



## *Database and Analysis of Late Byzantine Goldsmiths' Works of the 13th to 15th Centuries*

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The aim of the research project is the fundamental documentation and analysis of the gold- and silversmiths' works of the 13th to 15th century from the Latin Occupation of Constantinople to the capture of the Byzantine capital by the Ottomans in 1453. The material to be studied comprises sacred and profane objects, such as crosses (pectoral crosses, procession crosses), (cross) reliquaries, liturgical vessels (patens [Eucharistic plates], chalices) and other church vessels (for example liturgical fans [rhipidia]), book and icon covers, jewellery and enamel works, crowns and diadems, robe appliques, metal fittings and frames of steatite and precious metal icons. After a thorough examination of the objects themselves the following areas will be studied: technique, typology, style, iconography, epigraphy and palaeography. Furthermore, the contemporary depictions will be analysed, especially regarding their relation to the objects. This way a catalogue of criteria will be compiled, which can be the basis for the future classification of objects without an archaeological context. The results of the study will be published in form of a database and as a hardcover print publication. The project is supposed to render new insights into (Late) Byzantine gold- and silversmiths' art and the development of Byzantine art in general. A special focus lies on the cultural transfer between Byzantium and its neighbours in the orient and the occident. The project shall create the prerequisites for new research in this hitherto neglected field and stimulate international interdisciplinary sharing of knowledge, especially through the database.