

FRIDAY, MAY 29

PANEL: HABSBURG MONARCHY (2) & FRANCE (1)

Chair: Rudi Matthee | Delaware

- 09:00–09:20 **Lothar Höbelt** | Vienna
Vaclav Lobkovic and the twilight of the 'validos'
- 09:20–09:40 **Fanny Cosandey** | Paris
Du conseil aux conseillers: les principaux ministres dans l'organisation des pouvoirs monarchiques en France sous la première modernité
- 09:40–10:10 **Discussion**
- 10:10–10:40 COFFEE BREAK
- PANEL: FRANCE (2) & ENGLAND**
Chair: Lothar Höbelt | Vienna
- 10:40–11:00 **David Parrott** | Oxford
"Extinction or evolution? The First Minister in France from Mazarin to Fleury"
- 11:00–11:20 **Stephen Alford** | Leeds
England, 1530–1730
- 11:20–11:50 **Discussion**
- 11:50–13:30 LUNCH BREAK
- ROUND TABLE & CLOSING COMMENTARY**
Comparing Islamic, Asian, and European traditions of power delegation in early modern Eurasia
Moderation: Yasir Yilmaz | Vienna

- 13:30–15:30 **Stephan Alford** | Leeds
Andrew Cobbing | Nottingham
Munis Faruqui | Berkeley
Igor Fedyukin | Shanghai
Lothar Höbelt | Vienna
Alistair Malcolm | Limerick
Rudi Matthee | Delaware
David Parrott | Oxford
Arno Strohmeyer | Vienna & Salzburg

HOSTED AND ORGANIZED BY

Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies (IHB), Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW)

CO-ORGANIZED BY

Diplomatische Akademie Wien – Vienna School of International Studies. Please pay attention that the first day of the conference on 27 May 2026 takes place at the Diplomatische Akademie.

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REGISTRATION

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Registration for participation in the PSK-Building from May 28 to 29, 2026: <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/ihb/aktuelles/anmeldungen-zu-ihb-veranstaltungen/in-the-name-of-sultan-emperor-and-king-tage-2-3>



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AUSTRIAN
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SCIENCES

27–29 MAY 2026
VIENNA, AUSTRIA
VENUE INFO
IN THE PROGRAMME



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

IN THE NAME OF SULTAN, EMPEROR, AND KING

GRAND VIZIERS, CHIEF MINISTERS, AND STRUCTURES
OF DELEGATED POWER IN EARLY MODERN EURASIA



GraViz
The Ottoman Grand Vizierate
1560s–1760s



PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

Venue: Diplomatiche Akademie Wien
Favoritenstraße 15a · 1040 Vienna

- 15:30–16:00** **Registration**
- 16:00–16:15** **Greeting and Welcome**
Ambassador Dr. Martin Eichtinger | Director, Diplomatiche Akademie Wien – Vienna School of International Studies
- 16:15–16:30** **Greeting**
Arno Strohmeier | Deputy Director, Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies of the OeAW
- 16:30–16:50** **Diplomatiche Akademie Wien and Habsburg-Ottoman Diplomacy**
Yasir Yilmaz | Vienna
- 16:50–17:00** BREAK
- 17:00–18:30** **KEYNOTE 1: EUROPEAN TRADITION**
Moderation: Yasir Yilmaz | Vienna
- Alistair Malcolm** | Limerick
From royal favorite to prime minister: some considerations on the evolution of government by single representatives of the nobility in western Europe, c. 1400–1800

THURSDAY, MAY 28

Venue: Austrian Academy of Sciences, Postsparkasse
Georg-Coch-Platz 2 · 1010 Vienna · 3rd floor, Room 1 + 2

- 08:30–09:00** **Registration**
- 09:00–09:30** **Greeting and Introduction**
Yasir Yilmaz | Vienna
- PANEL: CHINA AND JAPAN**
Chair: Stephan Alford | Oxford
- 09:30–09:50** **Jin Cao** | Cologne
The Evolution of Ministerial Power in Yuan–Ming–Qing China (14th–18th Centuries)
- 09:50–10:10** **Andrew Cobbing** | Nottingham
The Delegation of Power in Tokugawa Japan
- 10:10–10:30** **Taku Minagawa** | Tokyo
Der zweite Mann in der Blütezeit des Tokugawa-Shogunats: Yanagisawa Yoshiyasu (1659–1714) in der Geschichte des frühneuzeitlichen Feudalismus' Japans
- 10:30–11:00** **Discussion**
- 11:00–11:30** COFFEE BREAK
- PANEL: RUSSIA AND THE NORDIC STATES**
Chair: Alistair Malcolm | Limerick
- 11:30–11:50** **Igor Fedyukin** | Shanghai
The Russian Empire: The case of the missing first minister
- 11:50–12:10** **Cathleen Sarti** | Oxford
Navigating Court and Council: The Scandinavian Lord Chancellors, ca. 1500–1770
- 12:10–12:40** **Discussion**
- 12:40–14:00** LUNCH BREAK

PANEL: MUGHAL AND OTTOMAN EMPIRES

Chair: Rubén González Cuerva | Madrid

- 14:00–14:20** **Munis Faruqui** | Berkeley
Anatomy of a Survivor: Asad Khan and the Mughal Wazirate at the end of Empire
- 14:20–14:40** **Fatih Çalışır** | İstanbul
The Köprülü Women and the Politics of the Ottoman Vizierate
- 14:40–15:10** **Discussion**
- 15:10–15:30** COFFEE BREAK
- PANEL: HABSBURG MONARCHY (I) & SPAIN**
Chair: Igor Fedyukin | Shanghai
- 15:30–15:50** **Arno Strohmeier** | Vienna & Salzburg
The Emperor and His “Vice Emperor”: Melchior Klesl as Chief Minister to Emperor Matthias
- 15:50–16:10** **Rubén González Cuerva** | Madrid
Validos and Viziers: Translating Agents of Delegated Power in Spanish-Islamic Diplomacy
- 16:10–16:40** **Discussion**
- 16:40–17:15** COFFEE BREAK
- 17:15–18:45** **KEYNOTE 2: ISLAMIC TRADITION**
Moderation: David Parrott | Vienna
- Rudi Matthee** | Delaware
The ruler’s world-conquering spears remain without effect without the support of the writing tools of competent viziers: The Grand Vizier in Safavid Iran in Comparative Perspective