



HALL OF THE AMBASSADORS

During the Savoy period the room was reserved for receiving recognized diplomatic emissaries, a function which continues even today on occasions of official visits of heads of state to the Quirinale.

This room too was part of the Gallery of Alexander VII and shares its history and restoration works with the Yellow Hall and the Augustus Hall.

Here also are frescoes dating from the mid-1600s which can be seen between the windows and higher up the walls in the paintings of biblical scenes. These latter alternate with 19th Century paintings covering the upper part of the columns.

Belonging to the Baroque cycle is also the magnificent *Adoration of the Shepherds*, by Carlo Maratta, which concludes the series of Bible scenes with a splendid image of the birth of Christ. On the facing wall, however, the mural depicting the *Mission of the Apostles* was painted by Tommaso Minardi in 1864 and represents the last important work carried out in the papal palace before the transformation of the Quirinale into the seat of the Kings of Italy.

As in the other two rooms of the gallery, here the works carried out in the Napoleonic period included the renovation of the floor, which in this case was embellished with mosaic panels. Despite having been largely restored and reintegrated, the mosaics date from the 2nd Century AD and probably originate from Villa Adriana in Tivoli.