

Call for abstracts

Session 7.

What about us?

Exploring the lives of women and children on the Frontiers

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the XXIV International Limes Congress, which will be organized by the Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade. The Congress will take place in Belgrade and Viminacium, from Sunday 2nd to Sunday 9th of September 2018. For more information about the Congress visit the official website <http://limes2018.org/>

The theme for the 7th session of the Congress is: *What about us? Exploring the lives of women and children on the Frontiers*

The chairwoman of the session is Elizabeth Greene (University of Western Ontario, Canada), with Jelena Anđelković Grašar, Milica Marjanović and Ilija Danković (Institute of archaeology, Belgrade) partaking in the organization.

You are welcomed to contribute to the session, both with oral and poster presentations. Abstracts should be written in English and should not exceed 400 words. Please, fill out the registration form available on the official website and send your proposals to limescongress.serbia@gmail.com and egreene2@uwo.ca before March 31st 2018.



What about us? Exploring the lives of women and children on the Frontiers

The last three Limes Congresses have featured papers focusing on the role of women, children and families living on the frontiers in both military and civilian contexts in order to address the imbalanced preoccupation with topics related to the “male domain.” The last three decades generally have seen a great deal of attention being paid to the critique of this approach and considerable efforts were made towards exploring aspects of private life and studying population groups other than the ruling male elites and soldiers. Regardless, several important issues remain unexplored. Certain geographical areas of the Roman limes were left out of this research trend to date, and we are at times still left with the continuation of gender and age stereotypes, as well as incorrect attribution and interpretation of various artefacts.

This session strives to address some of these issues by focusing on aspects of private life and social relations on the limes, with emphasis on the lives of women and children. Taking into account archaeological data, historical sources and epigraphic monuments, bioarchaeological analysis and visual culture, we will try to advance our knowledge on the subject and address some of the topics and geographical areas missing from research up to this point. We hope especially to provide a venue to incorporate new data from emerging archaeological research into the current debate on this matter. Paper topics may include but are not limited to: How were families organized and what were the various social roles and routines of family members at various life stages? How was identity constructed through dress, actions and familial role of different members of the family? How did civilian, military or transient families differ or do they live similarly in the context of frontier life? How did other characteristics such as status, wealth and occupation affect the lived experience of these individuals? We hope that papers will incorporate diachronic and comparative analyses as life on the limes changed because of migration, warfare, conquest, and shifting political and economic endeavors.

We encourage multidisciplinary approaches, so scientists from different disciplines – archaeologists, bioarchaeologists, epigraphists, historians, art historians and others – are welcome to contribute to the session.

