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on the *Strata Diocletiana* ca. 30 km southwest of *Palmyra*; looking
west (DAI Damascus, photograph: M. Gschwind).

Cover II: Illuminating Hadrian's Wall (© Stuart Herbert, image mirrored),

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LIMES XXIII – FOREWORD

It is now three years since the 23rd International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies took place at the invitation of the Bayerische Landesamt für Denkmalpflege, the German Limes Commission and the City of Ingolstadt at the Technische Hochschule Ingolstadt. 370 participants created a new record for this conference and we remember with gratitude the joyous atmosphere during the week of lectures in a large number of sessions and the excursions to many sites on the Raetian Limes in Bavaria, the Pre-Congress Excursion to the Danube Limes in Bavaria and the Post-Congress Excursion to the Raetian and Upper German *limes* in Baden-Württemberg, as well as the wonderful exchanges we had over numerous aspects of the Roman frontiers with colleagues from all over the world. For a review of the congress and a small picture gallery see the report of Suzana Matešić on the following pages.

Thanks to the timely delivery of most of the papers presented in the sessions during the congress we are happy to present now the proceedings of this Congress of Roman Frontier Studies. An amazing number of almost 150 contributions shows the whole range of subjects we are currently discussing on and about the Roman frontiers over a period of seven centuries. The papers have been kept in their original context, i. e. they are sorted according to the sessions in which they were offered in Ingolstadt. We thank all the authors for their inspiring texts and illustrations. We are sure that with their presentation in the "Limes XXIII" they will enhance the Roman frontier debate and they will be read, cited and reviewed for many years to come.

We are very grateful to all those who were involved in a lot of work to bring the articles into a comparable form and to make this congress report possible. Under the guidance of the managing director of the German Limes Commission, Suzana Matešić, Jens Wegmann prepared each text for editing, made sure that all the submitted illustrations were present and that the footnotes were complete. Grietje Suhr and Michaela Helmbrecht (archäotext) edited all the German texts; Clive Bridger edited all the English texts. For the graphics and layout the long-term partner of the German Limes Commission, HUND B. communication in Munich with Christian Hözl and Johanna Hermenau were responsible.

The work was made feasible as the Bayerische Landesamt für Denkmalpflege provided the financial background. We are particularly grateful to the Edith-Haberland-Wagner Stiftung, Munich, for its generous grant towards the printing and distribution of the volumes. They had already sponsored the guidebook "At the Edge of the Roman Empire" to the Limes in southern Germany in German and English (still the only guide to large parts of the World Heritage Site "Upper German-Raetian Limes" as part of the "Frontiers of the Roman Empire" in English).

All those involved in the preparation of the Congress on Roman Frontier Studies in Ingolstadt and the production of its proceedings consider themselves fortunate that both large enterprises were successful and in particular that the proceedings appear around the following Congress on Roman Frontier Studies in Serbia in 2018. Therefore, one chapter on the studies of the Roman frontiers is finished when the next one starts. You could see these proceedings also as part of the present "European Year of Cultural Heritage" with its motto "Sharing Heritage". That is what we do all across the Frontiers of the Roman Empire. May the "Limes XXIII – Proceedings of the 23rd International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies Ingolstadt 2015. Akten des 23. Internationalen Limeskongresses in Ingolstadt 2015" as "Beiträge zum Welterbe Limes Sonderband 4" please its authors and inspire its readers.

Munich/Saalburg, July 2018



Mathias Pfeil
Generalkonservator
Bayerisches Landesamt für Denkmalpflege



C. Sebastian Sommer
Chairman
German Limes Commission

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