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## **30 mars 2017, Madrid : Kings and Queens 6. In the Shadow of the Throne**

The Kings & Queens conference series will be travelling to Madrid in 2017 for its sixth edition. In this occasion, we aim to connect scholars across the world whose research focuses on topics related to royal history, diplomacy, art history, political history, biographical studies or any other issues included in the scope of the royal studies. In particular, this edition of the Kings and Queens congress will be focused on the secondary members of royal families, such as siblings, spouses, cousins, as well as the people closest to the king, like lovers, favourites, members of the royal entourage, etc. We look especially for studies related to figures with family ties to a monarch, who were not kings or queens in their own right, but had a significant influence in spheres such as international politics, the court, the arts, the society or dynastic strategies during their time, with the objective of obtaining a better understanding of figures that are usually in the shadow of the throne. All kind of topics related to these issues will be welcomed, from diverse chronological periods and parts of the world.

In the potential topics for papers or panels we may include, but are not limited to, the following :

1. Biographical, dynastical and political studies of different members of the royal families who were not kings or queens on their own right.
2. Power, role and importance of different people close to the monarch, like favorites, lovers, relatives with military, diplomatic or dynastic posts, ambassadors or diverse members of their entourage.
3. The relationship between power and art. Patronage, collecting and diplomatic exchanges. Monarchy, high nobility and the representation of status, power and influence through art, culture and image.
4. The importance of the dynasty and the “dynastic mirror”.
5. Informal power, royal favour and disfavour.

Proposals should include a title, institutional affiliation, an abstract of around 500 words and a short, one page CV. In the case of panels, the proposal should include a maximum of three different papers accompanied by the same information required for individual proposals and the name, affiliation and short, one page CV of the sponsor (if they are not presenting a paper in the same panel). All the proposals should be submitted by **March 30, 2017**, to Kq6Madrid chez gmail.com.

Please, remember that English will be the official language of the congress.

Also, we are pleased to announce that we offer 20 bursaries for young researchers to help them with the costs. Those interested in said bursaries should write to the aforementioned email to obtain more details about them and what they cover. Those who want to apply must send us the title of the proposal, an abstract of around 500 words, institutional affiliation, a one page CV and one page report focusing on why this congress is relevant for them and how their research could improve the field of royal studies.