



Postgraduate and Early-Career Scholars' Conference

Transforming Scapes



Processes of Transformation and Continuity in the
Prehistoric Aegean

27–28 May 2027

Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin, Poland



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Transformation lies at the heart of human history. Across time and space, societies have continually altered their material, social, and symbolic worlds through processes of innovation, adaptation, and persistence. In the prehistoric Aegean, developments ranging from the adoption of agriculture and the development of new technologies to changing patterns of mobility, settlement, social organization, and material culture illustrate how communities navigated the tensions between innovation and continuity. Yet transformation was rarely a straightforward process of replacement. Instead, practices, objects, places, and knowledge systems often persisted, adapted, re-emerged, or were reconfigured across successive generations.

Understanding these processes remains one of the central challenges of Aegean archaeology. Archaeological evidence often captures societies at particular moments in time, yet reconstructing how transformations emerged, unfolded, and were experienced requires attention to both change and continuity. How can archaeology identify and interpret the mechanisms and agents of transformation? Through which practices were innovations adopted, resisted, adapted, or transmitted? To what extent did continuity provide the foundations upon which new social, technological, and symbolic realities were built?

ScapeCon 9 invites contributions that explore processes of transformation and continuity in the prehistoric Aegean, from the Neolithic to the end of the Bronze Age. We particularly encourage studies addressing different temporal and spatial scales, as well as diverse forms of archaeological evidence through which change, persistence, adaptation, and resilience may be investigated. Contributions employing archaeological, bioarchaeological, archaeometric, environmental, experimental, digital, and theoretical approaches are equally welcome, as are studies focused on specific sites, regions, materials, practices, or broader cultural phenomena.

Because processes of transformation concern all aspects of human life, they can be explored through multiple dimensions of the archaeological record. Materials, technologies, places, bodies, communities, beliefs, and systems of knowledge are not isolated domains; rather, they are interconnected spheres through which continuity, innovation, adaptation, and resilience are created, experienced, and negotiated. By bringing these perspectives together, ScapeCon 9 aims to foster a holistic discussion of how prehistoric Aegean societies maintained, transformed, and reconfigured their material, social, and symbolic worlds.



The conference will focus on the following thematic areas:

- ***Transforming Materials***

Production, use, reuse, repair, recycling, and the changing biographies of objects and raw materials.

- ***Transforming Technologies***

Technological innovation, craft production, chaînes opératoires.

- ***Transforming Places***

Settlement dynamics, architecture, landscapes, seascapes, mobility, connectivity, and human-environment interactions.

- ***Transforming Bodies***

Life-course studies, health, diet, mobility, identity, embodiment, and mortuary practices.

- ***Transforming Communities***

Social organization, identity, connectivity, exchange networks, resilience, inequality, and changing forms of social organization.

- ***Transforming Beliefs and Representations***

Ritual practices, symbolism, iconography, memory, cosmology, and the transformation of ideological frameworks.

- ***Transforming Knowledge***

Learning, teaching, transmission, literacy, administration, recording systems, and the circulation of ideas and practices.

- ***Approaches to Transformation***

Digital archaeology, archaeometry, environmental studies, experimental archaeology, legacy data, comparative approaches, and interdisciplinary perspectives on identifying continuity and transformation in the archaeological record.



May 27–28, 2027
Maria Curie-Skłodowska
University in Lublin, Poland

The conference will take place in person on May 27–28, 2027,
at Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland

Participation Details

Participation is free of charge; however, registration is required.

The conference will be conducted in English.

We invite submissions in the following formats:

A **15-minute presentation** followed by a 10-minute discussion

A **5-minute presentation** followed by a 10-minute discussion

To participate, please submit an abstract of approximately
250 words, together with **five keywords, your affiliation, and**
your preferred presentation format. Please send your
submission to:

scapecon9@gmail.com

by **November 10, 2026**.

Authors will be notified of the outcome of their submission by
January 30, 2027.

For further inquiries, please contact us at:

scapecon9@gmail.com

The ScapeCon 9 Organizing Committee