

## Foreword

*Narratives of the Roman Empire* is a result of two different research projects, both financed by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation: “Discourses of the Roman Empire I: words and rituals that built the empire” [PGC2018–096500–B–C31 y C32/AEI/10.13039/501100011033/ FEDER, UE], and “Discourses of the Roman Empire II: imperial discourses from the provinces” [PID2021–125226NB–C21 y C22/AEI/10.13039/501100011033/ FEDER, UE]. This book contains the papers presented and discussed at a workshop held in Seville in May 2022, entitled: “Empire in words, empire in rituals: words and rituals that shaped the Roman Empire”. That workshop was generously funded by the University of Seville, Pablo de Olavide University, and the Research Group “Religion and thought in the ancient world” (HUM-545).

When this workshop was held, face-to-face conferences had only recently been resumed after the pandemic, for which reason some participants were unable to attend in person. For many, it was their first normal encounter after years of online woe. Nevertheless, or perhaps partly for this reason, the conference was, at least in the opinion of the organisers, a success from the outset, especially because of the enthusiastic and determined participation, as well as the generosity and affability, of all the scholars who gathered in Seville and online to discuss the narratives of the Roman Empire. We would like to express our sincere thanks to them for their active participation, for the friendly atmosphere they generated at the conference and for the interesting exchanges of views that took place over the course of the presentations.

