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# CUTTING-EDGE STONECUTTERS. TWO IMPORTANT MEETINGS SET A NEW AGENDA FOR EPIGRAPHY

LORENZO CALVELLI

## ABSTRACT

Within little more than six months, two crucial meetings took place concerning the future of epigraphic studies. The International Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy enjoyed its 15th meeting in Vienna from 28 August to 1 September 2017, while the participants of the first Epigraphy.info Workshop gathered in Heidelberg from 21 to 23 March 2018. To follow is a brief and idiosyncratic review report of these two significant events.

KEYWORDS: epigraphy congress, epigraphic culture, literacy, languages, databases, digital epigraphy.

### 1. THE 15TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GREEK AND LATIN EPIGRAPHY (VIENNA, 28 AUGUST-1 SEPTEMBER 2017)

A FIRST International Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy was summoned in Amsterdam in 1938, but its proceedings were never published because of the outbreak of the Second World War. Since 1952, the International Congresses of Greek and Latin Epigraphy have regularly been held every five years in different European cities (Paris, 1952; Rome, 1957; Vienna, 1962; Cambridge, 1967; Munich, 1972; Constanța, 1977; Athens, 1982; Sofia, 1987; Nîmes, 1992; Rome, 1997; Barcelona, 2002; Oxford, 2007; Berlin, 2012); their proceedings have consistently been published shortly afterwards. After the *Association Internationale d'Épigraphie Grecque et Latine* was founded in 1972, the Congresses have been sponsored by this non-profit international body, whose purpose is to promote communication and cooperation among students and scholars of epigraphy throughout the world (for further information: <http://www.aiegl.org>).

A proper history of the Congresses has not been written yet (for a partial account, see G. Susini, *Dieci congressi più uno. Il cammino dell'epigrafia*, in *XI Congresso Internazionale di Epigrafia Greca e Latina. Atti*, Rome, 1999, 1, 75-85). However, it is useful to stress their long standing tradition in order to emphasize the relevance of the task that our Austrian colleagues undertook, as well as the eager expectation shared by the participants of the Congress. The Congress was organized in the magnificent central building of the University of Vienna (Hauptgebäude), but specific events also took place in two other splendid venues: the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the Town Hall of Vienna. The Organizing Committee included Petra Amann, Franziska Beutler, Chiara Cenati, Thomas Corsten, Wolfgang Hameter, Fritz Mitthof, Christoph Samitz, Veronika Scheibelreiter-Gail, and Hans Taeuber.

Public expectation was largely met, as strong attendance and lively engagement clearly certified. In fact, more than 400 participants made their way to Vienna, coming from over 30

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(CZ2/EG13)



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