



Istituto Veneto
di Scienze, Lettere
ed Arti

13-14-15-16 settembre 2022

Dimensioni istituzionali del Commonwealth veneziano (secoli XIV-XVII)

Venetian multi-confessionalism in comparative perspective. On the scope and the limitations of interreligious interaction in early modern Southeast Europe

Ioannis Zelepos

Abstract

In the framework of consensual ruling-strategies followed by Venice over centuries, religious respectively confessional diversity, especially in its Stato da Mar, could develop into a true structural condition, which therefore was by no means a unique feature of neighboring Muslim Ottoman rule. Considerable research has been done until today on the institutional aspects of this phenomenon as well as on its socio-cultural implications. Recent studies are especially pointing out the permeability of early modern religious identities in the Eastern Mediterranean by focusing i.a. on grassroot syncretism, religious conversions and “trans-imperial subjects”. While taking into account these observations, the present contribution is asking, however, for the implications of multi-denominational frameworks on mainstream-identity discourses of the religious communities concerned. This will be tried on example of selected sources from 16th to 18th century concerning Greek Orthodox Christians and Jews.

,