



TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
DARMSTADT

JOHANNES GUTENBERG
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ



Interdisciplinary Studies in Ancient Western Greece and Beyond *International Conference, 11–12 December 2025*

Conference venue:

Technical University of Darmstadt, Wilhelm-Köhler-Saal, Hochschulstraße 1, 64289 Darmstadt

Invited Discussants:

Dr Anthi Angeli, Dr Signe Barfoed, Prof Dr Sören Dietz, Gregor Döhner, Prof Dr Sören Handberg, Dr Sanne Houbby Nielsen, Birgit Kraus, Dr. Anna-Lena Krüger, Lina Makradima, Dr Georg Pantelidis, Dr Christina Rathossi, Dr Natalia Toma



Thursday, 11 December 2025

12:30 h *Welcome coffee and registration*

Chair: Prof Dr Dominik Maschek

13:00 h Prof Dr Tanja Brühl
Welcome Address by the President of the Technical University of Darmstadt

13:15 h Organising committee
Welcome to the congress

13:45 h Prof Dr Clemens Brünenberg
Of Bricks and Bits. New Methods and Perspectives in Building Archaeology Research

14:30–15:00 h *Coffee break*

Challenges and Developments of Settlement and Landscape Archaeology

Chair: Prof Dr Alexandra Busch

- 15:00 h Prof Dr John Bintliff
Unveiling the Rhythms of Greco-Roman Urbanism: The Empire of 2000 Cities Project
- 15:45 h Prof Dr Alexandros Mazarakis-Ainian
Deconstructing and Reconstructing Settlement patterns in Geometric and Early Archaic Attica
- 16:30 h Prof Dr Catherine Morgan
A View Over the Water: Recent Research on the Early Iron Age of the Inner Ionian Sea
- Keynote**
17:30 h Prof Dr Hans-Joachim Gehrke
Archäologie als Geschichte / Archaeology as History
- 18:30 h *Evening reception (Wilhelm-Köhler-Saal)*

Friday, 12 December 2025

9:30 h *Welcome coffee*

Historical and Epigraphic Insights into Western Greece

Chair: Dr Georg Pantelidis

- Keynote**
10:00 h Prof Dr Peter Funke
Eine steinerne sacred landscape. Zu anikonischen Kultstätten Akarnaniens /
A Sacred Landscape in Stone. Presumptions about the Cult Topography of Akarnania
- 10:45 h Prof Dr Claudia Antonetti
Reflections on Recent Epigraphic Publications related to Aetolia and Acarnania: An Overview
- 11:30 h Prof Dr Klaus Freitag
Neue historische Forschungen zum antiken Akarnanien. Ein Rückblick auf die letzten 15 Jahre
- 12:15–13:15 h *Lunch*

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Sacred Landscapes

Chair: Dr. Anna-Lena Krüger

- 13:15 h Dr Erofil Kolia
Olympia: Recent Archaeological Evidence following the Excavation, Restoration and Enhancement Projects of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Ilia (Hellenic Ministry of Culture)
- 14:30 h Prof Dr Andreas Vött
Geoarchaeological Research on the Sedimentary Burial of Ancient Olympia
- 15:15 h PD Dr Birgitta Eder und Dr Erofil Kolia
Farewell to Poseidon: Pottery from the destruction layer of the temple at Kleidi-Samikon
- 16:00–16:30 h *Coffee break*

Potential of Material Culture

Chair: PD Dr Marion Bolder-Boos

- 16:30 h Dr Stella Katsarou, Dr Agathi Karadima and Prof Dr Alexander Nagel
Akarnania's Ancient Caves in Modern Times: New Archaeological Research and Material Evidence
- 17:15 h Dr Jane Kreiser and Dr Anne Sieverling-Pantelidis
Territories and Supply Networks of Acarnanian cities. New Methodological Studies on the Value of Tiles as Material Sources
- 18:00 h Final discussion
- 20:00 h *Conference dinner (speakers & discussants)*
Restaurant Sitte, Karlstraße 15, 64283 Darmstadt

Saturday, 13 December 2025

- 10:00 h Guided tour to Mathildenhöhe (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
(speakers & discussants)
- 12:00 h *Farewell coffee*

Interdisciplinary Studies in Ancient Western Greece and Beyond

International Conference, 11–12 December 2025

This international conference organized by the Technical University of Darmstadt and the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz brings together scholars of archaeology, ancient history, epigraphy and geography to explore recent interdisciplinary research on ancient Western Greece from the Geometric period to the Roman Imperial era. The focus is set on the regions of Akarnania, Aitolia, Epirus and the north-western Peloponnese, areas that played a key role in ancient mobility, trade and religious life, yet have long remained underrepresented in archaeological scholarship.

Over the past few years, however, intensive fieldwork and new research initiatives have significantly deepened our understanding of these historical landscapes. The conference seeks to present the latest results of these efforts and to establish a new scholarly baseline for the study of the region.

The two-day event features presentations by invited experts. Themes include settlement patterns, sacred landscapes, political institutions, paleoenvironmental developments and methodological innovations. To involve as many specialists as possible, the conference adopts an innovative discussion format: alongside traditional lectures, current researchers on Western Greece will participate as discussants.

The conference is dedicated to Prof Dr Franziska Lang, Chair of the Department of Classical Archaeology and Vice President for Academic Careers at TU Darmstadt, whose long-standing research in Akarnania and the north-western Peloponnese has profoundly shaped the study of ancient Western Greece. As a tribute to her retirement, the event provides an opportunity to acknowledge her lasting contributions and to further advance the regional and methodological perspectives she has pioneered.

We warmly invite colleagues, students and friends to take part in the discussions in Darmstadt. Please register via **Eveeno** <https://eveeno.com/138888759>

Contact: conference@klarch.tu-darmstadt.de

The conference is funded by

 **DFG** Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

In|ge|ni|um
Young Researchers at TU Darmstadt

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