

Svenska Forskningsinstitutet i Istanbul
Forskarkollegiet inbjuder till forskningsseminarium med

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Svenska institutet i Athen

The “Non-Institute” in the Ex-Capital. The Swedish Institute in Constantinople (1922-1924)

The early 1920s witnessed discussions regarding the establishment of a Swedish or Scandinavian research institute in “classical” lands, in Athens, Rome or possibly Constantinople (Istanbul). The Swedish Orient Society (Svenska Orientsällskapet) was established in 1921, with the aim to set up a research institute in Constantinople (Istanbul). This was indeed achieved, with the assistance of the linguist and orientalist Johannes Kolmodin at the Swedish legation, who mediated the rental of a villa in the fashionable neighbourhood of Moda on the Asian side of the Bosphorus the following year. The creation was short-lived, however, and did not survive the demise of its main benefactor, the political scientist, historian and politician Pontus Fahlbeck, in 1923. The research institute was forced to closed in 1924, but an enduring Swedish institute was instead established the following year, in Rome. An ensuing Swedish research institute in Istanbul, still active today, was created four decades later, in 1962. The centennial Orient society and early Swedish institute endeavour contributed to channeling perceptions of the “Orient” in Sweden. As historical phenomena, the society and the institute initiative can bolster understanding of contemporary as well as later Swedish-led archaeological enterprises and expeditions around the Mediterranean, and the culturally and politically conservative contexts from which they emerged.



Tid och plats: 12 Maj 2022, 19:00 (Zoom).

Moderator: Maria Småberg.

Anmäl dig via länken <https://lu-se.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5MtcuuppzwvHNW1wZhAxZbZsUBZF3FQFxQz>.

Texten som ska behandlas skickas ut några dagar innan till de som anmält sig.