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# PATRIMONIVM

**Assessing the local and the global  
socio-economic impact of the imperial  
properties in the Roman world  
(from Augustus to Diocletian)**

ERC Starting Grant 2016  
Interview  
Bruxelles, 23 June 2016





A history of the properties of the Roman emperors  
cannot be written

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cannot be written »

Fergus Millar, *The emperor in the Roman World*, London 1977, p. 175

# ROMAN EMPIRE, AD 117





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# ROMAN EMPIRE, AD 117





# A NATURAL DEVELOPMENT OF MY RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Doctoral research: the exercise of the imperial power on the provinces**
  - Monograph : *Cura et tutela : l'origine del potere imperiale sulle province proconsolari*, Historia Einzelschriften 227 (Stuttgart, Franz Steiner Verlag, 2014)
- **Postdoctoral research: the geography and economy of the imperial properties in Roman Asia Minor**
  - Fellowships in Cologne, Milan, Paris (2010-2014)
  - Marie Curie IEF Fellowship (2014-2016). Project: *LanCRAM*
- **Extension to the remaining provinces of the Empire**
  - Permanent lectureship, University of Bordeaux Montaigne (from September 2016)



# A GLOBAL APPROACH







# Residences



# Land & Natural resources





# A GLOBAL APPROACH



Residences



Land & Natural  
resources



Slaves &  
Freedmen



# A GLOBAL APPROACH



Residences

The image shows the ruins of the Temple of Apollo in Side, Turkey. The temple's facade is partially reconstructed, featuring several large, arched openings supported by columns. Statues of figures in classical attire are positioned within the arches. The entire scene is reflected in a pool of water in the foreground.



Land & Natural  
resources

The image displays a large pile of rough, grey stones and rubble, likely remnants of ancient architecture or natural rock formations. The stones are of various sizes and shapes, some showing signs of weathering.



Slaves &  
Freedmen

The image is a marble relief sculpture depicting three men. The man on the left is wearing a draped garment. The man in the center has a mustache and is wearing a striped tunic. The man on the right is also wearing a striped tunic. Below the figures, there is Latin inscriptions: "CLODIVS STERTIVS · A · CLODIVS METRODORVS · CLODIVS ABILAS · A · MEDICVS" and "A · MEDICVS".

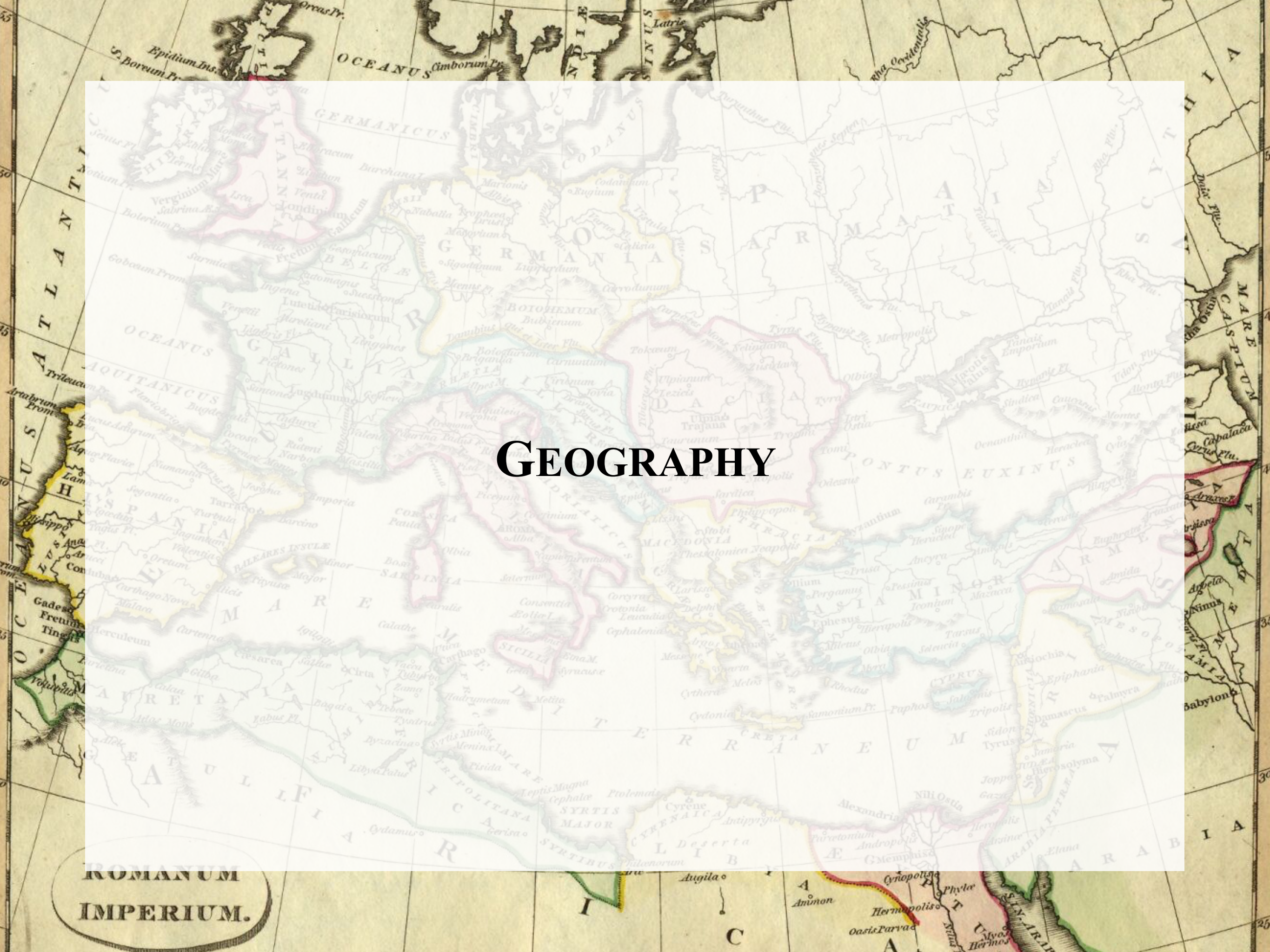


Money

The image shows a large pile of ancient coins, likely Roman or Greek, scattered across the surface. The coins are of various denominations and are mostly made of gold or silver, with some showing signs of corrosion or discoloration.



# GEOGRAPHY







# GEOGRAPHY

- Understanding the geographical distribution of the properties and its historical development
- Making use of the local context to understand the patterns of acquisition
- Making a large number of georeferenced data available to the scientific community





# ECONOMY



# **ECONOMY**

- **Assessing the economic value and the impact of the imperial properties within their local context**
- **Highlighting the contribution of the imperial properties to the economic integration of the Empire**
- **Investigating the part converted into credit**





**PEOPLE**



The background of the slide is a collage of ancient Roman reliefs. At the top, there's a fragment of a relief showing architectural details like columns and arches. Below this, a large, detailed relief depicts a group of people in classical Roman attire, possibly in a public or official setting. To the right, another relief shows a profile of a man's head. The bottom of the slide features a relief of a chariot or a similar vehicle. The entire background is in a sepia or aged tone, with a semi-transparent white box in the center containing the text.

# PEOPLE

- **Studying the variegated social world connected to the imperial properties**
- **Demonstrating the prominent role played by imperial freedmen in the development of the *patrimonium Caesaris***
- **Understanding the role of the imperial properties as a factor of human mobility**



A classical marble relief sculpture, likely from the Parthenon, depicting a group of figures in a chariot and on foot. The central figure is a woman, possibly Athena, seated in a chariot and holding a spear. To her left, a man stands holding a bow. To her right, another man stands holding a spear. In the foreground, a group of figures are engaged in a battle or a hunt, with some figures falling. The word "POWER" is overlaid in the center of the image.

**POWER**





# POWER

- **Assessing the part of the Roman economy influenced or determined by the patrimonial choices of the Emperor**
- **Deepening our insight into the multifaceted relation between personal wealth, economic influence and political power**
- **Opening new avenues of investigation about the nature of patrimonial powers in different ages and cultures**





# THE RESEARCH TEAM





# **THE RESEARCH TEAM**

**Principal Investigator**

**Web Engineer**

**Four postdoctoral fellows**



A landscape photograph showing a wide, flat field in the foreground, possibly a plowed field or a dry lake bed, with a textured surface of light brown and grey. In the background, there are rolling hills and a prominent, flat-topped ridge. The sky is filled with large, white, fluffy clouds. The word "OUTPUT" is centered in the middle of the image in a large, black, serif font.

OUTPUT



# OUTPUT

Online Database



# OUTPUT

Online Database

Sourcebook



# OUTPUT

Online Database

Sourcebook

Proceedings of the Workshops



# **OUTPUT**

Online Database

Sourcebook

Proceedings of the Workshops

**History of the Imperial Properties in the Roman World**