WORK IN PROGRESS

442.0.01  Hans Beck (McGill): Conference announcement: “Greek ethnos states: internal mechanics, external relations”. Delphi, European Cultural Centre of Delphi, May 24 to 27, 2015
Organizers: Professors Hans Beck (McGill) and Kostas Buraselis (Athens).

The ethnic turn has led to a paradigm shift in Classics and Ancient History. In Greek history, it toppled the traditional view that the various ethnos states of the Classical and Hellenistic periods (the Boiotians, Achaians, Malians, and others) drew on a late-Mycenaean pedigree of tribal togetherness. Instead, it appears that their leagues were built on essentially changing, flexible, and relatively late constructions of regional identities that took shape most often only in the Archaic period.

The implications are far-reaching. They impact the conception of an ethnos’ political organization, including the full array of non-violent interactions between the members of the league; and they spill over into the study of external relations. It has been posited that in their conduct of foreign policy, ethnoε often resorted to a federal program. Did ethnoε emulate each other, and did they inspire others to adopt a federal organization? More recently, it was argued that their foreign policy was charged with ethnicized attitudes. Did the idea of ethnic togetherness generally influence foreign policy? And, did everyone subscribe to the same blueprint of ethnicized claims? This question is an important one. If the members of a league disagreed on this issue, it becomes obvious that the basic tenets of ethnic identity, commonly understood as aggregative forces, were also prone to fuel sentiments of political fragmentation within an ethnos. The European Cultural Centre of Delphi is a congenial venue to discuss the foreign policy of ethnoε and explore the potential direction of future research in the field.

Program:

May 24
19:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks: Hans Beck and Kostas Buraselis
19:30 Opening Keynotes
Emily Mackil (Berkeley)
  Ethnic Identity and Foreign Policy in the ethnos States of Mainland Greece: a Minimalist Perspective
Kaja Harter-Uibopuu (Vienna)
  Vermittler und Schiedsrichter. Überlegungen zur friedlichen Beilegung völkerrechtlicher Konflikte in griechischen Bundesstaaten

May 25
8:30 Panel 1: Achaia
Sheila Ager (Waterloo)
  The Achaian League (title tba)
Catherine Grandjean (Tours)
  Monnaie et identité dans le koinon achaïen
Athanassios Rizakis (National Hellenic Research Center)
  Achaenians and Lykians: a Comparison of Federal Institutions
Kostas Buraselis (Athens)
  The Achaian and Aitolian Leagues: Similarities versus Differences

14:00 Panel 2: Lokrians, Thessalians, and Delphi
Giovanna Daverio Rocchi (Milan)
  A Case Study: Lokrian Federal and Local Proxenies in Interstate Relations
Nikos Petrochilos (Ephorate of Antiquities, Delphi)
  Proud to be an Ἑσπέριος Λοκρός? The ethnos and the koinon of the Western Lokrians and some topographical issues
Margriet Haagsma (Edmonton), C. Myles Chykerda (UCLA), Laura Surtees (UPenn)
  Ethnic Constructs from Inside and Out: External Policy and the ethnos of Achaia Phthiotis Thessaly and Delphi

17:00 Panel 3: Ethnic Ties and Foreign Policy, With or Without States
Nikos Giannakopoulos (Thessaloniki)
  The Euboians and their koinon in the 2nd century BCE. The Limits of Roman-Sponsored Federalism in Greece
Alex McAuley (McGill)
  Regional or Ethnic Ties? Theoria and External Relations in the Argolid
Hans Beck (McGill)
  The Aiolians and (the Lack of) their Foreign Policy

May 26
9:00 Panel 4: Boiotia
Albert Schachter (McGill)
  The Boiotians at Home and Abroad
Angela Ganter (Frankfurt)
  Federalism Based on Emotions? Pamboiotian Festivals in Hellenistic and Roman Times
Ruben Post (UPenn)
  Integration and Coercion: Non-Boiotians in the Hellenistic Boiotian League

14:00 Panel 5: Aitolia and Arkadia
Claudia Antonetti (Venice)  
Reflections on Multilateral Ties between ethne in Central Greece: 'Foreign Policy' within the Aitolian League  
Jacek Rzeptka (Warsaw)  
Federal Imperialism: Aitolian Expansion between Protectorate, Merger, and Partition  
Jim Roy (Nottingham)  
The Dynamics of the Arkadian ethnos, or poleis versus koinon  
Cinzia Bearzot (Milan)  
La politique étrangère de la fédération arcadique: de Lycomède de Mantinée aux staseis entre homoethneis

May 27  
9:00 Panel 6: The North  
Katerini Liampi (Ioannina)  
The koinon of the Epeirotes  
Adolfo Dominguez (Madrid)  
The ethnos of the Thesprotians: Internal Organization and External Relations  
Katerina Panagopoulou (University of Crete)  
Between Federal and Ethnic: The Κοινόν Μακεδόνων and the Μακεδόνες Revisited  
Selene Psoma (Athens)  
The League of the Chalkideis: Development of its External and Internal Relations and Organization  
12:00 Concluding Remarks: Peter Funke

Daniel W. Berman (Temple University) sends this description of his forthcoming book (scheduled for publication by Cambridge University Press, in February 2015):  
Myth, Literature, and the Creation of the Topography of Thebes  
How does a city's legendary past affect its present? Thebes remains a city with one of the richest traditions of myth in all of Greece - it was the home of Cadmus, Oedipus, and Hercule, and the traditional birthplace of Dionysus. The city's topography, both natural and built, very often plays a significant role in its myths. By focusing on Greek literature ranging from the oral epics to the travel writing of the Roman Empire, this book explores the relationship between the city's spaces as they were represented in the Greek literary tradition and the physical realities of a developing city that had been continuously inhabited since at least the second millennium BC. Spurred on especially by the city's catastrophic sack by Alexander the Great in 335 BC, the urban topography of Thebes came more and more to reflect the literary, even fictional, constructions of its mythic past.

John Bintliff (University of Leiden): THE BOEOTIA PROJECT: REPORT FOR 2014  
The fieldwork of the Project was conducted in May and August by the team from Leiden and associated staff specialists, under the direction of Professor Bintliff, and will be completed by the Ljubljana team in November this year under the direction of co-director Professor Slapsak. Between 21-31 May a geophysical team from FORTH (Rethymnon) under the leadership of Dr. Apostolos Sarris led an international field school at the city of Hyettos in Remote Sensing...
techniques, supported by Professor Bintliff and his staff members from Leiden University. Between 12th-20th August a second geophysical team from Eastern Atlas (Berlin) conducted geophysical research at the ancient city of Koroneia under the leadership of Dr. Cornelius Meyer, also supported by Professor Bintliff and his staff members from Leiden University. In late November into early December a geophysical team led by Professor Bozidar Slapsak from Ljubljana University will resume its geophysical tests at the ancient cities of Tanagra and Haliartos for three weeks. The purpose of these non-destructive remote sensing programmes is to supplement the surface surveys of these four cities which were carried out by the Boeotia Project between 1989 and 2011, aiming to provide information on the physical infrastructure of these three towns.

A parallel field project conducted by Bart Noordervliet (Leiden University) and Janneke van Zwienen, assisted by Leiden University students, and carried out in August alongside the geophysical work, was the photographic recording of stone building materials on the surface of the Lower and Upper Town of ancient Hyettos.

In connection with the preparation for publication of a monograph on the Project’s surface survey of the city of Hyettos and a part of its countryside, a team of ceramic specialists re-examined the surface pottery finds from the Thespias Museum in both May and August (Professor Vladimir Stissi – Amsterdam University; Dr. Mark van der Enden - Leicester University; Dr. Philip Bes - Freelance Roman Ceramic Specialist; RMA Leiden students Anna Meens, Esther Mulder and Dean Peeters). Dr. Fabienne Marchand (University of Lausanne) paid a visit of a few days to finalize her study of the stamped city wall tiles from Koroneia, and Dr. Keith Wilkinson examined the geology of the Hyettos region to assist the analysis of the location of rural sites previously discovered by the Project in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Finally Dr. Hamish Forbes (Nottingham University) carried out a sociological study of the contemporary rural economy of Boeotia, to complement earlier work by the Project during the 1980s under the leadership of Dr. Cliff Slaughter (Bradford University) and the older classic study of the village of Vasilika by Ernestine Friedl.

The Architectural Survey of Ancient Hyettos

The ancient site has a remarkable density of building materials on the surface, often surprisingly large, although ornamented elements are very rare, the vast majority being square or rectangular cut- or roughly-finished blocks used in public and private constructions. Some polygonal blocks appear to have fallen from the Archaic Acropolis wall, others may derive from a Classical Lower Town wall, although so far no trace of this has been found in standing alignments or by the current geophysical team (FORTH). In all some 1400 blocks were recorded (Figure 1), but it is more than likely that the high density in the inner part of the site is in part due to recycling of older material of the Greek phases of the city, by the inhabitants of Roman Hyettos, when it seems clear that the town contracted considerably in size, encouraging the use of spolia from abandoned outer quarters of the town. In Late Antiquity the closing of pagan sanctuaries will also have led to considerable recycling into other buildings in the shrunken town centre.

The Geophysical Survey at Ancient Hyettos City

May 2014 was the second season of remote sensing at Hyettos by the team from FORTH (Rethymnon) (Figure Two) and produced excellent results comparable to the very successful ones of 2013. Although georadar was used only to provide further detail of interesting structures, and magnetometry was employed only in localised areas owing to the high magnetism of the site's bedrock and soil (the Elder Pliny cites the city as one of the major sources of magnetite in antiquity), the results from various forms of resistivity in both years gave rich readings. A total of 4 hectares
of the Lower Town has been examined by resistivity, and a larger area - perhaps more than half of the whole occupied Lower Town - by a combination of methods (Figure Three).

A clear gridplan for the Lower Town is apparent (Figure Four a-b), roughly N-S and E-W, with parallel streets. In some cases the insulae thus defined are full of house traces, in others possible public spaces and official structures are indicated. A large outline in the north-west may be the gymnasium, whose existence here was suggested by a French-Swiss team in the 1970s based on the location of several large stone basins. So far no trace of a Lower Town wall has been clearly noted, although one or two anomalies would repay future testing through extending the area so far investigated. It is intended that a final season of geophysics in 2015 will indeed work to the edges of the ancient town.

The Geophysical Programme at Ancient Koroneia City

August 2014 saw a brief remote sensing programme at the city of Koroneia by the Eastern Atlas team from Berlin. The main aims were to trace the Lower Town wall, only parts of which survive in situ, and thus define the boundaries of the Greek town; and to identify if the city had received at some point in Classical or Hellenistic times, a gridplan. Since the site has no magnetic interference, the main approach was magnetometry (Figure 5).

In the northern edges of the Lower Town (Figure 6), a preliminary interpretation observed a major E-W anomaly which should be the city wall. Inside this a possible paved road runs further southwards into the city, whilst structures on a N-S and E-W alignment suggest a gridplan for the town’s built infrastructure. In the southern edges of the Lower Town (Figure 7), the city wall forms an even stronger anomaly in the south-eastern sector analysed. Inside this wall there also seems to appear a paved street and sets of structures orientated NNE-SSW, probably an adaptation of a grid based on the cardinal points to the dominant sloping topography in this part of the site. It is intended that a further season to enlarge the areas so far covered will take place in 2015, to enable us to obtain a fuller idea of the internal organisation of the town and clarify the path of the city wall.

Figure 1: Architectural recording in the Lower Town of Ancient Hyettos City.
Figure Two: Various forms of Remote Sensing applied to Hyettos City in May 2014.
Figure Three: Areas of the Lower Town of Hyettos covered by the FORTH team in 2013-14.
Figure 4a-b: Major geophysical anomalies and provisional interpretation by Dr. Sarris for the Lower Town at Hyettos.

Figure 5: Magnetometry in the Lower Town of Ancient Koroneia by the Eastern Atlas team, August.
Figure 6: Magnetometry results for the northern edge of the Lower Town, Ancient Koroneia. The city wall is visible running east-west in the upper part of the plot, crossed by a possible paved road running NE-SW.

Figure Seven: Magnetometry results from the southern edges of the Lower Town of Ancient Koroneia. The city wall is a large curved feature in the lower right part of the plot.
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