

Managing Territory in Roman Times: *Road Networks, Fortifications and Territorial Control*

This workshop wants to analyze the dynamics of territorial management that enable Rome to maintain its power on a regional scale. We propose a study of the infrastructure that supported this management (roads, fortifications and settlements), understood not only as specific elements of transport or warfare, but as part of a logistical system. In this way, the workshop seeks to discuss the capacity of Roman power to exercise its authority through structures that, far from direct coercion, consolidated the political, economic and spatial cohesion of the Empire.

This global approach transcends the usual thematic, spatial and temporal fragmentation between studies of territory, military archaeology and road networks. In contrast to approaches focused on technical aspects or the analysis of isolated sites, this workshop will address the territory from a holistic point of view: the aim is to re-evaluate the analysis of territorial management not as a minor phenomenon, limited to a sectoral study, but as an essential dimension for understanding imperial development.

Contact

Dr. José Luis Domínguez Jiménez

Humboldt Fellow

RomanIslam - Center for Comparative Empire and Transcultural Studies

Universität Hamburg

Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1 / R. 23

20146 Hamburg (Germany)

jose.dominguez.jimenez@uni-hamburg.de

Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram

RomanIslam - Center for Comparative Empire and Transcultural Studies

Universität Hamburg

Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1 / R. 23

20146 Hamburg (Germany)

+49 40 2395 24567

sabine.panzram@uni-hamburg.de

Location

Warburg-Haus

Heilwigstr. 116

20249 Hamburg (Germany)

T. +49 40 428386148

www.warburg-haus.de



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29-30 January 2026

Universität Hamburg



Roman Road, Via *ad montes* (Córdoba, Spain)
F. Bueno Lozano

Thursday, 29.01.2026

Warburg-Haus, Heilwigstraße 116, 20249 Hamburg

15.00 h	Dr. José Luis Domínguez Jiménez (RomanIslam Center, Universität Hamburg) Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram (Universität Hamburg) <i>Welcome and Introduction</i>
Chair:	Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram (Universität Hamburg)
15.30 h	Dr. Elly N.A. Heirbaut (LAREs BV, Universiteit Leiden) <i>The Roman military presence in Flanders. First results</i>
16.15 h	Dr. Joseph Lewis (Cambridge University) <i>Territorial Control of Roman Wales: The role of natural terrestrial corridors on the positioning of fortifications</i>
17.00 h	Coffee Break



Tetrarchic fortification. Qasr Bshir, Jordania
Giulio Aprin

Chair:	Prof. Dr. Ignasi Grau (Universidad de Alicante)
17.30 h	Dr. Christian Beck (Universität Trier) <i>Connecting the Mountains with the Mediterranean: the Reconstruction of the Roman Road Network between Aquileia and the Alps</i>
18.15 h	Dr. Miriam González Nieto (Iberiarq – ProCir, UNED) <i>Optimal Routes and Landscape Analysis of Roman Road Networks in Mining Regions: The Case of Sisapo (Baetica, Hispania)</i>
20.30 h	Conference Dinner

Friday, 30.01.2026

Warburg-Haus, Heilwigstraße 116, 20249 Hamburg

Chair:	Dr. José Luis Domínguez Jiménez (RomanIslam Center, Universität Hamburg)
9.00 h	Dr. Massimo Gasparini (Universidad de Córdoba) <i>Mining Sierra Morena. The management of a Roman territory through the study of the road networks: the case of the Corduba-Emerita road</i>
9.45 h	Dr. Constantin Băjenaru (Muzeul de Istorie Națională și Arheologie Constanța) <i>All roads lead to Tomis – the network of roads and fortifications in Moesia Inferior / Scythia</i>
10.30 h	Prof. Dr. Ignacio Arce García (German-Jordanian University) <i>Severan Forts, Tetrarchic Quadriburgia, Ghassanid Monasteries (and Palaces), Umayyad Qusur: Transformation and change of use in the transition from Roman to Islamic rule in the Levant</i>
11.15 h	Coffee Break

Chair:	Prof. Dr. Sabine Panzram (Universität Hamburg)
12.00 h	Dr. Matthew Symonds (Ed. Current World Archaeology) <i>Highways to the danger zone? Using fortlets on roads to consolidate conquest</i>
12.45 h	Dr. José Luis Domínguez Jiménez (RomanIslam Center, Universität Hamburg) <i>Understanding the Spatial Configuration and Control of a Roman Territory: the case of the Roads and Fortresses of the Conventus Cordubensis (Andalusia, Spain)</i>
13.30 h	Prof. Dr. Ignasi Grau (Universidad de Alicante) <i>Conclusions</i>
14.00 h	Conference Lunch



Roman fort and road at Köbánya, Visegrád. IV c. A.D
Balázs Szakonyi, Zsolt Mihályi & Gergely Buzás