

Maria Leontsini

Senior Researcher
Section of Byzantine Research

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STUDIES

1986: Bachelor of Arts, History (University of Ioannina 1986)

1988: Master of Arts, Byzantine History, University of Paris-I (Panthéon-Sorbonne)

2001: Ph.D. in Byzantine History (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens 2001)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

1988-1998: Functional Researcher, Programme "Historical Geography of Byzantine Peloponnese"

1999-2006: Assistant Researcher, Programme: "Byzantine History Data Bank"

2007-: Senior Researcher Programme: "Everyday and Social Life in Byzantium"

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Society and institutions in Byzantium
- Aspects of everyday life, manners, the social context of eating behaviors
- Historical geography (organization of urban and rural space in Byzantium)
- Byzantium and the East: Interaction, exchanges and cross-cultural communication

RESEARCH AND OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- 2009-2015: Teaching courses in the "Historical Sciences Seminar" of the IHR.
- 2012-2015: Supervision of postdoctoral research. "Support of Postdoctoral Researchers" Hellenic Ministry for Education and Religion and the European Social Fund (ESF).
- Undergraduate and postgraduate courses. Universities of Athens, Thessaloniki and Ioannina. Supervision of Post-Graduate Students and Ph.D. theses in Byzantine History.

- 2012-: Member of the Board (five-year appointment following elections) of the Greek National Committee for Byzantine Studies (Member of AIEB).
- 2014-: Associate of the annual bibliography bulletin of the journal *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* (Munich).
- 2013-2015: a) Coordinator of the Project: "Communication networks in the Ionian Islands (6th-13th c.)". b) Member of the Project: "Domestic equipment and handling networks. A diachronic approach". c) Member of the Project: "Rural networks for the production and distribution of products in the Peloponnese during the Byzantine period". Website: <http://kyrtouplegmata.eie.gr/>.
- Member of Committees for the election of Teaching Personnel in the Universities, Athens, Ioannina and Demokritos of Thrace.
- 2014-: Cooperation with the Piraeus Bank Group Cultural Foundation (PIOP) organizing annual meeting on the historical aspects of the environment.
- 2015-: Cooperation with the Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum (RGZM, Mainz), Project: "Harbours and landing places on the Balkan coasts of the Byzantine Empire (4th to 12th centuries)", Special Research Programme (SPP).
- 2017-2018: Organization with the Institute of Biology, Medicinal Chemistry and Biotechnology/NHRF of the Science in Society–Lecture Series: a) "Diet in the Mediterranean: Historical aspects and biochemical approaches" (in collaboration with I. Anagnostakis): http://www.eie.gr/epistimiskoinonia/2016-2017/Morfotikes_D.pdf b) "Youth, Antiaging and Life–longevity: Modern Approaches to Biological Age through Historical and Biological Sciences": http://www.eie.gr/epistimiskoinonia/2017-2018/Morfotikes_C.pdf.
- 2017-2019: Partner of the Programme: "Byzantine Art and Archaeology. Thematic Channel on Europeana" (CEF–TC–2016–3), coordinated by UNIBO, Alma Mater (Italy).
- 2017-: Coordinator of the Project: "Wild and domestic animals in the Greek space", conducted in the frame of the IHR/NHRF project *ANAVATHMIS. Historical research and digital applications*.

MAIN PUBLICATIONS

- "The Byzantine and Arab navies in the southern Aegean and Crete: shipping, mobility and transport (7th-9th c.)", *Graeco-Arabica* 12 (2017), 171-234.

- "From culinary to alchemical recipes. Various uses of milk and cheese in Byzantium", in I. Anagnostakis, Antonella Pellettieri (eds), *Latte e Latticini*, Lagonegro 2016, 205-222 (with G. Merianos).
- «Οι βυζαντινοί στόλοι στα νερά του Ιονίου πελάγους, 6ος-12ος αιώνας», in Th. Pylarinos, Panagiota Tzivara (eds), *I' Διεθνές Πανιόνιο Συνέδριο*, Κέρκυρα, 30 Απριλίου - 4 Μαΐου 2014, *Τα Πρακτικά. I. Ιστορία ενότητες Α' και Β'*, Corfu 2015 [*Κερκυραϊκά Χρονικά*, περ. Β', 8 (2015)], 523-540.
- "Horizontal or diagonal: Latent axes and communication points in the Adriatic and Ionian Seas during the sixth century", Web Portal: <http://kyrtouplegmata.eie.gr> (June 2015).
- "Butter and lard instead of olive oil? Fatty Byzantine meals", in Antonella Pellettieri (ed.), *Identità euromediterranea e paesaggi culturali del vino e dell'olio*, Foggia 2014, 217-229.
- "The Ionian Islands during the Early and Middle Byzantine Period: an overview on their history and monuments", in *The Ionian Islands: Aspects of their History and Culture*, Anthony Hirst, Patrick Sammon (eds), Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014, 26-62.
- "Plakountai, pies and pancakes: festive and daily baked desserts in Byzantium (4th-15th c.)", in Antonella Pellettieri (ed.), *... come sa di sale lo pane altrui*, Foggia 2014, 123-131.
- "Wonders of Nature and Heroism in the Narratives of Herakleios' Campaigns Against Persia", in Aikaterini Polymerou-Kamilaki (ed.), *Narratives Across Space and Time*, Athens 2014, vol. II, 337-356.
- "Byzantine policy towards the Arabs in the 7th century: diplomatic contacts and official emissaries", in A. Kralides, A. Gkoutzioukostas (eds), *Byzantium and the Arab world. Encounter of Civilizations*, Thessaloniki 2013, 247-262.
- «Ποιμένες και ποιμνία: Αντιλήψεις σχετικά με την κτηνοτροφία και τα προϊόντα της στο Βυζάντιο (5ος-10ος αι.)», in *10ο Τριήμερο Εργασίας ΠΙΟΠ*, Athens 2008, 169-191.