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## Conquerors and Conquered: Narrating the Fall of Constantinople (1453) and Tenochtitlán (1521)

Workshop, 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Photo left: Conquista del señorío Caxcán de Apulco por los españoles y Tlaxcaltecas 1585, Artist: Diego Muñoz Camargo. © Wikimedia Commons, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Apcolco.png>

Photo right: Siege of Constantinople, Chronique de Charles VII by Jean Chartier, 1470-1479, Artist: Philippe de Mazerolles. © Wikimedia Commons, [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Siege\\_constantinople\\_bnf\\_fr2691.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Siege_constantinople_bnf_fr2691.jpg)

Im Leibniz-Forschungsverbund  
»Wert der Vergangenheit«



This workshop is the first of three conferences that explore similarities and connections between Ottoman and Spanish histories of expansion in the early modern period as well as lasting memories thereof. It focuses on two key events in world history: the fall of Constantinople and the fall of Tenochtitlán. Although these events have much in common and were interrelated, they have rarely been looked at together.

The workshop brings together historians of different regions to discuss how contemporaries saw the end of an old and the beginning of a new era, how they connected these events to ancient prophecies, how they wrote their histories of loss and victory, and how these early narratives have since shaped respective memory cultures. Did the conquerors, the conquered, and the various intermediaries in the Old and New World draw connections between their histories? Did they see, for instance, that the Ottoman expansion in the Eastern Mediterranean pushed the Spanish and Portuguese to seek new trading routes to Asia, which eventually led to the conquest of the Americas?

## Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup> 2022

13:00	Welcome
14:00–14:30	Introduction
14:30–15:30	<b>Eleni Kefala</b> St. Andrews <i>Strangers No More: Constantinople, Tenochtitlán, and the Trauma of the Conquest</i>
15:30–16:00	Coffee break
16:00–19:00	<i>Narratives of Conquest</i>  <b>Christopher Markiewicz</b> Birmingham <i>Constantinople, Conquest, and the Order of the World in Ottoman Historical Writing</i>  <b>Stefan Rinke</b> Berlin <i>Bernal Díaz del Castillo and the Fall of the Great City of Tenochtitlan: A Tale of Inevitability</i>  Sources: Tursun Bey, Aşıkpaşazade / Las Casas, Díaz del Castillo
19:30	Dinner

## Friday April 8<sup>th</sup> 2022

9:00–12:00	<i>Narratives of Loss and Destruction</i>  <b>Aslıhan Akışık</b> Istanbul <i>Forging an Ottoman Hellenism in the Aftermath of 1453: Kritoboulos and George Amiroutzes</i>  <b>Richard Herzog</b> Marburg <i>Understanding Nahua Temporalities and Cosmogony through the Works of Fernando de Alva Ixtlilxochitl</i>  Sources: Doukas, Kritoboulos, Chalkokondyles / Alva Ixtlilxochitl, Sahagún
12:00–14:00	Lunch
14:00–17:00	<i>Narratives of the Neighbors</i>  <b>Philip Bockholt</b> Leipzig <i>A Turning Point in History? The Fall of Constantinople from the Perspective of the Islamic East</i>  <b>Antje Gunsenheimer</b> Bonn <i>The Conquest as traumatic experience, described by colonial Yucatec Maya authors</i>  Sources: Ibn Taghribirdi, Barbaro / The Book of Chilam Balam of Chumayel
17:00–18:00	Final Discussion