

Book XI.
Title XXI. (XX)

Concerning the privileges of the City of Constantinople.
(De privilegiis urbis Constantinopolitanae.)

11.21.1. Emperors Honorius and Theodosius to Philippus, Praetorian Prefect of Illyria.

The city of Constantinople shall enjoy not only the prerogatives of the Italian rights but also those of ancient Rome itself.

Given July 14 (421).

C. Th. 14.12.1.

Note.

Constantinople was called Byzantium before the time of Constantine the Great, and had existed as a town for centuries. Constantine made it the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire and from that time on it grew and flourished, and many of the institutions there were modeled after Rome. By the instant law, the city was given the same legal status as Rome.