

Rome and Barbaricum

Contributions to the archaeology and history
of interaction in European protohistory

edited by

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Cover image: Waldgirmes. Life-size gilded bronze horse's head with phalerae depicting Victory and Mars.

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Foreword

How did the 'Barbarians' influence Roman culture? What did 'Roman-ness' mean in the context of Empire? What did it mean to be Roman *and/or* 'Barbarian' in different contexts? These are only a few guiding questions of the present volume which gathers most of the papers delivered at the *European Association of Archaeologists Annual Meeting*, Istanbul, 10-14 September 2014, organized within the framework of the project PN-II-ID-PCE-2012-4-0490, *'The Other' in Action: The Barbarization of Rome and the Romanisation of the World*. With the concept of *'the other' in action* it is argued that the receptiveness of Roman culture is the basis and thus the key concept for understanding the empire and the provincial system. The concept manifests Rome's unique capability creatively to adapt elements of foreign cultures, of 'the other', within the framework of Roman rule and to make them part of an integration process.

These conference proceedings explore the concepts of Romanisation and of the Barbaricum from a multi-disciplinary comparative perspective, covering Germania, Dacia, Moesia Inferior, Hispania, and other regions of the Roman Empire. The papers deal with issues including the conceptual analysis of the term 'barbarian', military and administrative organization, inter-cultural and linguistic relations, numismatics, religion, economy, prosopographic investigations, the construction of identities, reflections on the theoretical framework for a new model of Romanisation. Traditional and inter-disciplinary approaches as well as the re-evaluation of old and new records are emphasized in the papers of this volume.

The first study provides a multifaceted analysis of the term 'barbarian' as employed by the Romans throughout history. G. Rasbach argues that the site from Waldgirmes, deep in Germania Magna, is the key to understanding elite control under Roman hegemony as a necessary condition for administrative integration. The paper of D. Burger-Völlmecke deals with the Gallo-Roman 'Auf dem Spätzrech' temple in the civitas Treverorum of Gallia Belgica in relation to the nearby *oppidum* 'Hunnenring', and the nature of the late Roman archaeological remains. Hans-Ulrich Voß identifies an extensive and long-lasting network between barbarian elites in the area outside the Roman frontier of the second century AD; this influenced the spread of both Roman material goods in the Central European Barbaricum and Roman influence on intra-Germanic affairs. The paper by I. Dumitrache and R.-G. Curcă deals with the cultural activity and interactions between the Roman settlers and the natives of Moesia Inferior in light of the epigraphic evidence. On the epigraphic sources is based also the contribution of L. Mihailescu-Bîrliba, a prosopographic study on a Roman magistrate of Troesmis. L. Munteanu attempts to establish in his study a pattern of the coin finds from Dacia. The paper delivered by A. Popa deconstructs the historiographical 'myth' of the 'Romanisation of the ancestors of the Romanian people' as found in Romanian and Moldovan school textbooks. M. Martins *et al.* analyse the particular interactions

and developments occurring in north-western Iberia when the area became part of Hispania Tarraconensis.

We would like to thank those authors who did not attend the conference but have chosen to publish the results of their research in this volume.