



Necropoleis Research Network Meeting 2

20-22 January 2017, Isparta/Turkey

Dear colleague,

Hereby we would like to inform you about a new network and invite you to our second meeting, the first one to be held in Turkey. Our network (**Necropoleis Research Network**), which was founded in Groningen, the Netherlands in January 2016, aims to bring together people working on any aspect of mortuary archaeology in the Aegean, Eastern Mediterranean and the Near East between the Dark Ages and the Late Roman periods (all loosely defined). Although mortuary remains –arguably- represent one of the most dominant categories of evidence for this period/region, we feel that its scholars are widely scattered, not only geographically, but also in terms of methodological and theoretical approach(es). We believe that we can benefit greatly from closer collaboration. Furthermore, advances in study of human remains are opening the field to new questions of relevance to all mortuary archaeologists. This network, thus, is primarily intended to aim to facilitate an exchange of ideas and methodological best practices. We aim to do this in an annual workshop/meeting based on these principles:

- organized once a year, rotating between host institutions (first in Groningen and now Isparta, other participating institutions for the upcoming years are welcome);
- workshop lasts one or at the most two days.
- everyone covers travel expenses and the host institutions only provide funding for coffee/tea breaks (we will inform you if we can organize more)
- every year we set two or three general themes, perhaps with a session on current fieldwork;
- there are no publication requirements, as the main emphasis is on exchanging (new) ideas;

The second meeting will take place in Isparta, Turkey at Süleyman Demirel University on January 20-22, 2017. We suggest that each participant will give a 20/30 minute presentation, in English or Turkish. We also welcome all kinds of related work in progress, but in particular those focusing on the chosen workshop themes:

Topics for the Second Meeting may include:

- need for training of archaeologists who regularly excavate/store human remains/tombs (especially of antiquities service)
- problems of working with archival data or old excavations
- integration of different sources, challenges presented by disciplinary divides
 - iconography/funerary portraiture and archaeology

- epigraphy and archaeology
- use of theoretical approaches
 - social identities: gender and age; ethnic, local and rural identities
 - funerary ideology and mortuary ritual;
 - monumentality, display, visibility of tombs and deceased
 - memory & forgetting
- use of scientific methods in funerary archaeology (remote sensing, geophysics, isotope analysis and osteology)

The deadline for paper proposals is November 30th, 2016. Please send a short abstract (max. 15 lines). For those who would like to attend the conference as a listener, we kindly ask to confirm your presence, so that we can start making the appropriate arrangements.

Bilge Hürmüzlü (University of SDÜ, Isparta)

Yasar Ersoy (University of Hitit, Çorum)

Sofia Voutsaki (University of Groningen)

Lidewijde de Jong (University of Groningen)

About ISPARTA

Isparta is a city in western Turkey and the provincial capital of Isparta Province. The city's population is 219,904 (as of 2012) and elevation from sea level is 1035 m. Another name of the city is "City of Roses".

Isparta has good connections to other parts of Turkey with both railways, airport and by road. Antalya lies 130 km to the south and it is easy to reach Isparta from Antalya airport. There are buses every hour (20 TL). Isparta has an airport itself, however there is only once a day a flight from Isparta Atatürk airport.

Süleyman Demirel University has a university hotel. Single room cost 60 TL (ca. 17 €) and the double room 100 TL (ca. 27 €). In both cases breakfast included.

A university shuttle will be bringing us from the hotel to the university. Lunch will be paid by SDÜ.