



# AIAC

**ASSOCIAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE DI ARCHEOLOGIA CLASSICA  
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY**



**XVII Congresso Internazionale di Archeologia Classica  
INCONTRI TRA CULTURE NEL MONDO MEDITERRANEO ANTICO**

**XVII International Congress of Classical Archaeology  
MEETINGS BETWEEN CULTURES IN THE  
ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN**

**Rome, FAO Building, 22nd-26th September 2008**

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# **MEETINGS BETWEEN CULTURES IN THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN**

## **XVII INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CLASSICAL ARCHAEOLOGY**

Rome, FAO, 22-26 September 2008

### ***CALL FOR SESSIONS AND PAPERS***

The 17th meeting of the quinquennial conference of the Associazione Internazionale di Archeologia Classica will be held in Rome in September 2008 on the theme of 'Meetings between Cultures in the Ancient Mediterranean'. This represents the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first conference organised by AIAC in Rome in 1958.

The conference will be organized strictly around a single theme, but a broad one, of the meetings and interactions of cultures across the Mediterranean world in antiquity. The material cultures of the ancient Mediterranean, its artefacts, structures, settlements and landscapes, whatever the region and whatever the period, show the impact of the dense networks of exchange enabled by the Mediterranean sea, and spreading to the surrounding areas. 'Connectivity' takes multiple forms: the exchange of artefacts, materials, ideas, beliefs, technologies, and styles; the movement of populations through migration, colonisation, and slavery; the extension and contestation of zones of power within and between which exchange could be enabled or restricted. Through such contacts, identities might be defined, redefined, imposed, or contested. This set of archaeological themes touches on numerous issues of importance in the contemporary Mediterranean and the modern world. It coincides with the declaration by the European Union of 2008 as the 'European Year of Intercultural Dialogue'.

The conference will seek to approach this theme from the widest possible range of angles, embracing all archaeological disciplines, from landscape archaeology to urbanism to art history to study of ceramics and material culture; and covering all areas of the Mediterranean, extending to the areas under the control of or in closest contact with Mediterranean powers (including all provinces of the Roman Empire).

The official Languages of the Congress will be English, French, German, Spanish and Italian. Proposals are invited for sessions, consisting of up to 6 short papers on closely related themes. Each session will last 2 hours, including 10-15 minute presentations of each paper, and a 15 minute discussion by a nominated discussant. Proposals for sessions should include the name of an organiser who will take responsibility for contacting other session members, a theme, an abstract of no more than 200 words describing the theme and its relevance to the theme of the congress, and names and paper titles of at least two and not more than six speakers. The AIAC Organising Committee in Rome may add further speakers to a session where the number is below six. Each session will have a discussant; names of suitable discussants may be proposed by the organiser. Proposals should be received by 31 May 2007; notification will be sent of acceptance or rejection by 1 August 2007. Proposals will be assessed by members of the AIAC Directive Committee in Rome; those not bearing a clear relationship to the theme of the conference will not be accepted. The following suggested topics are intended to be illustrative; proposals need not be limited to them. Themes which compare aspects of the same topic in different periods or geographical areas are encouraged.

Proposals for individual papers may be submitted at the same time, though the Committee will accept proposals for individual papers up to 1 July 2007. Where these proposals are accepted, the Committee will assign papers either to sessions already accepted, or put together new ones.

In order to secure precirculation and publication, complete texts of all papers must be received in digital form by 31 July 2008. These will be made available electronically to all registered participants on the AIAC website. For further information, please contact [AIACCongress2008@gmail.com](mailto:AIACCongress2008@gmail.com), or visit [www.aiac.org](http://www.aiac.org)

## SUGGESTIONS FOR SESSION TOPICS

### Thematic

- *Theoretical approaches to cultural exchange*
  - culture and identity
  - imperialism, colonialism and cultural hegemony
  - hybridisation and multiculturalism
- *Exchanges of technologies*
  - metallurgy
  - ceramics & plastic arts
  - building technologies
  - water management
  - agriculture
- *Trade and economies*
  - organization of trade
  - domination of markets
  - traders as cultural mediators
- *Migration and culture*
  - migration and ethnicity
  - migrant and itinerant craftsmen
  - mercenaries
  - slavery and culture
  - armies and culture
- *Ritual, cult and beliefs*
  - sanctuaries and territory
  - death and burial
  - ritual and celebration
  - assimilation of deities
  - 'oriental' religions
  - philosophies
- *Text, image and communication*
  - writing and scripts
  - image as language
  - coinage as communication
  - style and identity
- *Global and local*
  - the idea of a *koinè*
  - limitations and resistance to exchange
  - exchange versus local production in ceramics
  - inclusion and exclusion in material cultures

### Regional

- *Landscapes of exchange*
  - islands, coasts, rivers, mountains
  - ports and exchange
  - landscape survey
  - multicultural metropoleis
- *East and West: ancient 'orientalism'*
  - 'orientalism' in art
  - Greek and Asian
  - Greek and Egyptian
  - Greek and barbarian
- *Colonial experiences*
  - Greek and native
  - Punic and non-Punic
  - the Hellenistic East
  - the Hellenistic West
- *The Romanization and Hellenization of Italy*
  - changing landscapes
  - urbanisation
  - architecture: building techniques and styles
  - production and consumption
- *The Roman Provinces: assimilation, resistance, and dialogue*
  - conquest and culture
  - becoming Roman in the west
  - 'provincial' art
  - Greek, Roman and other identities in the eastern Mediterranean
- *Margins of the Mediterranean World*
  - multicultural identities
  - Near East
  - Sub-Saharan Africa
  - Barbarian and non-barbarian
- *The City of Rome and the meeting of cultures*
  - Romulus' asylum
  - Rome and Etruria
  - Hellenism in Rome
  - 'Oriental' religions in Rome
  - Imperial Rome and ethnic diversity
  - Christian and pagan in Rome