



# What is Geo-Ecclesiology: Defining Elements Applied to Late Antiquity (Fourth-Sixth Centuries)

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Mots-clés	Antiquité tardive [3], ecclésiologie [4], géo-politique [5] Suggested by comparison with geopolitics, the geo-ecclesiological approach, however, cannot be reduced to the simple transposition of investigative methods from another discipline, nor to the discovery of imperialist designs, including the means of action based solely on lobbying, use of duress or coercion. It implies a recognition of the special nature of relations in a specific institution, the Church, which organized itself without ceasing to assert its spiritual sense identified with the body of Christ. Therefore, we must insist on a common standard with which the hierarchs agree. It is the establishment of a true communion, respectful, at least in theory, of the constitutive collegial structure of the Church. Under these conditions, the outbreak of hostilities cannot be considered as an option in line with a policy whose objective would be only the search for supremacy. The breaking of the bonds of brotherhood between communities is a particularly serious act which, in principle, no protagonist can choose lightly.
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