

Foreword

Rada VARGA¹

The selection of articles presented in the current number of *Studia Antiqua et Archaeologica* is mainly based on presentations from the *People of the Ancient World* international conference, held in Cluj-Napoca on October 13th–15th, 2016. The conference, organized within the framework of the project *Romans 1by1*², brought together around forty scholars, from universities and research institutes from Europe and the United States. The silver lining of all presented researches was the desire to deepen knowledge on ancient population, employing various methodologies, tools and research techniques. At a scale, this was the main idea of the project as well, to combine traditional ancient population studies with digital classics technologies, in order to obtain a more rigorous view on ancient society, as well as a comprehensive tool (the open access database – <http://epdb.romans1by1.com/>), useful to all scholars of the field.

The variety of the conference programme, in general, is reflected as well by the contents of this journal issue. The approaches taken on Roman provincial population are diverse and the case-studies highlight the multi-folded character of Roman society. Thus, we have consistent prosopographic researches on the people attested in various settlements: Chartago Nova from Hispania Citerior, in M. C. de la Escosura Balbas's article, Aqua Balissae from Pannonia Superior in B. Migotti's study and Băile Herculane from Dacia Inferior in I. Boda, C. Timoc, V. Bunoiu's research. Other aspects, always of interest when dealing with ancient people, are onomastics and naming practices — as the name is sometimes the only thing we still know about a person and extracting all possible information from it is of crucial scientific importance. In this line of work, we have N. Moncunill-Marti's elaborated research on Iberian indigenous onomastics, I. Topalilov's note on the name of a Thracians and D. Dana and R. Zagreanu's holistic approach on the *equites singulares Augusti* which had their origin in province Dacia. J. Perez Gonzalez focuses his paper on a professional category and brings research to Rome — namely the *aurifices* of the Julio-Claudian period — while M. Tapavički-Ilić and J. Anđelković Grašar bring an incursion in the funerary archaeology of Viminacium.

¹ “Babeş-Bolyai” University Cluj-Napoca; radavarga@gmail.com

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In the complex network of ancient population studies, this selection of works is illustrative for some of today's research trends, as well as for the large variety of and approaches which one can take in studying the people of the ancient world. Nonetheless, as scholarly contributions, the articles are undoubtedly useful resources for the scientific community and informative sources for any readers.