

Lilli Hölzhammer (Uppsala)

Old Indian Wisdom in Byzantium: On didactic narrative strategies in Symeon Seth's "Stephanites kai Ichnelates" and its Arabic predecessors

My thesis aims to uncover the scholastic interest that has led to the translation of the Arabic "Pañcatantra" translation into the Byzantine "Stephanites kai Ichnelates". It will provide a short comparison between the Byzantine and the Arab editions to point out their vast differences while trying to provide explanations for them. Afterwards, an exemplary analysis of the first two books in the Greek text will focus on its didactic narrative strategies. With this, it will be possible to demonstrate how the narrative complexity of the text translates into its ability to absorb the knowledge and values of different cultures.

Maximilian Lasa (Copenhagen)

The International Theology Program (Uluslararası İlahiyat Programı) in Turkey: Trajectories of German students and alumni

In the presentation, I will outline my PhD project, which focusses on the topic of higher Islamic education with a focus on German students and alumni of the International Theology Program in Turkey. Within my project, I aim to unfold the personal and educational trajectories of the students and alumni to explore their experiences with the study program. For the presentation, I want to outline the larger project as well as some preliminary tendencies in my data.