



Universität
Zürich ^{UZH}



DIPARTIMENTO DI STORIA
ANTROPOLOGIA RELIGIONI
ARTE SPETTACOLO
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SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Istituto Svizzero



European Research Council

Divine Laws in the Ancient World

A Comparative Approach

14th-15th March 2024

Roma, Istituto Svizzero



Program

14 March – Comparative Perspectives

Session 1	
Chair: Lorenzo Verderame, Sapienza Università di Roma	
09:15–09:30	Greetings from the Institute and Introduction by Konrad Schmid
09:30–10:30	Guido Pfeifer, University of Frankfurt <i>How to Decide Properly: Ancient Near Eastern Law as a Cultural Technique in the Context of the Numinous and the Divine</i>
Coffee Break	
11:00–12:00	Dylan Johnson, University of Cardiff <i>Divine and Royal Lawgivers: Towards a Functional Ontology of Kingship</i>
12:00–12:20	Eckart Frahm, Yale University, Response
12:20–12:30	Discussion
Lunch	
Session 2	
Chair: Alessandro Saggioro, Sapienza Università di Roma	
14:30–15:30	Daniela Bonanno, Università di Palermo <i>Nemesis as an Agent of Divine Justice in the Greek World</i>
Coffee Break	
16:00–17:00	Anna Angelini, University of Zurich <i>Looking for the Gods in the Greek Juridical Inscriptions from the Archaic Period</i>
17:00–17:20	Angelos Chaniotis, Princeton University, Response
17:20–17:30	Discussion

15 March: The Hebrew Bible

Session 3

Chair: Jean Louis Ska, Pontificio Istituto Biblico

09:30–10:30 Lida Panov, University of Zurich
Legal Symbolism and the Development of Divine Law in the Hebrew Bible

Coffee Break

11:00–12:00 Matthias Hopf, University of Zurich
God's Emotions in the Laws of the Hebrew Bible: Some Observations on a Peculiar Phenomenon

12:00–12:20 Bruce Wells, University of Texas at Austin, Response

12:20–12:30 Discussion

Lunch Break

Session 4

Chair: Daniele Garrone, Facoltà Valdese di Teologia

14:30–15:30 Jonathan Vroom, University of Toronto
A Legal-Theoretical Framework for Understanding the Authority of Legal Texts from the Hebrew Bible

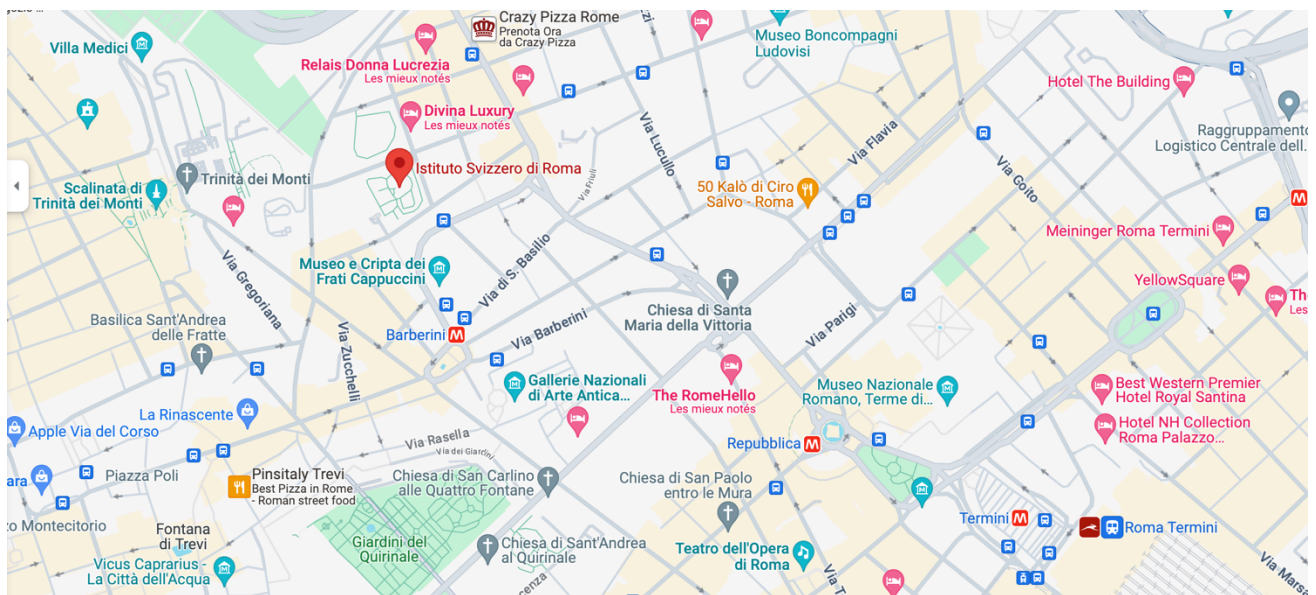
15:30–16:30 Peter Altmann, Fuller Theological Seminary
The Use of Pentateuchal Law to Delimit 'Israel' in Likely Persian-Period Texts

16.30–16.50 Caterina Moro, Università di Roma Tre, Response

16.50–17.00 Closing Remarks

This conference situates the evidence of the Hebrew Bible within the legal traditions from the broader ancient Mediterranean / ancient Near Eastern cultures by taking a comparative approach to the issue of divine lawgiving understood in a broad sense. Covering the time frame of the First Millennium BCE (until the Hellenistic period), the inquiry not only addresses formal acts of divine legislation in different religious contexts but also investigates the many possible ways in which divine agents are represented as a source of authority, serve as guarantors for the law, enact justice or enforce norms.

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www.divlaw.uzh.ch/en/events

www.istitutosvizzero.it

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Image : Tablet of Shamash, Sippar, 870 BCE

British Museum, London, Room 55, Wikimedia Commons