Preface

The present volume has its origins in a conference hosted in Frankfurt am Main in November 2016. The conference brought together scholars of late antiquity and the Early Middle Ages who specialize in vastly different regions and languages. Our common discussion of good Christian rulership highlighted the multilingualism and cultural diversity of this time but also exposed many points of intersection between the different cultures. In regard to the latter, common concepts of monarchical rule surface in a wide array of texts, but it is the texts that Christians considered sacred that proved most influential. Christians’ interaction with non-Christian cultures also played an important role, and we have included a few exemplary essays dedicated to non-Christian views on good rulership to this end.

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