

Call for Papers: Just War Theory from Homer to Byzantium and Medieval Italy

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Project Overview

This volume seeks to outline perspectives of Just War tradition across the following pivotal epochs: **Homeric Greece, classical Greece, the Byzantine Empire, and Late Medieval Italy.** While the scholarship on *jus ad bellum* and *jus in bello* often focuses on the transition from Augustinian theology to the Early Modern period, this collection aims to bridge the gap by focusing on how Ancient Greek and Byzantine intellectual legacies can inform the legalistic rigors of the West.

We invite contributions to examine how concepts of ‘moral struggle’, ‘divine providence’, ‘the ethics of war’, and ‘proportionality’ are adapted as they moved from the ethics of self-limitation by focusing particularly in The Iliad, Thucydides, Byzantine chronographs, and finally into the communal and scholastic debates of the Italian Peninsula.

In an era marked by border revisionism, shifting geopolitical alliances, and the return of conventional state-on-state conflict, re-evaluating the historical foundations of military ethics is increasingly **timely**. The conceptual tensions found in Homer, Thucydides, Anna Komnene, Michail Psellos, Saint Augustine, Nicollo Machiavelli, and others resonate with modern debates revolving around international intervention and moral restraint. To this end, we welcome contributors who wish to produce insights that engage with **contemporary events**, drawing parallels between ancient/medieval frameworks and the ethical dilemmas of the 21st century.

Submission Guidelines

We invite interested scholars to submit a **200-300word abstract** with a short bio and affiliation (acceptance on a competitive basis).

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