

Conference Programme

22-24/10/25

CONFERENCE

Mountains of Greece

Heritage narratives
from the past for a
sustainable future



University of
St Andrews



Funded by
the European Union



British Embassy
Athens

Location: British School at Athens
52 Souedias Street, Athens 106 76

Organisers: Prof Jason König (University of St Andrews), Maria Christodoulou (The Greek Herbalist), Dr Faidon Moudopoulos-Athanasίου (Barcelona Supercomputing Center), Prof Rebecca Sweetman (British School at Athens)

Wednesday 22 October 2025

18:00 - 19:15 - opening event: *Writing Greece: An evening with Sofka Zinovieff and Julian Hoffman*

[Register](#)

19:15 - 20:30 - reception

Thursday 23 October 2025

Session 1, Thursday a.m.

9:00 - 9:30 - Welcome: Rebecca Sweetman, Jason König, British Ambassador to Greece Matthew Lodge

9:30 - 11:00:

- Elena Kountouri (Hellenic Ministry of Culture), Sophia Zoumbaki (National Hellenic Research Foundation): *The world of the shepherd: Responses of Greek research projects and administrative initiatives to the challenge of preservation of the tangible and intangible heritage in mountainous archaeological sites of Greece*
- Brady Kiesling (Topostext): *Remonumentalizing the Greek countryside*
- Vanessa Archontidou (Alpinist, Mountain Leader, European Climate Pact Ambassador, Founder: AWomanCanBe): *Voices on the mountain: Women, wisdom, and the will to protect*

11:00 - 11:30: COFFEE BREAK

11:30 - 13:00:

- Kalliopi Stara (University of Ioannina): *Vegetation imprints of the sacred in the cultural landscape of Zagori*
- Diana Fagoudi, John Iliopoulos (We4All): *We4all and the global effort to protect and restore the ecosystems of our mountains*
- Kit Tan (University of Copenhagen): *The botanical heritage of the Greek mountains with special reference to the Peloponnese*

13:00 - 14:00: LUNCH BREAK

Session 2, Thursday p.m.

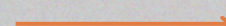
14:00-15:30:

- Sylvian Fachard (University of Lausanne, Swiss School of Archaeology in Greece): *Conducting archaeological survey in mountains: Cases from Greece and Switzerland*
- Penelope Matsouka (Anavasi): *A life's journey on the Greek mountains, through mountaineering, nature protection projects, raising children, cartography, aerial photography*
- Tina Kalantzopoulou (Belgian School at Athens): *The mountains of Crete in the Bronze Age: Current archaeological approaches*

15:30 - 16:00: COFFEE BREAK

16:00 - 18:00:

- Bonna Wescoat, Bailey Green (American School of Classical Studies at Athens): *Mount Fengari on Samothrace: In defense of mountain heritage*
- Myrsini Malakou, Julia Henderson (Society for the Protection of Prespa): *Sometimes, you just need to change your altitude!*
- Stefanos Sidiropoulos (CEO of Trekking Hellas, Head of Bafi Refuge Parnitha): *Mountain environments, outdoor activities and sustainable development: the work of Trekking Hellas*
- Maria Christodoulou (The Greek Herbalist): *Medicine on the mountain: Ancient remedies from Dioscorides' De Materia Medica*



Friday 24 October 2025

Session 3, Friday a.m.

9:00 - 11:00:

- Molly Greene (Princeton University): *Mountains in the Ottoman centuries*
- Giannis Apostolou (All Souls College, Oxford): *Erosion? What erosion? Land-use lifeways, environmental adaptability and community stories in the mid-montane landscapes of Grevena (Western Macedonia)*
- Fivos Tsaravopoulos, Konstantinos Karantzoulis (Paths of Greece): *Paths of Greece: Creating sustainable hiking destinations*
- Faidon Moudopoulos-Athanasίου (Barcelona Supercomputing Center): *Engaging communities through landscape archaeology: A model from Zagori (NW Greece)?*

11:00 - 11:30: COFFEE BREAK

11:30-13:00:

- David Gilman Romano (University of Arizona), Dimitris Papakonstantinou (National Technical University of Athens), Nota Pantzou (University of Patras): *The Parrhasian Heritage Park of the Peloponnese: A progress report (60 minutes) (The Idea of the Parrhasian Heritage Park; Environmental planning in the Parrhasian Heritage Park; The Parrhasian Heritage Park Field School: Working with and for mountain communities)*
- Marilena Mela (Boulouki, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam): *Sustaining by engaging: Roots and itineraries of Boulouki travelling workshop on the Epirus mountains*

13:00 - 14:00: LUNCH BREAK

Session 4, Friday p.m.

14:00 - 16:00:

- Alexis Katsaros (Mediterranean Institute for Nature and Anthropos): *Rivers of the mountains, veins of life: Safeguarding the Aoos/Vjosa as a transboundary ecological and cultural corridor*
- Julian Hoffman (Author, *The Small Heart of Things*, 2013; *Irreplaceable: The Fight to Save our Wild Places*, 2020; *Lifelines*, 2025): *A common course: Stories from mountain rivers in Greece and Albania*
- Angeliki Kosmopoulou (Founder, Story Mentor): *The mountain and the journey: Storytelling, trial, and transformation*
- Elena Scarsella (Barcelona Supercomputing Center): *Mountains of Italy: A comparative view on orality and narratives from the past in the central Apennines*

16:00 - 16:30: COFFEE BREAK

16:30 - 18:00:

- Socrates Koursoumis (Hellenic Ministry of Culture): *Messenian Taygetos: Traces of ancient history and archaeological surveys in the western part of the mountain range*
- Yiannis Papadatos and George Tzoufras (Department of History and Archaeology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens): *The role of central administrative intervention on mountain exploitation: Insights from ethnographic and archaeological investigations in East Crete*
- Sotiris Tsoukarelis (High Mountains Social Co-operative): *Mountains of change: Cooperativism for a sustainable rural future in Epirus*

Registration

For capacity and security reasons, it is strictly necessary to register for in person participation

[for ONLINE participation please register here](#)

[for IN PERSON participation please register here](#)

Info: <https://www.bsa.ac.uk/events/mountains-of-greece-heritage-narratives-from-the-past-for-a-sustainable-future/>

Generously funded by the University of St Andrews Impact and Innovation Fund, in association with the St Andrews Mountains of Greece project, with additional support from the Society for Classical Studies "Ancient Worlds, Modern Communities" Initiative and the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies.

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