

product of a long period of drafting and redrafting. Comparison of the text of *Quia maior* with its unreleased draft version *Quoniam maior* demonstrates just how carefully the pope and his advisors reworked the document as they sought to maximise the appeal of their message and deploy rhetoric, biblical imagery, and metaphors that would trigger a positive crusading response in its audience¹². Other encyclicals, however, such as *Iustus Dominus*, had a more hurried gestation. In contrast to Innocent, Honorius had to draft and issue his encyclical as part of a rapid response to contemporary political developments. In 1221, the war that Innocent's *Quia maior* had unleashed, the Fifth Crusade (1217–21), came to an ignominious end in the muddy flood waters of the Nile¹³. In response to this defeat, Honorius and the crusesignatus Emperor Frederick II ramped up their efforts to recover the Holy Land and avenge the failed expedition. The pope hoped finally to persuade Frederick to fulfil his crusade vow after a long-running, and, at times, frustrating diplomatic correspondence that had carried on since the turn of 1218/19¹⁴. The first colloquium that they organised after the failure of the Fifth Crusade, held at Veroli in April 1222, was preliminary in nature and no major decisions were reached, but it appears that this meeting laid the foundations for a more significant second conference¹⁵. This second assembly, convened at Ferentino in March 1223, made notable progress. The emperor agreed to marry Isabella, the daughter of the king of Jerusalem, John of Brienne, and bound himself to the fixed deadline of the Feast of John the Baptist (24 June 1225) for his delayed crusade¹⁶. It is apparent that Frederick desired support from other Western rulers for his expedition and that the papal recruitment documents issued after Ferentino reflected the

12) On *Quia maior*, see now Thomas W. SMITH, *How to Craft a Crusade Call. Pope Innocent III and Quia maior (1213)*, in: *Historical Research* (forthcoming).

13) On the Fifth Crusade, see: James M. POWELL, *Anatomy of a Crusade, 1213–1221* (1986); *The Fifth Crusade in Context. The Crusading Movement in the Early Thirteenth Century*, ed. E. J. MYLOD, Guy PERRY, Thomas W. SMITH and Jan VANDEBURIE (*Crusades Subsidia* [8], 2017); Guy PERRY, *John of Brienne. King of Jerusalem, Emperor of Constantinople, c. 1175–1237* (2013) pp. 89–121. For the papal administration of the expedition, see SMITH, *Curia and Crusade* (see n. 2) pp. 103–171.

14) See SMITH, *Curia and Crusade* (see n. 2) pp. 127–129.

15) SMITH, *Curia and Crusade* (see n. 2) p. 176.

16) SMITH, *Curia and Crusade* (see n. 2) p. 178; Thomas W. SMITH, *Between Two Kings. Pope Honorius III and the Seizure of the Kingdom of Jerusalem by Frederick II in 1225*, in: *Journal of Medieval History* 41 (2015) pp. 41–59, here pp. 43–46.