

International Conference

Medieval Landscapes and Rurality in Anatolia and Beyond

14-15 May 2026
DAI Istanbul



DEUTSCHES
ARCHÄOLOGISCHES INSTITUT
ISTANBUL



Institut Français
d'Etudes Anatoliennes



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RESEARCH CENTER FOR
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THURSDAY, 14 MAY 2026

REWRITING MEDIEVAL NARRATIVES

- 9.30-9.45** **Introductory Remarks**
- 9.45-10.15** **Asa Eger** (University of North Carolina-Greensboro)
Neither Byzantine nor Saljuq: The Complex Rural World of Southern Anatolia and Northern Syria in the 10-15th Centuries
- 10.15-10.45** **John Bintliff** (University of Edinburgh)
Bridging the Late Byzantine-Frankish to Ottoman Divide in Greece
- 10.45-11.15** **Coffee Break**
- 11.15-11.45** **D. Burcu Erciyas** (Middle East Technical University) & **Maxime Durocher** (Sorbonne Université)
Land, peasants and institutions: heterarchy and settlement patterns in late-medieval and early Ottoman Komana
- 11.45-12.15** **Vincent Thérouin** (Ghent University)
Turning “villages” into “cities”? The urbanization process in Early Modern Ottoman Bosnia, its effectiveness, and its conceptualization
- 12.15-12.45** **Anais Lamesa** (University of Edinburgh) & **Grégoire Sommer** (Laboratoire d'études sur les rhétoriques)
Beyond Division: Permeability and Interaction in the Rural Landscapes of Medieval Cappadocia
- 12.45-13.00** **Discussion**

INTERMEDIATE LANDSCAPES, IN-BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL

- 14.30-15.00** **Luca Zavagno** (Bilkent University)
"Third Spaces" in the early Medieval Mediterranean: the view from Byzantine Anatolia
- 15.00-15.30** **Suna Çağaptay** (Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University) & **Filiz İnanan** (Bursa Uludağ University)
Anaia from Below (?): New Approaches for Analyzing the Landscape of a Byzantine Settlement in Kuşadası
- 15.30-16.00** **Coffee Break**
- 16.00-16.30** **Marica Cassis** (University of Calgary)
Villages, Monasteries, and Kastras: The In-Between Spaces in Yozgat Province
- 16.30-17.00** **Oya Pancaroğlu** (Boğaziçi University)
Degrees of Urbanity and Rurality in the Southern Cappadocian Plains: Develi after 1250
- 17.00-17.30** **Pierre Benoit** (Independent Scholar)
Landscape, rurality, and urbanity in western Anatolia from the late Byzantine to the Ottoman period as seen through Pergamon (Bergama) and its hinterland
- 17.30-17.45** **Discussion**
- 18.30** **Reception**

FRIDAY, 15 MAY 2026

POWER, PATRONAGE AND TRANSFORMATION OF RURAL LANDSCAPES

- 10.00-10.30** **Iryna Teslenko** (National Archaeological Institute with Museum – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences)
A Landscape of Power: Castles of Southern Crimea, 1420s–1475
- 10.30-11.00** **Birgül Açıkıldız** (Harran University)
Rojkan Dynasty and the Shaping of Medieval Landscapes in Bidlis (14th-16th c.)
- 11.00-11.30** **Ayşe Belgin-Henry** (Bilkent University)
The post-Roman dynamics of Kozkalesi: A micro perspective on rural Antioch/ Antakya
- 11.30-11.45** **Discussion**

RIVERINE LANDSCAPES

- 13.30-14.00** **Ahmet Bilir** (Düzce University)
Integrated Waterways of the Bithynia Region: Connecting Inland Plains to the Propontis and Pontos Euxeinos
- 14.00-14.30** **Alkiviadis Ginalis** (DAI Istanbul), **Paolo Maranzana** (Boğaziçi University), **Marco Cavalazzi** (University of Bologna), **Michele Abballe** (Ca' Foscari University Venice)
East versus West: Riverscapes and the Shaping of Human Occupation in the Hinterlands of Constantinople and Ravenna
- 14.30-15.00** **Georgios Liakopoulos** (University of Ioannina), **Mustafa Doğan** (Süleyman Demirel Üniversitesi), **Adam İzdebski** (Nicolaus Copernicus University)
Landscapes in Flux: Byzantine, Seljuk, and Ottoman Impacts on Local Socio-Ecosystems in the Great Meander Valley
- 15.00-15.15** **Discussion**
- 15.15-15.45** **Coffee Break**

RURAL ECONOMIES AND LIFEWAYS

- 15.45-16.15** **Sara Nur Yıldız** (Middle East Technical University)
Exploring the Transhumant Pastoralist Economy of Medieval Anatolia during the Mongol Period
- 16.15-16.45** **Athanasios K. Vionis** (University of Cyprus)
Between continuity and transformation: the varied dimensions of rural landscapes in medieval Anatolia, Cyprus and the Aegean in a comparative perspective
- 16.45-17.15** **Evangelia Pişkin** (Middle East Technical University)
Foodscaes in Medieval Anatolia
- 17.15-17.30** **Discussion**
- 17.30-17.45** **Break**
- 17.45-18.30** **John Bintliff** (University of Edinburgh)
Concluding remarks



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ALLIANCE SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ

International conference hosted at DAI Istanbul, organized in collaboration with the Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes (IFEA) and the Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (ANAMED).

With the support of Sorbonne University, Middle East Technical University (METU), UMR 8167 Orient&Méditerranée and the Initiative Circulations Médiévales (McCir) – Alliance Sorbonne Université.

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