

CITY & MICRO-REGION

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE II

IN THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN
(AND BEYOND)

ISTANBUL
30 OCT – 1 NOV 2025

GERMAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE ISTANBUL
GERMAN GENERAL CONSULATE ISTANBUL



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THURSDAY, 30TH OF OCTOBER

09:00 h Welcome and Introduction
(GMT+3) by Paul Scheduling and Felix Pirson

SESSION 1 CITY AND MICRO-REGION CONFIGURATIONS: REPRESENTATION, PERCEPTION AND PLANNING

Chair: Jeroen Poblome

09:30 h Elif Koparal
Formation and Transformation of Rural Territories in Ionia: Political and Social Boundaries of Polis States

10:00 h Federico Russo – Simona Antolini
Territory Representation and Definition of Micro-Region: A Study of Local Cadastres in Communities of the Roman Empire

10:30 h Francesco Reali
Micro-Regions and Political Entities in Roman Southwest Anatolia: From Town Landscapes to the Landscape of the Empire

11:00 h Coffee Break

Chair: Elif Koparal

11:30 h Murat Tozan
Interconnectedness Between Urban Centre and Rural Sphere in the Micro-Region: The Case of Pergamon in the Writings of Aristeides and Galen

12:00 h Elisavet Sioumpara
Loss of Chance for a Modern Hippodamian City Plan or Not? Athens and Its Micro-Regional Network After the Persian Destruction

12:30 h Silke Muth-Frederiksen
Messene and Its Fortifications in Their Micro-Regional Network: Representation and Identity, Defence and Economy

13:00 h Lunch

14:00 h Murat Taşkiran – Özge Altun

Representation and Perception: Determining the Geopolitical Position of Ancient Sillyon Using Visibility Analysis Method

14:30 h Discussion

15:00 h Coffee Break

SESSION 2 CITIES AND MICRO-REGIONS AS AGENTS OF CONNECTIVITY, PART 1

Chair: Andrew Wallace-Hadrill

15:30 h Naoíse Mac Sweeney

Representing the Agents of Greek Connectivity: The City, the Micro-Region, and the Individual

16:00 h Silvia Geraci

Socio-Ecological Dynamics and Mediterranean Connectivity in the Urban Evolution of Aquileia from the foundation to Augustus

16:30 h Julia M. Koch

From the Black Sea to Britain: (Dis)Entangled Economies of Roman Agrotowns and Micro-Regions

17:00 h Discussion

19:00 h John Ma

On Micro-Regionalism
(German General Consulate)

FRIDAY, 31ST OF OCTOBER

SESSION 3 CITIES AND MICRO-REGIONS AS AGENTS OF CONNECTIVITY, PART 2

Chair: Naoíse Mac Sweeney

09:00 h Maria del Carmen Moreno Escobar

Beyond Ports: Comparative Spatial Analysis of Micro-Regional Connectivity in the Roman Mediterranean

09:30 h Hans Beck

Micro-Regional Echoes in Lakonia and Across the 'Spartan Mediterranean': A Decentering Exercise

10:00 h Lyubomir Malinov – Corinne Sanchez –
Guillaume Duperron

Narbo Martius (Narbonne, France) and Its Micro-Region(s): Dynamics of Resource Exploitation and Settlement Patterns from the Republican Period to Late Antiquity

10:30 h Discussion

11:00 h Coffee Break

SESSION 4 THE AGENCY OF THE SEA: DYNAMICS OF MARITIME INTEGRATION AND SEPARATION

Chair: Manuel Fernández-Götz

11:30 h Felix Pirson

Maritime Micro-Regions as Agents of Connectivity: The Case of Mytilene and Pergamon

12:00 h Alkiviadis Ginalis

The Question of Insularity in the Roman and Byzantine Aegean: The Case Study of Skiathos Island

12:30 h Eva Winter

Close by and Yet So Far Away: Siphnos as a Model of an Insular Micro-Region

13:00 h Discussion

13:30 h Lunch

SESSION 5 BEYOND THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN: CITY AND MICRO-REGION CONFIGURATIONS ON A GLOBAL AND DIACHRONIC LEVEL

Chair: John Ma

14:30 h Manuel Fernández-Götz

Urban Micro-Regions in the Periphery of the Mediterranean World: The Case of the Oppida

15:00 h Dennis Beck

Entangled Urban Competition in Local and Global Perspectives in Ancient Tripolitania

15:30 h Achim Lichtenberger

Artaxata in Armenia: City and 'Micro-Region' in the Ararat Plain

16:00 h Coffee Break

16:30 h Will Kennedy

Petra and Hinterland: A Co-Dependent Symbiosis Between City and Micro-Region

17:00 h Lorenzo Zamboni – Enrico Croce – Manuela Battaglia – Elena Calandra – Yuri Godino – Stefano Maggi

Agrotowns and Decentralised Landscapes in Cisalpine Gaul

17:30 h Discussion

SATURDAY, 1ST OF NOVEMBER

SPECIAL SESSION: ISTANBUL

Chair: Nadine Viermann

09:00 h Zeynep Kuban

City and Micro-Region Interaction and Extreme Urban Sprawl: The Case of Istanbul

09:30 h Coffee Break

10:00 h Round Table: Plenary Discussion

Moderation: Nadine Viermann

Participants: M. Fernández-Götz, E. Koparal, J. Ma, N. Mac Sweeney, F. Pirson, J. Poblome, P. Scheding, A. Wallace-Hadrill

12:00 h End

The timeframe of 30 min allocated to each speaker comprises 20 min presentation and 10 min discussion. Thank you for your kind attention.



CONFERENCE SERIES

This conference series explores ancient cities and their surrounding micro-regions as interconnected socio-ecological systems. Rather than viewing urban and rural spaces in isolation or hierarchy, the project emphasizes their mutual entanglement across time and place. It is guided by an international advisory board consisting of Manuel Fernández-Götz (Oxford), Elif Koparal (Istanbul), Naoíse MacSweeney (Vienna), Jeroen Poblome (Leuven), Andrew Wallace-Hadrill (Cambridge) and Martin Zimmermann (Munich).

The first conference, held at the German Archaeological Institute in Madrid from 21–23 May 2025, focused on configurations of city and micro-region within the ancient Mediterranean and its neighbouring regions. Particular attention has been given to socio-ecological complexity, temporal dynamics, and the ways in which these configurations were represented, perceived, and planned. The setting in Madrid offered a framework for discussing Mediterranean urbanism within a long-term perspective.

The second conference will take place at the German Archaeological Institute in Istanbul from 30 October – 1 November 2025. This event shifts the focus to issues of connection, integration, and broader global perspectives, including maritime interaction and comparative approaches to city-region relations beyond the ancient Mediterranean. By concluding the series in Istanbul, the dialogue expands to encompass the diversity of urban life in the Mediterranean and beyond.

Coordinators

Paul Scheduling (German Archaeological Institute, Madrid)
Felix Pirson (German Archaeological Institute, Istanbul)

Organisation

German Archaeological Institute, Madrid
German Archaeological Institute, Istanbul

German Archaeological Institute, Istanbul

İnönü Caddesi, No:10, 34437 Beyoğlu/İstanbul

German General Consulate, Istanbul

İnönü Caddesi, No:10, 34437 Beyoğlu/İstanbul

