

The Greek Translation of Ḥunayn Ibn Ishāq's (d. 873) *Questions on medicine* in Canon. Gr. 1

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I was glad to receive a grant from the Oxford Bibliographical Society, which gave me the unique opportunity to undertake research at the Special Collections, Bodleian Library, from October 26 to November 4 2017. My research focused on Canon. Gr. 1, which is one of the two surviving witnesses of the unedited Greek translation of Ḥunayn Ibn Ishāq's (d. 873) *Introduction to Medicine/Questions on medicine*. During my stay at Oxford, I was able to transcribe the entire text in the Canon. Gr. 1 and collate it with the other surviving witness, i.e. Escorialensis Y.III.17; I also examined the codex from a palaeographical and codicological point of view. It is noteworthy that there are no marks of ownership in the codex and no marginal annotations or notes that can attest to its use by any particular readers. The text in Canon. Gr. 1 occupies 15 folia and, compared to the other surviving manuscript of the work, it preserves a long title which attributes the translation from Arabic into Greek to the son of the government official and philosopher George Amoiroutzes. This gives us a new perspective to the relationship between Greeks and Turks after the Fall of Constantinople in 1453, since we were only aware of translations from Greek into Arabic, mainly destined for Sultan Mehmed II himself. This translation which was commissioned at the behest of Mehmed II, perhaps shows his attempt to disseminate Arab wisdom among the Greek educated elite, including physicians.

Finally, I am glad to report that I presented the preliminary results of my research in an international conference entitled "Two Hundred Years of Italian Manuscripts in Oxford. Exploring the Canonici Collection", which was organised by Dr Irene Ceccherini and took place in Oxford (Bodleian Libraries & Lincoln College) on 24-25 November 2017. This gave me the opportunity to communicate my research results to scholars coming from various countries and backgrounds, and getting invaluable feedback during a crucial stage of my research. The Society's contribution to my research will be acknowledged in any forthcoming relevant publications.