



Splendid Encounters 5

29th September — 1st October, 2016

Academic Conference Centre
Husova 4a
Prague

Francis Thynne wrote in 1578 that a successful ambassador should be *adorned with all virtues required, and commendable, in a good man, and unfurnished of any vice to blemish his credit*. Thynne was not original in his opinions, many writers considered the appropriate accomplishments for a consummate ambassador: learned in history and law, an expert in languages, an orator, a polite gentleman of court, as well as to be rich, well-born, and good-looking. This idea of the 'perfect ambassador' moulded and profoundly influenced the education and formation of early modern diplomats. The upcoming conference, *Splendid Encounters: Diplomats and Diplomacy in the Early Modern World V*, will focus on the evolution of diplomatic practice as both a career and an identity, not only through the lives of ambassadors, residents, agents, and consuls, but also secretaries and other members of embassies in administrative and bureaucratic roles.

We welcome all submissions on this subject, both for individual papers and panels (comprising three papers) that address:

- The daily activities of diplomats
- The prosopography of different groups of diplomats
- Diplomacy as a career in early modern period
- The role and organisation of diplomatic households
- Diplomatic networks (professional, personal, cultural, etc.)
- The self-fashioning of diplomats
- Diplomats and the establishment of international law (solving conflicts, diplomatic immunity, etc.)

Splendid Encounters is a series of international and interdisciplinary conferences that aim to bring together scholars from the broadest possible range of perspectives to consider diplomacy and diplomatic activities in the early modern era. After successful meetings in Warsaw, Bath, Florence and Budapest, we wish to invite you to join us for another event, hosted by the Institute of History in the Faculty of Arts and Philosophy at the University of Pardubice and the Institutes of Art History and History of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague.

We welcome proposals (approx. 200/250 words) for papers of 20–25 minutes. Please submit your proposal on-line via the website or by email to: premoderndiplomats@gmail.com

DEADLINE: 15th March 2016. Applicants will be notified of acceptance of their proposal by 15th April 2016.

Convenors: Dr Roberta Anderson, Dr Anna Kalinowska, Dr Jiří Kubeš.



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