



CALL FOR PAPERS

Feminine contributions to spiritual thought in Byzantium: women in the religious landscape

EuARe – European Academy of Religions

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This panel explored the role of women in Eastern Roman spiritual thought and proceeds from a peculiarity of the Byzantine social theory: a profound optimism that is reflected in the important role of women in the public religious life and particularly of the *Basilissa*. The female social role is confirmed by the important acts of evergetism to the Church and the foundation of many churches and monasteries that haven't only family character. On the other hand, we consider that the female saints are protagonists of the spiritual landscape of the *Basileia*. The Virgin, the great patron of the city, boasts many sanctuaries at Constantinople, and numerous churches were dedicated to her throughout the Empire. The same is true for female saints, in particular for the martyrs, and the churches dedicated to them are concentrated in the capital, which enjoys female protection.

Proposals may encompass

The cult of female saint in Byzantium.

Female sanctuaries in Constantinople and *Basileia*.

The Virgin, Patron of Constantinople.

Relics and icons in feminine devotion.

Imperial feminine spirituality.

Imperial feminine saints.

Noblewoman saint.

The *Basilissa* and the Church.

Plutocrats women and the ecclesiastic evergetism.

Feminine monastery in Byzantine culture.

Orthodox nuns on immaterial and material culture.

Feminine mystic tradition.

Interested scholars can send a short proposal including a title, an academic biography, and a 300-word abstract to apiocosmo@outlook.it by 15 February 2024. The email address is also available for further information