

ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES ÉTUDES BYZANTINES

Report of the AIEB Development Commission 2022-2024, for the Inter-Congress Athens

Since the 24th International Congress of Byzantine Studies in 2022, a significant change in the composition of the Development Commission took place: in the summer of 2023, half of the commission members (active since the 2011 Congress) resigned. Furthermore, in November 2023, Sergei Mariev, acting as coordinator of the commission since 2011, stepped down.

In agreement with the president and the Bureau of the AIEB (and according to the *Regulations for the management and functioning of Commissions of the AIEB*, see <https://aiebnet.gr/commissions/>), the remaining commission members declared themselves ready to serve for a third period until the 2026 International Congress of Byzantine Studies. Of these members, Gerasimos Merianos and Ioannis Eliades took over the **editorship of the AIEB Newsletter** from Sergei Mariev and Annick Peters-Custot with the turn of the year, starting with the issue for January 2024 (<https://aiebnet.gr/newsletter-main/>). At the same time, Johannes Preiser-Kapeller unanimously took over the coordination of the commission.

Furthermore, again in agreement with the AIEB Bureau and according to the regulations, **an open call for applications for membership** was circulated online via the national committees, the AIEB Newsletter, and various social media channels, from November 2023 until a deadline of 31 January 2024. After a thorough evaluation of all applications submitted until that deadline, an **election of nine new members** took place in an online assembly of the Development Commission (based on a simple majority vote according to the AIEB regulations) on **13 February 2024**. After approval by the AIEB Bureau, the new list of members of the Development Commission was published on the AIEB website.

As of March 2024, the AIEB Development Commission consists of the following members:

BARONE, Francesca Prometea, Directrice de recherche au CNRS (Paris) [francesca.barone@college-de-france.fr]

BOUTZIOPOULOS, Gavril-Ioannis, PhD Candidate at the Univ. of Birmingham [GIB754@student.bham.ac.uk]

ELAGINA, Daria, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Univ. of Hamburg [daria.elagina@uni-hamburg.de]

ELIADES, Ioannis, Director of the Byzantine Museum of the Archbishop Makarios III Foundation (Nicosia) [ioanniseliades@gmail.com]

KELAIDIS, Katherine, Director of Research and Content at the National Hellenic Museum Illinois [kkelaidis@hellenicmuseum.org]

MERIANOS, Gerasimos, Senior Researcher at the Institute for Historical Research of the National Hellenic Research Foundation (Athens) [gmerianos@eie.gr]

MILANOVIC, Ljubomir, Senior Researcher at the Institute for Byzantine Studies, Serbian Academy of Science and Art [milanovic.ljubomir@gmail.com]

OLGUN, Zeynep, PhD Candidate at the Univ. of Cambridge [zo221@cam.ac.uk]

PAVLOVIC, Bojana, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Institute for Byzantine Studies of the Serbian Academy of Sciences [bojana.pavlovic85@gmail.com]

PETROU, Elias, Assistant Professor of Classical Studies at the Univ. of Illinois [epetrou@illinois.edu]

PREISER-KAPPELLER, Johannes, Deputy Head of the Dept. of Byzantine Research/Institute of Medieval Research of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (Vienna) (**coordinator**) [johannes.preiser-kapeller@oeaw.ac.at]

THOMAS, Maria S., PhD Candidate at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam [maria.thoms03@gmail.com]

TSIAMI, Zoe, PhD Candidate at the Univ. of Thessaly [zotsiami@uth.gr]

WHATELY, Conor, Professor of Classics, The University of Winnipeg [c.whately@uwinnipeg.ca]

This “new” Development Commission constituted itself in an **online assembly on 12 March 2024** and decided to create **four working groups** for the current and future tasks (as discussed before with the AIEB Bureau):

- **the editorship and further development of the AIEB-Newsletter** (in coordination with other existing newsletters on Byzantine scholarship, as is already done)
- **the renewal of the AIEB-Website in terms of technology and content**, including the *List of Editions and Translations* (<https://aiebnet.gr/list-of-editions-and-translations/>) and *List of Current and Recently Completed PhD-Projects* (<https://aiebnet.gr/current-and-recently-completed-phd-projects/>), hitherto curated by the Development Commission
- **the development of a possible social media presence of the AIEB** (facebook – in continuation of the site for the 24th ICBS in Venice, twitter/X, Instagram, etc.; in close coordination with the bureau, see also below)
- **activities of the Development Commission at the International Congress 2026** (in support of young scholars, such as an “opportunity forum” [job and grant application options, as already organised at the 24th ICBS in Venice] and a “digital humanities workshop”)

Each working group is coordinated by one or two members of the commission; each commission member can participate in as many working groups as they like– since all these tasks are entangled to different degrees.

Furthermore, the working groups will of course coordinate their plans and activities with the AIEB bureau (following the bureau’s guidelines especially regarding the organisational, financial and legal framework for the AIEB’s online presentation, both via the website and possibly via social media) – respectively with the organisation committee for the 2026 Congress in Vienna for planning activities there.

On this basis, the Development Commission hopes to have made significant progress in the fulfilment of the above-mentioned tasks until the 25 International Congress of Byzantine Studies in August 2026.

On behalf of all members of the AIEB Development Commission,



Johannes Preiser-Kapeller (coordinator),

27 March 2024