, shelters for the needy, seats of confraternities, pilgrimage destinations, sites of ceremonies, places of decision-making or preservation of archival records as the visible traces of collective memory and communitarian identity. With their rules, ecclesiastical institutions imposed order and defined the daily, weekly, and annual rhythm of the city. The relationship between the Church and its dignitaries on the one side, and different groups in the city on the other – whether ruling,

marginal, or professional, as well as non-Christians – is an equally important segment when it comes to understanding the medieval city.

The role of the Church in the medieval city can only be understood through the complex, interdisciplinary approach of historians, urban geographers, archaeologists, art historians, literary historians and, of course, Church historians, which is what we are aiming at with the organization of the conference we are inviting you to attend.

Topics of interest for the 2019 conference include:

- Interaction between the clergy and secular urban population
- The role of church buildings in the formation and development of urban space
- The role of ecclesiastical institutions in the organization of urban life (religious, social, economic, political, cultural, educational)
- The role of the Church in shaping urban identities
- Relationships between the diocesan clergy and the religious orders in urban context
- Specificities of episcopal cities (seats of bishoprics and chapters, cities owned by bishops)
- religious orders in cities and towns
- “Secondary” ecclesiastical institutions (hospitals, confraternities, etc.) and urban societies

In accordance with our previous practice, we are planning to publish the papers in the Proceedings volume of the Triennial, in English.

If you would like to apply for participation, please **complete the attached form and send it to us by e-mail at [irenabenyovsky@yahoo.com](mailto:irenabenyovsky@yahoo.com) or [zrinka.pesorda@zg.t-com.hr](mailto:zrinka.pesorda@zg.t-com.hr)**. **The deadline for submitting the working title is February 15, 2019.** Presentations should not exceed 20 minutes. Applicants will be informed on the selection results, based on the decision of the Scholarly Committee of the Conference, by February 28, 2019 at the latest.

We are looking forward to your proposals!

Zagreb, January 9, 2018

Dr. sc. Irena Benyovsky Latin

Dr. sc. Zrinka Pešorda Vardić

**Conference organizers**

**Scholarly Committee of the Conference:**

Dr. sc. Stanko Andrić

Dr. sc. Irena Benyovsky Latin

Dr. sc. Gordan Ravančić

Dr. sc. Zdenka Janeković Römer

Dr. sc. Zrinka Pešorda Vardić

Dr. sc. Trpimir Vedriš

**Scholarly Conference**

*Towns and Cities of the Croatian Middle Ages: The City and the Church*

**Zagreb, Golden Hall of the Croatian Institute for History, 22-23 October 2019**

Please complete the attached form and send it by e-mail at [irenabenyovsky@yahoo.com](mailto:irenabenyovsky@yahoo.com) or [zrinka.pesorda@zg.t-com.hr](mailto:zrinka.pesorda@zg.t-com.hr), by February 1, 2019 at the latest.

**Application Form**

Full name:

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Affiliation:

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Address:

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E-mail:

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Title of your paper:

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Summary (max. 150 words)

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