

**FACTS AMONG RUMOURS:
THE CASE OF ALEXANDER'S ACCESSION**

Alexander's accession to the throne is astride two rich historiographic traditions: that of Philip II's reign, mainly Ephoros and Theopompos, and that of Alexander the Great's, represented by at least a dozen --more or less well preserved-- ancient authors. The tragic and potentially scandalous circumstances of the event were exploited by rival parties fighting for Alexander's heritage in the years that followed the death of the great conqueror. Under such conditions the modern historian in search for the historical truth has to go back to the origin of each tradition in order to identify its source and to evaluate its trustworthiness. The aim of my paper is to present the approaches followed in this quest and the provisional results of my endeavour.