

**Friday,  
June 5th**

**Saturday,  
June 6th**

Session 1

- 18:30** Tour of the Byzantine city walls of Komotini (led by the archaeologists at the Ephorate of Antiquities of Rhodope, Hellenic Ministry of Culture)
- 19:30** Screening of the BRIA Project Documentary (Archaeological Museum of Komotini, Ephorate of Antiquities of Rhodope, Hellenic Ministry of Culture) reception to follow

- 9:00** Arrival of participants (School of Humanities, Democritus University of Thrace)
- 9:15 – 9:30** Welcome from hosts/organizers

- 9:30** Ece Önder (Istanbul Technical University): The Architectural Stratigraphy of the Gallipoli Castle in Çanakkale, Turkey
- 9:45** Chryssa Karadima and Ioannis Poularakis (Ephorate of Antiquities of Rhodope, Hellenic Ministry of Culture): Maximianoupolis-Mosynopolis: Recent Research and Restoration Works in the Episcopal Church

- 10:00** Rossina Kostova (St Cyril and St Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo) and Preslav Peev (Institute of Oceanology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences): The Island Monastery of St John the Forerunner near Sozopol and Its Hinterland: Patterns of the Land-Sea Interaction in the Middle Ages

- 10:15** Constantina Kallintzi, Maria Chrysafi, Kyriaki Chatziprokopiou, Despoina Skoulariki, Eleni Tsiompikou, Konstantinos Darakis, Pagona Katsaki (Ephorate of Antiquities of Xanthi, Hellenic Ministry of Culture), and Eirini Tsetine (Democritus University of Thrace): Polystylon: Observations from the Rescue Excavations at the North-Western Section

- 10:30** Discussion

- 11:00 – 11:30** Break for coffee

- 11:30** Marina Tasaklaki (Ephorate of Antiquities of Rhodope, Hellenic Ministry of Culture): From Corridor to Hub: Connectivity and Settlement Dynamics in Aegean Thrace

- 11:45** Velislava Velikova (Panagyurishte Museum of History): Connectivity in the Southern Slopes of the Panagyurska Sredna Gora Mountains: The Krasen Fortification near Panagyurishte

- 12:00** Natalia Poulou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki): Elements of Foreign Material Culture in Northern Greece: The Case of Aegean Thrace

- 12:15** Ifigeneia Anagnostou (Ephorate of Antiquities of Rhodope, Hellenic Ministry of Culture): Antiquity or Byzantium? The Reception of Pre-Ottoman Monuments of Thrace through the Eyes of European Travelers

- 12:30** Discussion

- 13:00 – 15:00** Break for lunch

Session 2

Session 3

- 15:00** Galina Grozdanova (National Archaeological Institute with Museum at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences): Rock and People in Byzantine Thrace. Two Case Studies from Glouhite Kamani and Michalich

- 15:15** Andreas Gkoutzioukostas, Alexandra-Kyriaki Vasileiou-Seibt, Dimitris P. Drakoulis, Dimitris Sidiropoulos, and Konstantinos Diados (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki): The Distribution of Seals in Byzantine Thrace (6th–12th c.): Common Findspots between the Early and Middle Byzantine Periods

- 15:30** Kyriaki Chatziprokopiou (Ephorate of Antiquities of Xanthi, Hellenic Ministry of Culture): In the Footsteps of a Pipeline: Uncovering a Middle Byzantine Cemetery in the Plain of Xanthi

- 15:45** Maréva U (Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne), Alexandra Koumpouli (American School of Classical Studies at Athens), and Albena Milanova (Sofia University "St Kliment Ohridski"): Ritual Mobility and Lived Connectivity: Rethinking Thrace through the Anastenaria

- 16:00** Discussion

- 16:30 – 17:00** Break for coffee

- 17:00** Elissavet Ganiatsou, Fanny Antoniou, Athanasia Koutoula, Nikolaos Kouvalakis, Sinem Sadik, Georgios Asimakis, Asterios Aidonis, Panagiota Bantavanou, Christina Kakasa, and Christina Papageorgopoulou (Laboratory of Biological Anthropology, School of Humanities, Democritus University of Thrace & Institute of Applied Bioarchaeological Research, University Research Center, Democritus University of Thrace): Isotopic Insights into Diet, Subsistence, and Stress in Byzantine Northern Greece

- 17:15** Asterios Aidonis, Christina Kakasa, Sinem Sadik, Panagiota Xanthopoulou, Panagiota Bantavanou, Aggelos Souleles (Laboratory of Biological Anthropology, School of Humanities, Democritus University of Thrace & Institute of Applied Bioarchaeological Research, University Research Center, Democritus University of Thrace), Stavroula Tzevreni, Stela Vasileiadou, Krino Konstantinidou, Constantinos Koutsadelis, Chryssa Karadima (Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki City, Hellenic Ministry of Culture), and Christina Papageorgopoulou (Laboratory of Biological Anthropology, School of Humanities, Democritus University of Thrace & Institute of Applied Bioarchaeological Research, University Research Center, Democritus University of Thrace): The Demographic Landscape of Byzantine Thessaloniki

- 17:30** Rena Leou (Democritus University of Thrace & Ephorate of Antiquities of Rhodope, Hellenic Ministry of Culture): Cemeteries in Aegean Thrace: Traces of Mobility and Connectivity in Medieval Societies

- 17:45** Christina Papageorgopoulou, Aggelos Souleles, Sinem Sadik, Panagiota Xanthopoulou, Panagiota Bantavanou (Laboratory of Biological Anthropology, School of Humanities, Democritus University of Thrace & Insti-

Session 4

tute of Applied Bioarchaeological Research, University Research Center, Democritus University of Thrace), Elissavet Ganiatsou, Asterios Aidonis, Christina Kakasa, Athanasia Koutoula, Francesca Gentilin, Leonardo Valini, Jens Blöcher, Joachim Burger (Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz), Vasileios Nanis (Laboratory of Biological Anthropology, School of Humanities, Democritus University of Thrace), Stavroula Tzevreni, Stela Vasileiadou, and Krino Konstantinidou (Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki City, Hellenic Ministry of Culture): Urban Kinship and Genetic Diversity in Byzantine Thessaloniki

18:00 – 18:30 Discussion

18:30 – 18:40 Closing remarks

20:00 Speakers' dinner

9:00 Guided tour of the Evros River Delta

Sunday,  
June 7th

# International Workshop on Byzantine Thrace

*Connected Thrace:  
Mobility, Exchange, and the Making of a Medieval Region*

Laboratory of Biological Anthropology, School of Humanities at Democritus University of Thrace in collaboration with the BRIA Project (The Landscape and Rock-cut Architecture of Byzantine and Medieval Thrace)



5-7 June 2026  
**Program**