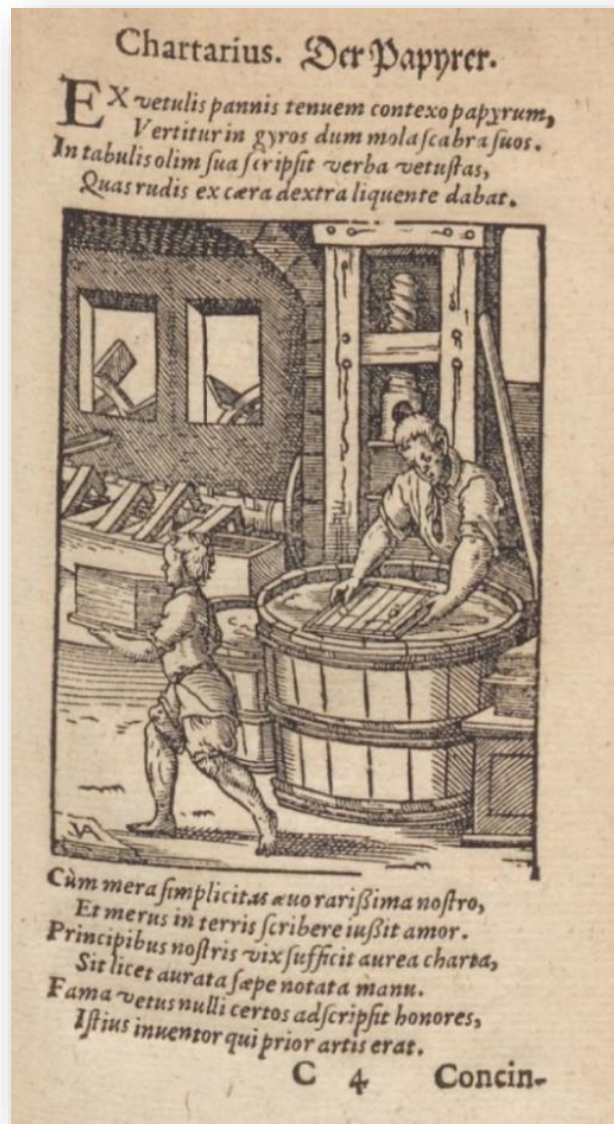


PAPER: MATERIAL AND SEMIOTIC MOBILITY ACROSS THE GLOBAL MEDITERRANEAN

PIMO SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE
UNIVERSITY OF GRANADA, JANUARY 28-29 2021



The Paper in Motion Work Group is part of the COST Action CA18140 PIMo (<http://www.peopleinmotion-costaction.org/>) and seeks to look into paper as a medium for the codification and exchange of information, ideas, emotions and value.

Our conference in Granada (January 28-29, 2021) will focus upon the material and semiotic mobility of paper: its nature, the conditions for its production, distribution and use, alongside its symbolic dimension. We intend to establish a series of methodological foundations for an approach to paper as a material vehicle for the construction and communication of culture(s), both within and beyond the Mediterranean, in all their heterogeneous dimensions and as a trope for the many different sorts of activities that relied on this medium as their material repository and facilitator. We will also explore how this materiality contributed, alongside new technologies like print, to the development of communities and communication networks that facilitated the circulation of people, ideas and objects within the geo-cultural spaces of an increasingly globalized Mediterranean.

We shall also focus on the relations between paper and power, with the emergence of the macroeconomic and complex administrative structures that resulted from the gradual expansion of trade and finance on a global level, on the one hand, and on the other the creation of the modern state and the establishment of paths for imperial expansion through exploration and conquest, which depended for its administration on a sophisticated bureaucratic machine based on the use of paper. In short, we can talk about a new era of state administration by paper, but also a new age of paper money and paper-based financial exchanges facilitated by the so-called paper revolution which took off towards the end of the Middle Ages.

Like people, ideas and objects, paper also became subject to displacement and movement: travellers, diplomats, merchants, and collectors, among others, engaged in the circulation of important documents and books. Alongside falsification, theft and exchange, paper also became the victim of violent elimination and cultural appropriation through practices that went from collection to censorship.

Epistolography is one of the most versatile and productive uses of paper as a medium. In the private realm it facilitated exchange of familiar or intimate letters, which soon became the discursive pattern for the exchange of emotions. As postal systems developed, these originally private texts soon became public as letter-writing evolved into a genre that contributed, for example, to the genealogical origins of the modern novel as the expression of the private and public life of the modern subject.

Part of the private information shared by early modern communities of diplomats and merchants in the format of the newsletter gradually became public and ended up creating the first news networks. Last, but not least, epistolary exchange between philosophers, scholars and scientists contributed to the creation of international communities for the exchange of ideas and of knowledge, in the realms of technology and the humanities.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

JANUARY 28TH

9:15 – 9:30

Opening remarks – Giovanni Tarantino, Chair of the PIMo COST Action

9:30 – 9:45

Opening remarks – José María Pérez Fernández, conference organizer and leader of WG3 “Paper in Motion”

10:00 – 11:00

Keynote

Lothar Müller – The Birth of the Newspaper. The Paper Revolution in Early Modern Europe and the Rise of the Public Sphere

Chair: José María Pérez Fernández

11:30 – 13:00

José María Pérez Fernández – Intelligence, Propaganda, News: Documentary Genres and Information Management in Early Modern Europe

Daniel Bellingradt – Moving materials. On the Hidden Flows of the Paper Business in Early Modern Europe

Dana Caciur – The Men who Carried the Letters. Small Agents of Big Diplomacy in Dalmatia and Wallachia (16th century)

Chair: Orietta da Rold

15:00 – 16:30

Michaela Valente – A Dangerous Book in the War of Papers (Venice, 1611)

Luisa Simonutti – The “Magliabechi case”: some Islamic Manuscripts in Baroque Europe

Ann Thomson – From Granada to London via Barbary

Chair: Giovanni Tarantino

17:00 – 18:30

Nadezhda Alexandrova – From Romania to Russia and never back “Home”: the Peculiar Travels of the Bulgarian Translation of Dimitrie Cantemir’s *The System of Muhammedan Religion*

Oded Cohen – “For this Wisdom has been Hidden for Many Years”: Rare Manuscripts and Printed Books in the Transition between The Land of Israel and Amsterdam

Randi Deguilhem – The Value of the Written Word: Waqf Endowments Enshrined on Paper in the Ottoman Legal System

Chair: Rossitsa Gradeva

JANUARY 29TH

9:30 – 11:00

Claire Bustarret – Mobility of the Paper Medium and Dynamics of Writing in Montesquieu’s Drafts

José Alberto R. Silva Tavim – The Baroque Writer Manuel de Leão at the End of the Eighteenth Century: Emotional Despair in an Unpublished and Strikingly Stylistic Set of Letters

Alessandra Chessa – Asbestos Paper and the Rise of Paper Technology

Chair: Daniel Bellingradt

11:30 – 13:00

Ana Struillou – ‘Un libro Para Mover Tempestades’: Trajectories of an Ottoman Travel Account in Sixteenth-Century Menorca

Ian Hathaway – Informing, Controlling, Protecting: Sixteenth-Century Mediterranean Travel Patents as Vehicles of Diplomatic and Administrative Communication

Ela Bozok – What Letters Reveal: “An Interpreter, a Diplomat, and a Friend”. Dragoman Ali Bey and Early Sixteenth Century Cross-Cultural Relations in the Eastern Mediterranean

Chair: José María Pérez Fernández

15:00 – 16:30

Tulay Artan – Kağıdhane (the Paper Mill): Myths and Realities about Paper Production in Istanbul, the Capital of a Paper Empire

Rossitsa Gradeva – Paper Consumption and Circulation in the Ottoman Balkans: the View from Sofia in the 17th and 18th Centuries

Rosita D'Amora – The Bureaucracy of Freedom: The Papers Bringing Captives Home. A view from 17th-century Naples

Chair: Nadehzda Alexandrova.

17:00 – 18:30

Jordan Avramov – Henry Oldenburg and the Iberian Correspondence of the Early Royal Society of London

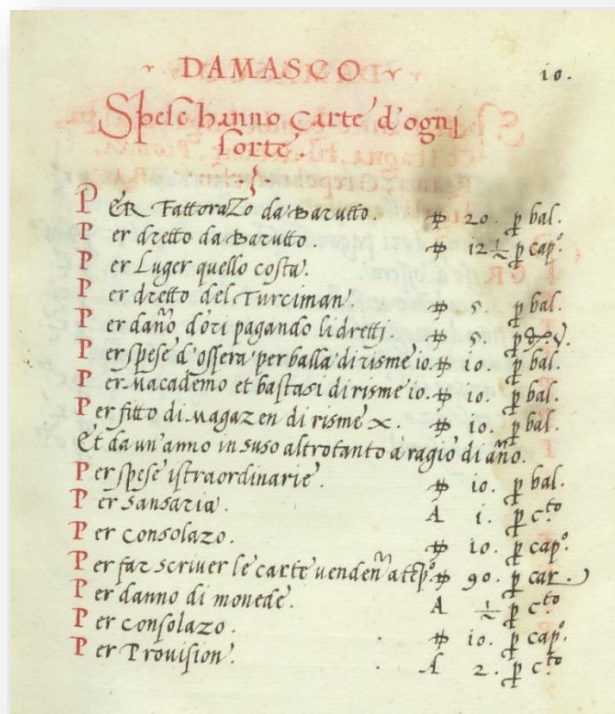
Iva Lelková – How paper traveled between Rome and Prague: Athanasius Kircher and his correspondence with the Czech lands

Vanda Anastácio – The Stories Paper Tells: One Look at the Paper used by the Alorna Family during the Years of Incarceration (1769-1777)

Chair: Claire Bustarret

18:30 – 19:00

Final remarks: Giovanni Tarantino and José María Pérez Fernández



Tariffe mercantili del Levante. 16th-c. Ms, fol. 10r. 'Damasco Spese: hanno Carte d'ogni sorte' (Biblioteca Riccardiana 2523, with permission)