

Izabella Donkow
Department of Archaeology and Classical Studies
Stockholm University
106 91 Stockholm
Sweden
izabella.donkow@antiken.su.se

Panel 13: *Urban Spaces*
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Title: *Changing Places. The Forum of Theodosius in Ephesus between Archaeology and History*

Abstract:

IvE V 1534 attests to a late antique *forum* in Ephesus named after Theodosius. Disputed are the location of the complex and the identity of the person to whom the *forum* was dedicated. The name inscribed on the stone may refer to Theodosius I (379-395) or his grandson Theodosius II (408-450). However, it may also mark the collective effort of the Theodosian dynasty under whose rule Ephesus was extensively repaired and topographically remodelled. Various areas have, at one time or another, been proposed as plausible locations for this *forum*. This paper will discuss the changes in the interpretation of the locations of the *forum* in relation to progressing research of late antique Ephesos. It will also touch upon the problems of archaeology when, now and again, attempts are made too eagerly to fit the archaeological record into a historic frame.