

Dr Maja Kominko

Scientific and Programs Director
ALIPH Fondation
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Career Profile

Historian of Late Antiquity and Byzantium with extensive publication record. Experienced cultural heritage professional with a strong track record of establishing and managing large-scale cultural heritage protection projects.

Education

D.Phil, University of Oxford, Institute of Archaeology
Master of Art, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Institute of Art History

Employment:

Scientific and Programs Director, ALIPH International alliance for the protection of peace in conflict areas

<https://www.aliph-foundation.org/>

2020- present

Director of Cultural Programmes, Arcadia Fund (www.arcadiafund.org.uk)

2012 – 2020

Academic positions:

2011–2012 University of Oxford, Theology Faculty

2010 Uppsala University, Linguistic and Philology Department

2008–2009 University of York, Art History Department

2007–2008 Princeton University, Hellenic Studies Center

2006–2007 Sabancı University, Istanbul, Social Sciences Department

Appendix - Publications and presentations

Books

Monograph

The World of Kosmas: The Miniatures of the Christian Topography, Cambridge University Press, 2013

Edited volume

From Dust to Digital. Ten Years of the Endangered Archives Programme at the British Library, Open Book Publishers, Cambridge 2015

Articles

1. Cultural heritage – what is it good for? (working title, in preparation)
2. The insidious damage – heritage and history (re)writing (in preparation)

3. "Beyond the Empire: Kosmas Indikopleustes, the Church of the East and the Indian trade in the sixth century AD" in E. O'Connell ed. *Beyond the Empire*, Leiden (forthcoming) "Illustrated Byzantine Manuscripts of the Septuagint" in A. Salvesen, T.M. Law, *Oxford Handbook of Septuagint*, Oxford 2021, pp. 745-757.
4. "Changing Habits and Disappearing Monsters: Ethnography between Classical and Late Antiquity" in K. Durak, I. Jevtic eds., *Identity and the Other in Byzantium: Papers from the Fourth International Sevgi Gonul Byzantine Studies Symposium*, Istanbul, 2019, pp. 53-70.
5. "The Byzantines and the Antipodes" in I. Toth, N. Gaul, T. Shawcross, eds., *Reading in Byzantium and Beyond. Studies presented to Professor Elizabeth Jeffreys*, Cambridge 2018, pp. 430-444.
6. "The Christian Topography of Kosmas Indikopleustes" in V. Tsamakda ed. *A Companion to Byzantine Illustrated Manuscripts*, Leiden-Boston 2017, 395-406.
7. "Make music with understanding. Music, musicians and choristers in the miniatures of Vat.gr.752", in G. Peers, B. Crostini eds. *A Book of Psalms from Eleventh-Century Constantinople: On the Complex of Texts and Images in Vat. gr. 752*, Studi e Testi, Città del Vaticano 2016, 467-492
8. "Ugly as Sin. Monsters and Barbarians in Late Antiquity" in R. Futo Kennedy, M. Jones-Lewis eds. *The Rutledge Handbook of Identity and the Environment in the Classical and Medieval Worlds*, New York 2016, 373-389.
9. "Paris.Syr.341 and its illustrations" in R. Hoyland (ed.), *Minorities: Legal, Cultural and Economic Perspectives, Continuity and change in the Mediterranean 6th-10th century*, Studies in Late Antiquity and Early Islam, Princeton 2015, pp. 259-290.
10. "Visions and Meanings: Personifications in the Octateuch Cycles" in A. Lymberopoulou, ed., *Images of Byzantine World: Visions, Messages and Meaning. Studies Presented to Leslie Brubaker*, Ashgate 2011, pp. 121-134.
11. "Byzantine, Syriac, Armenian and Latin – a note on an artistic dialogue in Eastern Mediterranean medieval illustrated manuscripts", *Eastern Christian Art* 8 (2011), pp. 59-70.
12. "More than Words: Text and Image in the Illustrated Byzantine Codices of the Christian Topography of Kosmas Indikopleustes", *Uppsala Journal of Byzantine Studies* 2011, pp. 2-32.
13. "Constantine's Eastern Looks: Elevation of the Cross in Medieval Syriac Lectionary", in S. Skrzyński, P. Grotowski, eds., *New Approaches to Byzantine Art History and Archaeology*, Krakow 2010, pp. 177-194.
14. "Science and the Bible, Nisibis and Alexandria. Cosmos Described and Illustrated in the *Christian Topography*", in M. Bernabò ed., *Laurentianus Pluteus IX.28 (Christian Topography of Cosmas Indicopleustes)*, Florence 2013, pp. 67-81.
15. "Syriac Story and a Greek Image? The Miniature Representing Elijah in the *Christian Topography*", *Aaram* 20 (2008), pp. 101-110.
16. "New Perspectives on Paradise. Levels of Reality in Medieval Maps" in R. Talbert, R. Unger eds., *Proceedings of 35th Medieval Workshop Cartography in Antiquity and the Middle Ages: Fresh Perspectives, New Methods*, Leiden 2008, pp. 139-155.
17. "Maps in the *Christian Topography*", *Imago Mundi* 58 no. 1, (2006), pp. 112-113.
18. "Theophany on Sinai in Miniatures of the *Christian Topography*", *Artifex Doctus. Studia Ofiarowane Profesorowi Jerzemu Gadomskiemu w Siedemdziesiątą Rocznicę Urodzin*, Krakow 2006, v. I, pp. 81-97 (in Polish).
19. "The Map of Cosmas, the Albi Map, and the Tradition of Ancient Geography", *Mediterranean Historical Review* 20 No. 2 (December 2005), pp. 163-186.

Encyclopaedia entries

1. "Cosmology, Byzantium", in R. Bagnall, K. Brondersen, C. Champion, A. Erskine, S. Hübner eds., *Wiley-Blackwell's Encyclopaedia of Ancient History*, New York 2009.
2. "Maps, Byzantium" in R. Bagnall, K. Brondersen, C. Champion, A. Erskine, S. Hübner eds., *Wiley-Blackwell's Encyclopaedia of Ancient History*, New York 2009.
3. "Cosmas Indicopleustes" in R. Bagnall, K. Brondersen, C. Champion, A. Erskine, S. Hübner eds., *Wiley-Blackwell's Encyclopaedia of Ancient History*, New York 2009.