University of Manitoba

MINISTRY OF CULTURE
EPHORATE of ANTIQUITIES
of CHALCIDICE & MOUNT ATHOS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF THESSALONIKI

Amphoras and the Archaeology of Ancient Economies

(8th through 1st Centuries BC)

Regional Production – Regional Circulation: Amphoras and Aegean Communities

10-11 October 2025

Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki
Hybrid Event

ABSTRACT BOOK

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Recent decades have seen a great expansion of attention to the production, distribution and consumption of transport amphoras throughout the Mediterranean. This expansion is due in part to the encouragement of the PATABS conferences, the welcoming setting of the IARPotHP conferences, where an increasing number of papers are concerned with amphoras, and the amphora-focused conferences in Athens (2004, 2010) and Berlin (2018). In addition, it is worth noting the increasing frequency with which articles related to amphoras appear in Turkish journals and the acts of regional archaeological conferences in Greece. The breadth of fabric analyses coupled with typological research on pre-Roman amphoras in the western Mediterranean has likewise inspired new research questions and led to radical reconsideration of amphora studies from Corinth westward as far as the gateway to the Atlantic. The FACEM website has played a crucial role in this process.

New research methods in terrestrial and underwater fieldwork, as well as archaeometric and computational analyses, have increased knowledge of amphora production techniques, distribution logistics and consumption patterns. Against this backdrop of progress, we are proposing a series of two-day conferences bringing together researchers to share new discoveries, address broader long-standing issues, and explore new paths for future studies.

This conference is the third of three such meetings (Istanbul, Rome, and Thessaloniki) to highlight new research programs and attendant issues arising in each region. The region of the Thermaic Gulf has provided vital evidence for early amphora production and trade in the Aegean. This third conference, with its focus on the Aegean world, thus fittingly takes place at an epicenter of Aegean amphora production and trade!

The conference will feature seven sessions:

- North Aegean Amphora Production
- Stamping Practices
- Aegean Islands
- Ships and Overseas Finds
- Southern Mainland
- Making and Shaping
- More Distant Perspectives on Aegean Amphoras

For each theme, we have arranged keynote papers of 30 minutes, followed by 15 to 20-minute presentations addressing specific topics related to these four main research areas.

The Organizing Committee

Kostas Filis *Ephorate of Antiquities of Chalcidice and Mount Athos*
Sabine Huy *Hamburg University*
Berslan Korkut *Koç University*
Mark Lawall *University of Manitoba*

Amphoras and the Archaeology of Ancient Economies:
Regional Production – Regional Circulation: Amphoras and Aegean Communities

October 10-11, 2025
Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki, Greece

Day 1: Friday (October 10)

WELCOME

9:00-9:30 **Anastasia Gadolou** *General Director of the Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki*
George Skiadaresis *Director of the Ephorate of Chalcidice and Mount Athos*
Mark Lawall *University of Manitoba* Amphora Fridays and this conference

Session 1 | North Aegean Amphora Production | Moderator: Sabine Huy

9:30-10:05 **Kostas Filis** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Chalcidice and Mount Athos* – North Aegean Amphoras workshops. An overview

10:05-10:25 **Konstantoula Chavela** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Achaia* – Exchanges and Consumption Around the Thermaic Gulf During Iron Age: The Evidence from Transport Amphoras from Toumba Thessaloniki (8th–6th century BC)

10:25-10:45 **Martin Perron** *Laboratoire ArAr – Archéologie et Archéométrie Maison de l'Orient et de la Méditerranée, Lyon* – Local and Imported Transport Amphoras from a Late Archaic Fill from Thasos **(ONLINE)**

Break until 11:15

11:15-11:35 **Vasiliki Misailidou-Despotidou** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Em. Director of Antiquities* – Transport Amphoras from Aphytis and the Local Workshop

11:35-11:55 **Vissarion Bachlas & Aikaterini Dakari** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Chalcidice and Mount Athos* – Workshops of Mende Type Transport Amphoras on the Coast of the Theraic Gulf

Session 2 | Stamping Practices | Moderator: Mark Lawall

11:55-12:30 **Tania Panagou** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Cyclades* – Stamping Ancient Greek Amphoras: A Broad Survey

Optional Participation (minimum 10 people):

1. Presentation by E. Tsagaraki (Head of the Department of Metalwork and Minor Arts Collections and Exhibitions Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki) of the Mycenaean Stirrup jar from Torone (?) which will be exhibited in the "New Acquisitions / New Approaches" (10 minutes)
2. A guided tour of the temporary exhibition "In the Cave. Stories from Darkness brought to Light" by an archaeologist from the AMTH (40 minutes)

Lunch Break until 14:30

14:30-14:50 **Ioannis Bellas** *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki* – "Parmeniskos Group:" from Antigonus to Perseus. A Historical Approach

14:50-15:10 **Guillermo Pascual Berlanga** *University of Cadiz* **Grigoris Kasseropoulos & Eleni Papagianni** *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki* – Amphorae from Ancient Dion (4th–1st c. BC

15:10-15:30 **Andreas Stagkos** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Thessaloniki* – The Stamped Amphora Handles from Dioikitiriou Square Thessaloniki

15:30-15:50 **Elena Rapti** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture - General Directorate of Antiquities and Cultural Heritage* – Statistical Analysis of the Stamped Amphora Handles Found in Delos (Late 2nd - Early 1st c. BC)

Break until 16:20

Session 3 **| Aegean Islands | Moderator: Tania Panagou**

16:20-16:40 **Erica Venturo** *University of Michigan* – Imitation as Flattery, Imitation as Innovation, or Both? Central Cretan Amphora Production and Circulation within the Aegean During the Second Century BCE

16:40-17:00 **Nike Tsatsaki** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Rethymno* – Production and Distribution of Amphorae During the Hellenistic Period in Ancient Cities of the Wider Rethymno Region

17:00-17:20 **Stella Skaltsa** *Queen's University, Canada* – Aegean Imports in Rhodes: Observations of the Amphoric Material from a Public Monumental Building

17:20-17:40 **Chara Palamida, Fani Seroglou** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Dodecanese* **& Angeliki Giannikouri** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Em. Director of Antiquities* – The Presence of Imported Amphorae in Rhodes During the Hellenistic Period

17:40-18:00 **Fani Seroglou** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Dodecanese* – A Deposit of Amphorae from the Western Sector of the City of Kos

Break until 18:30

18:30-18:50 **Vicky Vlachou** *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki* **& Nota Kourou** *National & Kapodistrian University of Athens* – Transport Amphoras from Xobourgo on Tenos and their Wider Cycladic Context (Archaic to Late Classical)

18:50-19:10 **Sabine Huy** *University of Hamburg* – Micro-regional (Dis-)Connections in Southern Ionia

19:10-19:30 **Martina Derada** *University of Pavia, Italian Archaeological School of Athens* – Fragmentary Amphoras and Trade Networks in Hephaestia (Lemnos): a Diachronic Study from the Geometric to the Hellenistic Period

19:30-19:50 **Daniele Zumerle** *University of Padua, Italian Archaeological School at Athens* – Late Classical, Hellenistic, and Roman Amphoras from the Telesterion Area of the Kabeirion at Chloi (Lemnos)

Day 2: Saturday (October 11)

Session 4 | Ships and Overseas Finds | Moderator: Kostas Filis

9:00-9:35 **George Koutsouflakis** *University of Thessaly* – Archaic Amphorae from the Phournoi Archipelago (Eastern Aegean): Shipwrecks, Cargos and Isolated Finds

9:35-9:55 **Stavroula Vrachionidou** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities* – Ancient Maritime Trade in Northern Greece: the Testimony of the Shipwrecks

9:55-10:15 **Elena Bonelou & Dimitrios Kourkoumelis-Rodostamos** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities* – Corcyrean Amphorae from Recent Surveys

Break until 10:45

10:45-11:05 **Babette Bechtold** *Universität Wien* – A View from Western Sicily: Preliminary Observations on the Consumption of North Aegean Amphorae in Himera (Late 6th–5th c. BCE)

11:05-11:25 **Fatima M. Abushaqqal** *Jordan Department of Antiquities, Aqaba Directorate* – Commercial Interaction Between the Nabataeans and the Greek Islands: Insights from Archaeological Evidence

Session 5 | Southern Mainland | Moderator: Vasiliki Misailidou

11:25-11:45 **Mateo González Vázquez & Pascal Warnking** *Universität Trier* – Mapping Trade in Classical and Hellenistic Athens: An Overview of the Kerameikos Amphora Stamps

11:45-12:05 **Antonio Saez Romero & Alvaro Miranda Garcia** *Universidad de Sevilla* – Aegean Amphoras and Stamps Found at the Punic Amphora Building (Ancient Corinth)

12:05-12:25 **Louisa Panopoulou** *University of Ioannina* – Transport Amphoras from Oropos: Commercial Items or Symbols of Mobility and Ideas' Exchanges? **(ONLINE)**

Lunch Break until 14:30

14:30-14:50 **Kristian Göransson** *University of Gothenburg* – Amphorae at Asine and Hellenistic Trade in the Argolid

14:50-15:10 **Evangelia Malapani** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Messinia* – Hellenistic and Early Roman Amphorae from the City of Ancient Koroni in Messenia **(ONLINE)**

Session 6 | Making and Shaping | Moderator: Berslan Korkut

15:10-15:45 **Anno Hein** *Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology N.C.S.R. "Demokritos"* – East Aegean Transport Amphorae - Manufacture, Distribution and Function

Break Until 16:15

16:15-16:35 **Athanasios Varotsos** *KERAMOS Research Group, University of Patras,* **Konstantinos Filis** *Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Chalcidice and Mount Athos*, **Vayia Xanthopoulou** *Laboratory of Electron Microscopy and Microanalysis, University of Patras*, **Pavlina Skintzi & Ioannis Iliopoulos** *KERAMOS Research Group, University of Patras* – Archaeometric Analysis of Hellenistic Transport Amphorae from Aigion and Trapeza Diakopto, NW Peloponesse **(ONLINE)**

16:35-16:55 **Chavdar Tzochev** *National & Kapodistrian University of Athens* – Beyond Typology: What Shapes and Sizes of Thasian Amphoras Tell Us About Production and Trade?

Session 7 | More Distant Perspectives on Aegean Amphoras | Moderator: George Koutsouflakis

16:35-16:55 **Tudor Hila, Ciupercă Bogdan & Dîscă Cătălin** *Prahova County Museum of History and Archaeology* – At the Periphery of the Hellenistic World: Local Amphorae with Anepigraphic Stamps from the Late Iron Age in the Lower Danube Region

16:55-17:15 **Fabienne Olmer** *CNRS* – Amphorae from the Eastern Mediterranean in Gaul from the 6th c. BC to the 7th c. AD

CLOSING DISCUSSION

18:00-19:00 Discussion and Closing Remarks

Registration for **online** attendance | Εγγραφή για **διαδικτυακή** παρακολούθηση

https://umanitoba.zoom.us/meeting/register/7Cw6AF6uQEeS1NatGgsxYw

Please contact us at amphora.conferences@gmail.com

Session 1
North Aegean Amphora Production

KOSTAS FILIS

North Aegean Amphoras Workshops. An Overview

The Northern Aegean has a long-standing tradition in the production of transport amphoras, with the latest evidence suggesting that this practice dates back at least to the Late Geometric period. This period includes the so-called Geometric amphoras with concentric circles, considered the oldest type of Greek type transport amphora. However, there is a gap or cessation in amphora production for approximately 200 years. From the late 6th and early 5th century BC, there is a revival in the activity of local workshops, which increase and systematize their production mainly during the Classical period. Extensive workshop facilities have been identified in Mende, Akanthos, Thasos, and Samothrace. Strong indications also exist in several other areas, such as Aphytis, Skione, Siviri, Pefkochori, Chanioti, Torone, and possibly Olynthos in Chalcidice, as well as along the coast of the Strymonic Gulf, the Thasian Peraia, and further east in Thrace. Additionally, workshop sites related to amphora production have been identified in the region of Pieria, specifically in ancient Herakleion. The adoption of stamping in some of these amphoras, which appears to follow different practices, along with certain morphological variations, allows us to classify them into regional groups or zones of influence. This paper explores issues concerning the presence, organization and operation of the local workshops and the economic conditions leading to the development of amphora production in the Northern Aegean and the expansion of their products in the Aegean and the Black Sea markets from the late 6th to the late 4th century BC.

KONSTANTOULA CHAVELA

Exchanges and Consumption Around the Thermaic Gulf During Iron Age: The Evidence from Transport Amphoras from Toumba Thessaloniki (8th–6th century BC)

At the edge of the narrow coastal plain at the northeastern end of the Thermaic Gulf, at an altitude of 50 meters above sea level, on the slope of one of the last foothills of Mount Chortiatis, lies the ancient settlement of Toumba Thessaloniki. It includes first a conical mound (tell) with layers of the Bronze, Iron Age and historic times, and a trapezoidal (almost flat) area extending out around the mound proper with layers of settlement from the Early Iron Age mainly, down to the end of the 4th century BC. The size of the settlement and the complexity of the architectural remains bear witness to its prominent position at the innermost part of the Thermaic Gulf as early as the Late Bronze Age, as well as during historical times.

The settlement began participating in exchange networks in the Early Iron Age, with activity intensifying in the 8th century BC and particularly in the 7th and 6th centuries. The transport amphorae found in the habitation layers provide undeniable evidence of these processes. Late Geometric transport amphoras of northern Aegean origin, as well as transport amphoras from East Greece (Chios, Samos, Klazomenae), Attica and Corinth enable us to trace the exchange networks in which the settlement was integrated, while also offering a representative picture of the products consumed by its inhabitants during the Iron Age (8th–6th century BC).

MARTIN PERRON

Local and Imported Transport Amphoras from a Late Archaic Fill from Thasos

Since 2010, archaeological excavations carried out by the Ephorate of Antiquities of Kavala and the French School at Athens on the northern outskirts of the sanctuary of Artemis in Thasos have revealed a succession of levels dating back to the Archaic period. The investigations performed inside Building "25" have brought to light an impressive assemblage of ceramics dating from the turn of the 6th and 5th centuries BC, which includes a wide range of locally-made transport amphoras, as well as containers originating from regional workshops and imported from the four corners of the Aegean world.

This lecture will portray the imports, the trade networks, and the local production of amphoras in Thasos in the second half of the 6th century BC. It will focus on the production and typology of the so-called "double-band rim" amphoras, whose distribution and discovery contexts are now better documented in Thasos, and on the provenance of certain North Aegean and "Zeest" series that share clay similarities with other local productions. The role of Thasos and its peraia as wine producers and exporters in the 6th century BC, and the island's place as a consumer of wines from Chios, Lesbos and Eastern Greece will also be discussed.

VASILIKI MISAILIDOU-DESPOTIDOU

Transport Amphoras from Aphytis and the Local Workshop

Aphytis is an ancient Greek city in Chalcidice located on a plateau above the shore of the Toroneos gulf. As the recent excavations have proved, a destructive earthquake at the penultimate decade of the 4th century BC ruined the intra wall built up area of the ancient city. In the destruction layers a great number of transport amphoras were revealed among other objects of the households.

In this paper we present the types of the amphoras which were in use during the 4th century BC aiming to portray the characteristics of the local production and to underline the common elements with amphoras of other workshops. We also comment on specific issues as their use, their regional circulation and the role of local production on the economy of the city.

VISSARION BACHLAS & AIKATERINI DAKARI

Workshops of Mende Type Transport Amphoras on the Coast of the Thermaic Gulf

Archaeological research has brought to light workshops producing transport amphoras typologically related to those of Classical and Hellenistic type ("Parmeniskos Group") of Mende. Such workshops existed on both sides of the Thermaic Gulf. Mende was the production centre in the Cassandra Peninsula, while other pottery workshops have been detected in the agricultural land (chora) of Mende, at Skala Fourka, and further north, at Siviri. On the west coast of the Thermaic Gulf, ceramic workshops of this type have been found at Pierian Herakleion.

In this paper we examine the positioning of the workshops in the landscape, their typology, dating, and specialization which guaranties that the final product fulfills the bottling, control and trading standards. The typology of the amphoras and the stamps on their handles or necks are also discussed. Stamps usually contain simple letters, symbols, or names. They certify the product's particular place of origin, as well as constituting its distinct trademark. Finally, the study also focus in the stamps' frequency, type, and purpose, in relation to the excavation data and in comparison to their parallels.

Session 2
Stamping Practices

TANIA PANAGOU

Stamping Ancient Greek Amphoras: a Broad Survey

A general overview of the fascinating field of ancient Greek amphora stamps is delivered in an effort to summarize its main features. Starting from a commentary on the terminology of "σφραγίζειν" and after a brief description of the wider uses of stamping in the ancient Aegean world, the presentation focuses on the stamping of Greek transport amphorae.

The various elements of the amphora stamps are outlined according to their types and combinations: letters, monograms, names, devices, ethnikon, etc. This manifold practice is placed within its chronological frame, from the Archaic to the late Hellenistic period. And this time spectrum is set in a general evolutionary context with reference both to possible origins and to the sporadic use of stamps on trade containers after the tradition declined. The extent of the phenomenon is described both quantitatively and geographically, drawing on data from multiple Aegean production centers.

The discussion of Greek amphora stamps is supplemented by a comment on other forms of amphora markings, like graffiti, dipinti, labels and stamps on the sealing material, as also on the use of similar forms of stamping on other objects, like lagynoi, tiles, and stands.

IOANNIS BELLAS

"Parmeniskos Group:" from Antigonus to Perseus. A Historical Approach

The Parmeniskos Group is one of the main groups of stamped amphorae handles, the origin of which, despite strong evidence, has not been confirmed. For this particular group of amphorae, a possible origin from Pella has been suggested, due to the large number of amphorae found there and evidence of wine-producing activity in the region. This position was challenged following the discovery of an amphorae workshop of this group in Mende, known for wine production during the classical period. However, the importance of the amphorae of the Parmeniskos Group is not limited to their place of production, but extends to their relationship with the Macedonian kingdom. More specifically, could it be argued that they were the main amphorae of the kingdom, in which wine from various regions was stored and traded, bringing profits to the kingdom? Could it also be possible to determine chronologically their appearance or the consolidation of their presence? Finally, did their appearance affect the movement of amphorae from other regions? A comparative study of the handles of this group, together with those of Thasos from important cities of the Macedonian kingdom, such as Thessaloniki, Pella and Demetrias, could provide a first answer to the above questions. Of particular importance in this respect are two stamps of the Parmeniskos group from Thessaloniki.

GUILLERMO PASCUAL BERLANGA, GRIGORIS KASSEROPOULOS & ELENI PAPAGIANNI

Amphorae from Ancient Dion (4th–1st c. BC)

Between 1984 and 1986, Dion University Excavation conducted partial field research over an area measuring approximately 120 m. in length, located in the northern sector of the ancient city. This area, referred to as the "Cheimarros Sector", yielded numerous fragmentarily preserved architectural remains belonging to different—and often superimposed—building phases, dating from the early Imperial period to Late Antiquity. The earliest building remains were founded upon a fill layer that, among other materials, contained pottery sherds ranging in date from the 4th to the 1st century BCE. The present study focuses on the amphorae material from this fill, which offers significant insights into the use of the site prior to the foundation of the Roman colony. The amphorae evidence indicates that the site was fully integrated into the commercial distribution networks of the northern Aegean from the late 4th century BC through the early Roman period. The assemblage includes amphorae originating from across the Aegean, primarily from Rhodes, Chios, and Mende, but also from other centres. Amphorae from the early Roman period are notably rare. Particularly noteworthy is the discovery of an almost complete Adriatic Lamboglia 2 amphora, which reflects shifting trade patterns in the region after 145 BCE.

ANDREAS STAGKOS

The Stamped Amphoras Handles from Dioikitiriou Square Thessaloniki

Between 1990 and 1998, archaeological excavations brought to light an important archaeological site located in the western sector of Thessaloniki's historic center, northwest of the Roman Agora and near the city's sanctuaries. Beneath a labyrinthine residential grid — yet still aligned with the overlying urban layout of the late Hellenistic and Roman city — a building wall was revealed near the center of the area, constructed using a pseudo-isodomic system. This indicates an early Hellenistic settlement (likely associated with the city's foundation) dating to the late 4th to early 3rd century BC. Almost a hundred years later, at the end of the 3rd century BC, a late Hellenistic installation is observed in the form of foundations for the subsequent Roman phase. This is seen across extensive parts of the area, quite possibly covering its entire surface, as it forms the substructure of the early Roman phase that follows, which occupies the full city block excavated. Among the rich ceramic finds is a significant number of stamped handles from commercial amphorae, originating mainly from insular production centers in the southeastern Aegean (Rhodes, Kos), as well as from the northeastern Aegean (Thasos). These finds reflect the trade relations between these centers and Thessaloniki during the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC.

ELENA RAPTI

Statistical Analysis of the Stamped Amphoras Handles Found in Delos (Late 2nd - Early 1st c. BC)

This paper studies the stamped handles of amphorae found on Delos, from the 2nd century to 69 BC, when Delos was destroyed by pirates. Through the statistical analysis of the stamped handles, we are made aware of elements such as the origin of the amphorae, the workshops, the manufacturer, etc., essential elements that facilitate our expertise on the topics of origin and workshops. The research shows the dynamic presence of the Roman community on the island after the declaration of the port as incomplete by the Romans, thus contributing to the emergence of Delos as an important transit hub of the Aegean and the Mediterranean after the destruction of

Corinth (146 BC). Archaeological finds, mainly from the Late Hellenistic - Late Republic period (Lamb.2, Dressel, Brindisian, Greco-Italic types), show large percentages of products from Italy and the Dalmatian coast, a fact that proves the decrease in the circulation of Greek products of wine, olive oil and garrum, as revealed by the analyses of the amphorae.

Session 3
Aegean Islands

ERICA VENTURO

Imitation as Flattery, Imitation as Innovation, or Both? Central Cretan Amphora Production and Circulation Within the Aegean During the Second Century BCE

The transition from the Hellenistic period into the Late Republican, early colonization of Crete, at the beginning of the 2nd century BCE, marked a transformation in the networks of production and circulation of Cretan amphorae within the Aegean. On the side of regional production, the layout and chaîne opératoire of amphora manufacture at kiln sites shifted to accommodate new markets and distribution patterns outside of, and within the Aegean. These shifting networks were highlighted not only in the scale of amphora production, but also in the prominent morphological features associated with the four types of Central Cretan amphoras produced from the 2nd c. BCE onwards. Elements of Rhodian, Knidian, Chian, and Koan amphoras were reflected in the handles, bases, and necks of the four types of Central Cretan amphoras produced in the Late Republican period—an expansion from the three amphora forms produced prior to Crete's colonization by Rome. Furthermore, each of these amphoras had distinct circulation patterns within the Aegean, raising questions on not only how shifts in production occurred, but also why and where these different regional influences impacted Cretan amphoras, and their differing clientele based on the recognition of other Aegean amphora styles and features. This analysis of the regional production and circulation of Central Cretan amphoras towards the end of the Hellenistic and into the Late Republican period will reveal the interplay between imitation, innovation, and the recognizability of Cretan amphoras—in their varied forms—across different communities of the Aegean, and the human connections that bound the production and circulation of these vessels.

NIKE TSATSAKI

Production and Distribution of Amphorae During the Hellenistic Period in Ancient Cities of the Wider Rethymno Region

Recent or even earlier excavations at sites in the territory of ancient cities of the wider region of Rethymnon, such as Eleftherna, Lappa and the unatributed city located at the site of the present-day settlements of Sfakaki / Stauromenou / Chamalevriou, have brought to light a lot of material of the Hellenistic period which includes several amphorae - already published or unpublished. In a first stage, the paper will focus on the distinction of the material between domestic and imported amphorae, in order to subsequently attempt to approach the local production on the one hand and to investigate the trade relations of the above cities and the trade networks they were part of on the other hand.

STELLA SKALTSA

Aegean imports in Rhodes: Observations of the Amphoric Material from a Public Monumental Building

Rhodian amphoras are so well known that this material has overshadowed non-Rhodian amphoras in Rhodes. A substantial number of stamped handles and other amphoric material came to light during past rescue excavations which uncovered a public monumental building in Rhodes. As expected, the bulk of the material is Rhodian. But amphoras from elsewhere in the Aegean also found their way into this building. The number of imports in terms of quantity may seem negligible, but these imports are nevertheless representative of well-known centres of amphora production, including Thasos, Chios, Kos, Knidos, and the coast of Asia Minor. Imports in the city of Rhodes are currently poorly documented in the current archaeological literature, yet they did reach this cosmopolitan city. This paper seeks to shift attention from Rhodian amphoras, a material testimony to Rhodes' commercial power in the Hellenistic period, to non-Rhodian amphoric material in Rhodes itself, and thus to reflect on how Rhodes participated in local and regional networks not just as an export power but also as a centre of consumption in the Aegean.

CHARA PALAMIDA, FANI SEROGLOU & ANGELIKI GIANNIKOURI

The Presence of Imported Amphorae in Rhodes During the Hellenistic Period

Although the number of imported amphorae in Rhodes is not very large, products from many important amphorae production centres of the Aegean and Black Sea, as well as the western Mediterranean are represented on the island. The most popular production centres among these seem to be those of Knidos and Thasos, followed by the workshops of Kos and Chios. This paper examines both the intact examples and the fragmentary ones from the collection of amphorae of the Ephorate of Antiquities of the Dodecanese, focusing primarily on tracing the chronological distribution of their presence on the island of Rhodes.

FANI SEROGLOU

A Deposit of Amphorae from the Western Sector of the City of Kos

The island of Kos is one of the best examples of a Greek island region with uninterrupted habitation since prehistoric times. Excavations carried out in particular in the town of Kos by the Italian Ephorate of Monuments and Excavations and then by the Greek Archaeological Service have brought to light a wealth of antiquities, confirming the existence of a robust settlement. In the Western Sector of the ancient city many important public buildings were concentrated, such as the stadium, the palestra, the thermae of port, the temple of Demeter, etc. In this area, the Ephorate of Antiquities of the Dodecanese recently carried out a rescue excavation in a small plot of land. Among the finds is a Roman amphorae deposit, a first presentation of which will be made in this conference.

VICKY VLACHOU & NOTA KOUROU

Transport Amphoras from Xobourgo on Tenos and their Wider Cycladic Context (Archaic to Late Classical)

A small, yet quite characteristic assemblage of transport amphoras has been investigated during the recent years at Xobourgo on Tenos. All pieces have been found within the cemetery area, yet their use in the funerary context is not exclusive. The installation of pottery and metallurgical workshops in this same area during largely the same period seems equally related to the presence and circulation of transport amphoras and larger storage containers within the site. The aim of this paper is to present some evidence regarding the types and contexts of these amphoras and to place the discussion against the wider Cycladic background. Tenos does not seem to have produced transport amphoras during this early date, based on the evidence so far; nonetheless the island is an important actor within the active Aegean networks, providing evidence for the circulation and use of amphoras from the Archaic to the early Hellenistic period. The vicinity to Delos and the strong ties that Tenos maintained with the Delian sanctuary could account for this situation. On the other hand, stamps and the fabric of certain pieces provide a fresh basis for considering the local production of this distinctive class of storage containers and to place its beginnings much earlier than previously considered.

SABINE HUY

Micro-regional (Dis-)Connections in Southern Ionia

Both Miletus and Samos are well known for their involvement in long-distance trade in the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions. However, micro-regional trade within Southern Ionia itself has received less attention. Two recent survey projects, one in Miletus (Humeitepe-Survey, directed by Ch. Berns, Univ. Hamburg) and the other in Samos (WestAreaSamosArchaeologicalProject, directed by N. Mac Sweeney, Univ. Vienna – A. Christophilopoulou, Mus. of Fine Arts Boston – M. Loy, Univ. Durham), now enable more detailed analysis of local consumption and distribution patterns in these neighboring sites. By comparing the amphora assemblages from the Archaic to Hellenistic periods, I will demonstrate the significant role of self-sufficiency and micro-regional supply systems. This will shed light on the limited connectivity within the micro-region.

MARTINA DERADA

Fragmentary Amphoras and Trade Networks in Hephaestia (Lemnos): a Diachronic Study from the Geometric to the Hellenistic Period

Hephaestia, located on Lemnos in the North Aegean, was a key site on ancient routes connecting Greece, the islands, and Asia Minor. The imported amphoras found at Hephaestia attest a wide circulation and consumption of agricultural products from at least the 8th-7th centuries BCE and then, in increasing quantities, throughout the Classical and Hellenistic age. Both legacy data from the past excavations and new stratigraphically based information will contribute to building a first comprehensive report on transport amphoras. This study focuses on fragmentary amphoras found in the central complex of the so-called Archaic acropolis of the ancient city, an area that was first occupied by an Archaic sanctuary, later by a Classical residential quarter, and subsequently by Hellenistic pottery workshops. The site appears to have been well integrated into the trade of agricultural goods in the North Aegean, with changing routes over the centuries and varying amounts of imported material. The study of amphorae from the Hephaestia assemblage faced certain difficulties due to the current lack of typological studies on Lemnian amphoras and, more

generally, due to various issues concerning the identification of amphora types and their actual relevance within the Aegean world

Through a diachronic study of amphoras, dating between the 8th and the 1st century BCE, found also in the other excavations from 1926 to 2023 in the ancient city, the paper aims to provide a wide picture of the economy and consumption in Hephaestia through the centuries, in order to place the site within the major networks of the North Aegean traffics in antiquity.

DANIELE ZUMERLE

Late Classical, Hellenistic, and Roman Amphoras from the Telesterion Area of the Kabeirion at Chloi (Lemnos)

The goal of this paper is to present – for the first time – the amphoras from the Late Classical, Hellenistic, and Roman periods found in the telesterion of the Kabeirion at Chloi, a sanctuary under the jurisdiction of the city of Hephaistia (Lemnos). This sanctuary was one of the main sites dedicated to the Kabeiroi gods, along with those at Samothrace and Thebes, where the consumption of wine played a central role in the ritual practices.

The telesterion area, excavated by the Italian Archaeological School at Athens in the 1980s, yielded over one hundred diagnostic amphora fragments, most of which were produced in the Aegean region. The typological study of these amphoras offers insights into the activities carried out within the sanctuary, with two chronological peaks in the Early and Middle Hellenistic periods. Although less numerous, the amphoras from the Roman period – particularly those dating to the Early or Middle Imperial age – represent the first such fragments to receive scholarly attention in the territory of Hephaistia. Furthermore, the amphoras reveal connections between Lemnos and other centres of the Aegean, not only in the Northern, but also, and more prominently, in the Southern Aegean (e.g. Rhodes, Knidos, and Kos). However, the study of shapes and the macroscopic analysis of fabrics did not always allow for a clear identification of all fragments: therefore, unidentified cases will also be presented, in the hope that discussion with experienced scholars will contribute to a better understanding of amphora consumption in the sanctuary.

Session 4
Ships and Overseas Finds

GEORGE KOUTSOUFLAKIS

Archaic Amphorae from the Phournoi Archipelago (Eastern Aegean): Shipwrecks, Cargos and Isolated Finds

This paper presents a comprehensive overview of Archaic-period amphorae (c. 700–480 BCE) recovered from shipwrecks in the Aegean and surrounding seas, focusing on their typology, provenance, and role in interregional maritime trade. Although numerous Archaic shipwreck sites have been identified across the region, the majority remain poorly documented, unexcavated, and insufficiently studied, limiting our understanding of early maritime commerce. With the notable exception of the Pabuç Burnu shipwreck, few sites have been subjected to systematic archaeological investigation. By synthesizing the available data from both published and unpublished sources, this study aims to reconstruct patterns of amphora production and circulation in the eastern Mediterranean during the Archaic period, highlighting their value as indicators of economic and cultural connectivity.

In addition to the broader synthesis, the paper introduces new data from three recently identified underwater sites in the Phournoi archipelago, located in the Eastern Aegean. Discovered over the last decade through systematic underwater archaeological surveys, these sites have yielded significant assemblages of Archaic amphorae. The paper details the typological and fabric analyses of these amphorae, correlating them with established localized production centers such as Samos, Miletos and Northern Aegean.

These findings contribute important new data to the limited corpus of securely documented Archaic shipwrecks in the Aegean, enhancing our understanding of the scale, organization, and evolution of seaborne commerce in the early Greek world. By integrating the evidence from Phournoi with broader patterns, the study not only refines our knowledge of amphora distribution and chronology but also highlights the significance of the Phournoi archipelago as a strategic maritime node in the Archaic trading network. The paper concludes by discussing the implications of these discoveries for future research on early Greek maritime connectivity and ceramic economy.

STAVROULA VRACHIONIDOU

Ancient Maritime Trade in Northern Greece: the Testimony of the Shipwrecks

The paper aims to investigate the nature of maritime trade in Northern Greece in antiquity through the testimony of shipwrecks found in the Aegean. An overview of amphora loaded shipwrecks is given deploying the evidence of old and new underwater research and excavations.

ELENA BONELOU & DIMITRIOS KOURKOUMELIS-RODOSTAMOS

Corcyrean amphorae in recent underwater surveys

The trade amphorae with pointed bottoms are the most frequent underwater find, either as part of a ship's cargo or as a single find, indisputable evidence of the maritime transport through ages.

The identification of the Corcyrean type trade amphorae, already since the 1980s, has been a field of debate. However, regardless of whether the production of this type should be ascribed to a specific geographical area, it is a fact that the Corcyrean type amphora is one of the most widespread types in Western Greece, especially during the 4th and 3rd centuries BC. The discovery of more than 22 shipwrecks in the western Mediterranean, the Ionian, the Adriatic and the Aegean Seas, loaded with corcyrean amphorae, as well as the numerous scattered finds, show the dispersion, as well as the prominent role of this particular type of vase in ancient trade, mainly of wine. The recent discovery of a new shipwreck with a cargo of Corcyrean amphorae in the sea area south of Cythera, at a depth of -250m, confirms the aforementioned.

BABETTE BECHTOLD

A View from Western Sicily: Preliminary Observations on the Consumption of North Aegean Amphorae in Himera (Late 6th–5th Century BCE)

Excavations of the Soprintendenza BBCCAA (1989–2018) carried out in the necropolises of Himera, a Dorian–Chalcidian colony located on the northwestern coast of Sicily, have uncovered more than 13,000 tombs. Approximately 3,100 of these are enchytrismos–burials in transport amphorae, dating from the city's foundation shortly after the mid-7th century BCE until its destruction by the Carthaginians in 409.

This contribution presents preliminary data from ongoing interdisciplinary research on a selection of ca. 480 commercial vessels imported from the East Aegean. In particular, I will examine a group of around 135 North Aegean amphorae, which are likely to originate from a region extending from the Thermaic Gulf in the west to the sites of Thasos, Abdera, and Maroneia in the east. 38 samples from this assemblage have been submitted for petrographic and chemical analyses conducted by I. Iliopoulos, V. Xanthopoulou, and A. Hein who will present first results in the frame of this congress.

After southern Ionian productions, North Aegean amphorae represent the second-most common group of the East Aegean material from Himera (ca. 28%). The majority of items (ca. 57%) dates to the late 6th and the first quarter of the 5th century BCE. To date, archaeological fabric studies have identified at least four macro-groups.

FATIMA M. ABUSHAQQAL

Commercial Interaction Between the Nabataeans and the Greek Islands: Insights from Archaeological Evidence

This paper sheds light on the commercial interactions between the Nabataeans and the Greek islands during the Hellenistic period, focusing on the role of the Nabataeans, who controlled major trade routes extending to the Arabian Peninsula and beyond. It emphasises their pivotal role as commercial intermediaries between the East and West, significantly enriching their economy through both maritime and overland commerce.

This study examines archaeological discoveries from both the Aegean islands and Transjordan. Significant artefacts such as bilingual Nabataean-Greek inscriptions, Rhodian amphorae, and pottery models depicting camels transporting four Rhodian amphorae demonstrate the depth of connectivity between these regions.

Nabatean commercial relationships extended across the Aegean Sea, where they engaged in cultural and economic exchanges that influenced the Nabatean community in many aspects. The Nabataeans were deeply influenced by culture and art; furthermore, they imitated the Aegean pottery styles in their workshops.

This adaptation not only reveals the cultural exchange but also highlights the Nabataeans' ability to integrate foreign elements into their local economy and craftsmanship. Through their control over trade routes, the Nabataeans not only enriched their economy but also contributed to the broader Mediterranean and Arabian commercial networks.

Session 5
Southern Mainland

MATEO GONZÁLEZ VÁZQUEZ & PASCAL WARNKING

Mapping Trade in Classical and Hellenistic Athens: An Overview of the Kerameikos Amphora Stamps

In the Classical and Hellenistic periods, Athens was a significant actor in regional trade, firmly embedded within broader Mediterranean trade networks. Among the most valuable sources for understanding this role is the amphora material from over a century of excavations at the Kerameikos, which includes more than 3,000 stamped handles—one of the largest assemblages of its kind. Despite its scale and potential, this corpus has never been fully published. Our project, undertaken in collaboration with the German Archaeological Institute, aims to produce the first comprehensive edition of this material. Through a combination of epigraphic analysis, digital methodologies, and archaeometric approaches, we investigate what this assemblage can reveal about economic organisation, administrative practices, and Athenian connectivity within broader systems of exchange. This paper presents our initial results: a provisional typology of stamp forms, the identification of major production centres, and first insights into patterns of distribution. These findings contribute a new perspective on the economic dynamics of Classical and Hellenistic Athens and highlight the interpretive value of stamped amphorae in reconstructing ancient trade.

ANTONIO SAEZ ROMERO & ALVARO MIRANDA GARCIA

Aegean Amphoras and Stamps Found at the Punic Amphora Building (Ancient Corinth)

In the late 1970s, excavations carried out by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens in the central area of ancient Corinth revealed a well-preserved sector of the city dating to the Classical and Hellenistic periods. Among the finds, one of the most noted is the "Punic Amphora Building," a relatively small building that was built and in use during the central decades of the 5th century BC. Research on this site contributed a remarkable ceramic assemblage, including hundreds of Punic and Greek amphorae (mainly of Aegean provenance). The study of these items has made it possible to identify several major groups among these Greek amphorae, as well as a significant number of incised (post-firing graffiti) and painted (commercial dipinti) marks, which together constitute an exceptional set comparable to finds from the Athenian Agora and other major commercial hubs in Greece and the Aegean. Likewise, among the Greek amphorae from the PAB, around twenty stamps and printed marks (epigraphic and non-epigraphic) have been found, which can be linked to both Corinthian products and imports of diverse provenance. This paper discusses these previously unpublished stamps, which provide significant information on the early stages of standardization in the stamping of Greek amphorae, in relation to the evolution of production management systems for containers and the creation of 'brands' or 'designations of origin' for Greek wines.

LOUISA PANOPOULOU

Transport Amphoras from Oropos: Commercial Items or Symbols of Mobility and Ideas' Exchanges?

A deposit investigated in 2006 and 2008 during the systematic excavation of the Archaeological Society at Athens at Skala Oropou, revealed a large ceramic assemblage. Except for the numerous black-glazed vases, a small amount of transport amphoras (approximately 15 sherds) came to light, originating from different Aegean trading centers, such as Kos and Knidos. Through the presentation of these transport amphoras and their context, the present paper aims to focus on the trade networks, in which the ancient city of Oropos participated during the Classical and late Classical period. More specifically, the attention will be placed on the degree of the mobility of the inhabitants of Oropos in the Aegean at the time, and the role that the neighbouring island of Euboea might have played as the "connecting link" between Oropos and the amphoras' primary production centers. The presence of transport amphoras in the deposit will discussed together with the information provided by both the architectural remains and other finds, as well as with the available written sources, and particularly with some proxeny decrees from the Amphiareion, the oracular sanctuary of Oropos. In this frame, the clay transport containers will be better inserted into the wider network of mobility and exchange, including not only products, but also cultic, divinatory and therapeutic practices such as orphism.

KRISTIAN GÖRANSSON

Amphorae at Asine and Hellenistic Trade in the Argolid

Although the 1922–1930 excavations at Asine focused on the prehistoric periods, the fieldwork also yielded interesting results on the Hellenistic phase of the site. The Hellenistic walls still stand today and Hellenistic Asine appears to have had a port of some importance. In the excavations transport amphorae of various types were found, but – with the exception of the stamped handles – they were never published or discussed as a distinct category of finds. The continued excavations at Asine by the Swedish Institute at Athens in the 1970s resulted in finds of more Hellenistic amphorae. This paper aims at presenting the material in full and spreading some light on what the amphorae can tell us about the maritime trade relations of Hellenistic Asine. Furthermore, the paper also aims at placing Asine in a regional trading network of the Argolid through looking at finds of Hellenistic amphorae from other sites in the region including Argos, Lerna and Kalaureia.

EVANGELIA MALAPANI

Hellenistic and Early Roman Amphorae from the City of Ancient Koroni in Messenia

This announcement concerns the presentation of commercial amphorae from the Hellenistic and early Roman periods that were unearthed in recent rescue excavations carried out by the Ephorate of Antiquities of Messenia in the acropolis of ancient Korone, a city identified in sources with the modern settlement of Petalidi. The discovery of intact and numerous fragments of commercial amphorae in salvage excavations in the Petalidi area provides compelling evidence for the extensive involvement of the city's port in the broad network of commercial exchange that existed in the wider Mediterranean basin from Hellenistic times to late antiquity (6th-7th centuries AD). Furthermore, the discovery of ceramic kilns in the area indicates the potential existence of local workshops, with a significant proportion of their production likely dedicated to the fabrication of amphorae.

The city of ancient Koroni, which was built on the NW side of the Messinian Gulf, was founded by the Boeotian Epimelides in 369 BC, almost simultaneously with ancient Messina. Ancient Koroni experienced particular development during the Hellenistic and Roman periods due to the fertility of its soil and its harbor, the remains of which can be seen today on the beach of Petalidi. The development and economic prosperity of the city is also evident through the remains of public and private buildings, funerary monuments, as well as the abundance of movable finds that occasionally come to light in the context of rescue excavations by the Local Ephorate of Antiquities of Messenia.

Session 6
Making and Shaping

ANNO HEIN

East Aegean Transport Amphorae - Manufacture, Distribution and Function

Amphorae, ceramic vessels with two handles and a pointed base, were the standard transport containers for a large variety of trading goods, liquid, such as wine, oil or garum as well as solid, such as grain, olives or fish. Their basic top to bottom ovoid design had been optimized for marine transport. For this, they could be stored in large numbers in the cargo hold of a ship by arranging them in layers shoulder by shoulder. The pointed bases of the next layer of amphorae were placed between the shoulders of the amphorae in the base layer. At latest from the Archaic Period the amphora manufacture at individual sites or regions reached a high level of standardization in terms of clay processing, firing and vessel design. An overview of manufacturing parameters will be provided, which will be assessed in view of dissemination and mechanical performance.

ATHANASIOS VAROTSOS, KONSTANTINOS FILIS, VAYIA XANTHOPOULOU, PAVLINA SKINTZI & IOANNIS ILIOPOULOS

Archaeometric Analysis of Hellenistic Transport Amphorae from Aigion and Trapeza Diakopto, NW Peloponesse

The city of Aigion, situated in the northwestern Peloponnese, flourished as a significant city-state during the Hellenistic period (323–32 BC), as evidenced by rich archaeological remains, including kilns, waste pits, and pottery workshops. Recent discoveries just 15 km southeast, in the village of Trapeza Diakopto, unearthed a distinctive type of amphora—identified as Type B of the Corinthian-Corcyraean or Ionian-Adriatic tradition—from destruction layers dated to the 4th and early 3rd centuries BC. This study investigates the technological attributes and provenance of transport amphorae from both sites through integrated petrographic and mineralogical analyses, drawing on 27 samples from Aigion and 17 from Trapeza.

Petrographic examination, focusing on compositional and textural characteristics, revealed three distinct ceramic recipes (fabrics AIG-1, AIG-2, and AIG-3) associated with amphora Types I, II, and III in Aigion. Trapeza samples were clustered into two main fabric groups (TR1 and TR2a/b), alongside a significant number of outliers. Moreover, the petrographic observation, in conjunction with X-ray powder diffraction (XRPD) analysis, provided insights into the firing technologies employed. Results indicate that many amphorae from both Aigion and Trapeza were fired below 850°C, while others underwent firing at higher temperatures ranging between approximately 900°C and 1100°C.

The combined petrographic and mineralogical data shed light on local ceramic production techniques and interregional exchange patterns, contributing to a broader understanding of amphora manufacture and distribution in the northwestern Peloponnese during the Late Classical to Late Hellenistic period.

CHAVDAR TZOCHEV

Beyond Typology: What Shapes and Sizes of Thasian Amphoras Tell Us About Production and Trade?

Morphological typology is one of the most common tools used in amphora studies. It helps bring order to the chaos by arranging amphora shapes in abstract groups with chronological implications. However, typologies are not always helpful. For large-scale amphora producers that regularly stamped their jars, detailed typologies tend to create unnecessary confusion. This is the case with Thasian amphoras from the 4th and 3rd centuries BC. Contrary to what existing typologies suggest, Thasian workshops produced only two kinds of amphoras – whole and fractional – each having a specific shape that gradually evolved over multiple generations of potters. The only significant event in this development occurred around 315-310 BC, when the proportion in which these two types were made drastically changed. Shortly afterwards, the fractional amphora was abandoned. This paper explores the possible reasons for this change.

Session 7
More Distant Perspectives on Aegean Amphoras

TUDOR HILA, CIUPERCĂ BOGDAN & DÎSCĂ CĂTĂLIN

At the Periphery of the Hellenistic World: Local Amphorae with Anepigraphic Stamps from the Late Iron Age in the Lower Danube Region

Locally manufactured amphorae with anepigraphic stamps, dated between the 2nd and 1st centuries BC, have been discovered both north and south of the Lower Danube. This type of vessel was likely used for transporting wine from local sources. Until now approximately 120 anepigraphic stamps are known. Most of them (around 80%) have been discovered north of the Lower Danube (particularly in the Romanian Plain), while 20% originate from south of the river (northeastern Bulgaria). Regarding the production of these vessels, it is certain that several regional centres existed, one of which was probably the dava at Popesti (or possibly the manufacturing center-settlement (?) at Schitu, located south of Popesti). Several hypotheses have been proposed in the academic literature concerning the purpose of the anepigraphic stamps on locally produced amphorae. The most widely accepted is that they imitated Greek products. Another hypothesis relates the practice to the need to differentiate between various types of wine. Finally, other interpretations suggest that the stamps may indicate the origin of the vessels, such as the craftsman who made them, a production centre, or a local authority. This paper aims to outline a series of observations and the results of new research in respect with local amphorae with anepigraphic stamps, dated to the Late Iron Age and discovered in the Lower Danube region.

FABIENNE OLMER

Amphorae from the Eastern Mediterranean in Gaul from the 6th BC to the 7th century AD

Amphorae from the eastern Mediterranean are generally very rare in Gaul. However, they did arrive, notably from the Aegean Sea, from time to time but with regularity, from the sixth century BC until the seventh century AD, i.e. over a millennium. This presentation will seek to highlight not only the types found, but also the most emblematic places where these products were produced, and finally the conditions under which imported products were consumed, from the Celtic princes to the prelates of the Christian church.