



NEWSLETTER

October 2017

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ESRS WANTED

First, we must announce that two of our ESRs are no longer working in the ITN. It was a pleasure to collaborate with them during the first year, and we wish them good luck in their future careers. As earlier announced via email, two new ESRs are currently being recruited – one for a project on *Origen and Bernard on Clairvaux*, the other on *Origen and the Protestant tradition*. If you have an eligible candidate in mind, do not hesitate to guide him or her to our homepage: <http://itn-humanfreedom.eu/available-researcher-positions-call-for-applications/>.

The deadline for applications is October 13, 2017.

NEWS FROM THE PHD FELLOWS



UCSC Library

“One of the usual questions I hear from meeting people familiar with European ITN projects (which have special rules requiring European-wide mobility) is: how is it that you, an Italian citizen, are doing your PhD at an Italian university?” This is how the report from Andrea Bianchi begins. If you want to know the answer to this question and to learn more about his life as an ESR in Milan, follow [this link](#).

This summer, ESR Johannes Renders presented a paper at the International Society for the Sociology of Religion conference with the theme Cooperation and Conflict in Diverse Societies. This is now available as an audio. In his paper, he tried to tackle some theoretic-methodological issues encountered during the first year of his PhD project “The discourse on human freedom among Muslim Danes”, and offered a reflection on the benefits and limits of a “Foucauldian gaze” in an anthropological-ethnographic study of religion. Learn more about the insights he gained and find a link to the audio [his presentation](#).

Find earlier ESR reports and videos on our [website](#).



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No. 676258.



SEMINARS, COURSES AND CONFERENCES

In June, ESRs, supervisors, members from the Scientific Advisory Board as well as a group of associated researchers met in Aarhus for the Extra Seminar. Here, they discussed some of the central concepts in the research – ‘Western’, ‘Freedom’ and ‘Dignity’. Moreover, a consultant from AU Career treated the ESRs to a session on job market advice. The seminar also included a session on reception and network theory and methods and how this can be applied in practice. In the afternoon, three workshops centered on the ESRs' own work with these theories and methods. Elisa Zocchi has shared her experiences of the event in a report, which you can find [here](#).



Workshop on the Extra Seminar

Following immediately after the Extra seminar was a course in Sociological Theory and Methods for Humanities. The participants gained focused insight into especially Bourdieu and Foucault, how to do humanistic research based on sociological investigations, how to combine theological and philosophical research with sociological investigations, and training in applying the sociological theory on texts. The course included both lectures with discussions as well as workshop sessions, and the organizers, ESR Johannes Renders and his supervisor Prof. Lene Kühle, had invited two external experts in this field – Profs. Jeremy Carrette and Douglas Davies from England – to give several intriguing lectures.



June was a busy month, as this was also the time for the 12th international Origeniana conference, taking place in Jerusalem. Two of the senior researchers in the ITN had arranged a panel within the ITN framework at the Origeniana conference in Jerusalem with a focus on the Body and Soul in Origen's theology. The ESRs Andrea, Elisa Z., Johannes, Josh and Karen attended the conference, and they have written about their experiences in [this report](#). Three of the keynote lectures from the conference were recorded. Click [here](#) if you want to learn more about the following topics:

- "Origen and His Legacy in the Holy Land: Fortune and Misfortune of a Literary and Theological Heritage" (by Prof. Lorenzo Perrone, University of Bologna)
- "Jerome's appropriation of Origen in his Pauline commentaries" (by Prof. Andrew Cain, University of Colorado)
- "Jerome in the Holy Land: The Legacy of Origen and the Legacy of the Jews" (by Dr. Hillel Newman, University of Haifa).



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FRANCKESCHE
STIFTUNGEN
ZU HALLE

In August, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and the Francke Foundations arranged an [introductory course](#) on consulting manuscripts and early books and prints. Among other things, the participants learned how to read and handle 18th-century letters, orphan house registers and other original manuscripts.

OTHER RESEARCH NEWS

The ITN network coordinator, Prof. Anders-Christian Jacobsen, was appointed Honorary Professor at the Argentinian Universidad Católica de Cuyo in San Juan, in March 2017. In September 2017, Prof. Dr. Daniel Cyranka was elected to the Executive Board of the Academic Society for Theology. Read more about the appointments [here](#).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

What (where)	Date and time	Confirm participation
SB meeting and ITN Midterm review meeting (WWU, Münster)	October 18-19, 2017	Closed
Open PhD Course: Origen's philosophy of freedom in early modern/modern times (WWU, Münster). Find the program here	October 19-21, 2017	Closed
Workshop – 1 st Colloquium Adamantianum: Divine and Human Freedom. The Philosophical Significance of the Church Father Origen (Cambridge). Program and information here	October 23, 2017	Not necessary
Open PhD course: Human Freedom and Dignity in Human Resource Management – Bridging Theology, Philosophy and Organizational Studies (AU, Aarhus). Program	November 29- December 1, 2017	Register via this link: http://phdcourses.dk/Course/59113#.WcEBgMhJaUk Deadline: October 31, 2017
ITN seminar on AAR Annual Meeting: and the Roots of Human	Nov. 18-21, 2017	Open (no deadline): https://www.aarweb.org/annual-meeting/registration-housing



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THE HISTORY OF HUMAN FREEDOM AND DIGNITY IN WESTERN CIVILIZATION



Freedom and Human Dignity in the West (Boston)		
ITN Network-wide seminar 2 (MLU, Halle)	February 25-March 1, 2018	Mandatory for ITN supervisors and ESRs: partner organizations and SAB are invited. Information will follow
PhD course: Human freedom and dignity in Palestine (CUNI, Dar al-Kalima College of Arts and Culture in Palestine)	April 15-20, 2018	Closed. To be put on a waiting list if any available seats should turn up due to cancellations, write to bb@cas.au.dk

Remember to keep us updated about news you would like to share. This includes anything related to the project's research, to Origen and to the theme of human freedom and dignity. We post news, events, publications and other matters related to our research theme on the project's website www.itn-humanfreedom.eu, on our social media profiles and in this newsletter. Send your news to bb@cas.au.dk.



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