



Ινστιτούτο Ιστορικών Ερευνών • Εθνικό Ίδρυμα Ερευνών

Institute of Historical Research • National Hellenic Research Foundation

## **International Digital Conference**

### **Mapping settlement desertion in Southeastern Europe from Antiquity to the Modern Era.**

**22 – 23 April 2021**

Inextricably linked with settlement patterns and historical demography, settlement desertion is highly affected by crisscrossing political, socioeconomic and environmental historical frameworks. As a result, there are a number of research questions that can be raised when working towards a thorough study of desertion patterns.

Can we trace the main causes, as well as the time frames of settlement desertion? In which ways are settlement patterns affected by population movements? What are the consequences of slow pace socioeconomic transformations and/or warfare regarding settlement desertion? How do desertion patterns reflect the space and the landscape in which they take place? Is it possible to have a safe definition of settlement desertion which would differentiate, for example, between a ruined village and a settlement with steep population decline? How important are environmental factors, such as earthquakes, erosion, fluvial activity and climate fluctuations, for the study of the settlement patterns and how does the natural landscape affect the characteristics of desertion in the insular and in the continental space? What are the main research tools in order to reconstruct the past of the deserted settlements? While Archaeology is closely associated with materiality (remnant site settlement patterns and their spatial distribution), what is the role of History? Can we study settlement desertion through written sources and, if yes, what are the most appropriate historical documents towards this direction? What is the importance of the research on toponyms and anthroponyms and how useful are the historical and modern maps, as well as the digital applications of Geographical Information Systems?

Within the context of ongoing research programs conducted by the Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation, the Conference seeks to systematically investigate the settlement desertion overtime and space.



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Thus, the Conference welcomes presentations focusing on case studies from Antiquity to the Modern Era in the Greek and the Balkan Peninsula, as well as in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. The Conference aims at contextualizing settlement desertion in a thorough and multidimensional way through the presentation of new interpretative approaches regarding the time and the causes of the aforementioned patterns and it seeks to trace the possibilities of multidisciplinary and collaborative approaches towards the study of the deserted settlements over time.

The Digital Conference is organized by the Institute of Historical Research / National Hellenic Research Foundation and will take place on 22-23 of April 2021. Scientific papers presented in the Digital Conference will be included in a collective volume edited and published by the Institute of Historical Research.

Please send the title of your paper to the secretary of the Scientific committee. A proposal should also include the name, surname, current affiliation and contact details of the proponent.

Deadline for proposals submission: **15 December 2020.**

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

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