



*Commission for the History of Byzantine Art /
International Association of Byzantine Studies
(CHAB/AIEB)*

**Activities Report of the
Commission for the History of Byzantine Art /
Commission pour l'Histoire de l'art byzantin (CHAB)
August 2022 – April 2024**

[1] The **Commission for the History of Byzantine** was revived during the 23rd International Congress of Byzantine Studies held in Belgrade in 2016 on the initiative of Jean-Michel Spieser. Its primary aim is the co-ordination of efforts for the promotion of the study of Byzantine Art. More specifically, the Commission is working towards: [2] (1) The development of research and educational tools; (2) The collection and the dissemination of information drawn from various research projects (3) The fostering of international and interdisciplinary collaboration between scholars, institutions, and initiatives active in the field. [3] *On the slide you can see the original members of the Committee for the period 2016-2022 and its new composition after the International Conference in Venice in 2022, when five new members were elected for the period 2022-2026.*

As a first step towards achieving the Commission's goals, the members of the Commission 2016-2022 decided to create an open-access web portal where electronic material on Byzantine art and material culture would be gathered, organized, and made easily accessible. The aim of the project is to create a useful research and teaching resource that could serve as a means for updates, communication, and scholarly collaboration on international and interdisciplinary levels. [4] This open-access web portal was named **ΧΑΛΚΗ ΠΥΛΗ / CHALKE GATE**-and was first presented at the General Assembly of the AIEB, in Venice on August 2022. [5]

[6] The project was organized and executed by the so called "**Athens Team**", i.e. the members of the commission based in Athens, Greece. The host and funder of the project was the Christian Archaeological Society (ChAE) the oldest and most established Hellenic Academic Society for the Study of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Art and Archaeology. For the funding of the project of Chalke Pyle, the board of ChAE agreed to offer the monies donated to the Society in memory of its late member and sponsor, Dr Stamatia T. Kalantzopoulou (1959-2019).

The construction of the portal was executed by **LP-Development** and the collection and uploading of data on the portal has been carried out by **Dr Anna Takoumi**, under the guidance of the “Athens Team”.

[7] The Portal is organized in five sections: *Museums and Libraries, Cultural Heritage, Institutes, Universities, and Online Web Resources*.

[8] The category *Museums and Libraries* includes [9] a list of the relevant institutions by country, separate sections with digital collections, educational material, and exhibition catalogues of museums, [10] as well as a section with links to Libraries by country and to collections of digitized manuscripts.

[11] Under *Cultural Heritage* are recorded, by country, (a) institutions responsible for the protection, preservation, and management of monuments and cultural heritage (b) archaeological sites and historical monuments, and separate sections for research programs, fieldwork projects and excavations.

[12] The section *Institutes* includes archaeological institutes, research centers, and academic Societies by country.

[13] The section *Universities* includes, among other topics, university websites that are relevant to postgraduate and doctoral studies in the field of Byzantine art and material culture.

[14] Finally in the section **Online Web Resources** e-sources and digital research tools are recorded, such as e-journals, e-publications, and e-bibliographies as well as open access repositories and databases concerning Byzantine art and material culture.

The Portal is flexible, user-friendly, and easy to feed. Its design allows for the designated individuals from each country to populate it with their own data, which, once checked for accuracy, will be uploaded online.

For the collection of data and the development of the portal we have proposed the creation of an international team of scholars, who could contribute relevant information from their own country or area of academic expertise, i.e. a network of scholars analogous to those who collect bibliographic notices on behalf of the *Byzantinische Zeitschrift*.

Since August 2022, when our program was presented for the first time, and the present day, the primary objective of the Commission has been the creation and organization of a network of partners for the supply of data to the portal.

First, we addressed the membership of our Commission that was expanded with new members representing a wide range of countries and disciplines. We also contacted the President of the Byzantine Archaeology Commission of the AIEB, Assoc. Professor Athanasios Vionis of the University of Cyprus.

[15] Our efforts have had some positive results. Dr. Anna Takoumi has continued to collect material from Greek sites and to upload incoming information. Dr. Ourania Perdiki, in collaboration with Prof. Vionis (University of Cyprus), has

been collecting electronic sites representing Cypriot institutions and continues to collect and upload material from Italy and France. *In the slide you see also the members of the Commission for the History of Byzantine Art that have also provided material for the Portal.*

Although the project has developed well and the model of the "participatory process" appears to be working, our aim, to build a network of contributing partners, did not progress as far as we would have liked. For, as we came to realize, we needed to find an institution that could continue to fund and, above all, host the project in the future, as the Christian Archaeological Society can no longer support the project financially beyond the middle of 2024. Thus, we have come to the conclusion that the ideal solution for the project would be for the Chalke Pyle to be "adopted" by a research institution specializing in Byzantine studies, an institution that has an IT department capable of maintaining the programming needs of the data base, an institution that can finance the people who would be responsible for editing and uploading the collected data to the portal. At this stage, we are looking for an established institution to house the Chalke Pyle, expand it and maintain it as it grows.

The Commission is at the same time undertaking other types of projects, including proposing, organizing, and sponsoring sessions at the upcoming Byzantine Congress in Vienna. We hope to be able to do this regularly at other, smaller conferences, as well. Once the Chalke Gate finds a home, the Commission will be exploring further ways to disseminate knowledge of Byzantine art and material culture.



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Commission for the History of Byzantine Art /
Commission pour l'Histoire de l'art byzantin (CHAB)
August 2022 – April 2024

ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES ÉTUDES BYZANTINES
RÉUNION INTER-CONGRÈS
ATHENS, 12-13 APRIL 2024



COMMISSION FOR THE HISTORY OF BYZANTINE ART / INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BYZANTINE STUDIES (CHAB/AIEB)

- ▶ The development of research and educational tools;
- ▶ The collection and the dissemination of information drawn from various research projects whose outcome, though significant, remains scattered and therefore partly unexploited;
- ▶ The fostering of international and interdisciplinary collaboration between scholars, institutions, and initiatives active in the field.

Members of the CHAB/AIEB



2016 - 2022

- ▶ Jean-Michel Spieser, Switzerland (co-ordinator)
- ▶ Sophia Kalopissi-Verti, Greece (co-ordinator)
- ▶ Maria Panayotidi-Kesisoglou, Greece (co-ordinator)
- ▶ Ioanna Bitha, Greece
- ▶ Anastasia Drandaki, Greece
- ▶ Vicky Foskolou, Greece
- ▶ Catherine Jolivet-Lévy, France
- ▶ Miodrag Marković, Serbia
- ▶ Maria Parani, Cyprus
- ▶ Giorgos Philotheou, Cyprus
- ▶ Nancy Ševčenko, USA
- ▶ Dragan Vojvodić, Serbia
- ▶ Annemarie Weyl Carr, USA

Collaborator: Manuel Castiñeiras, Spain

2022-2026

- ▶ Nancy Ševčenko, USA (Chair)
- ▶ Catherine Jolivet-Lévy, France (Deputy chair)
- ▶ Ioanna Bitha, Greece
- ▶ Manuel Antonio Castiñeiras González, Spain
- ▶ Anastasia Drandaki, Greece
- ▶ Vicky Foskolou, Greece
- ▶ Liz James, UK
- ▶ Ivana Jevtić, Turkey
- ▶ Miodrag Marković, Serbia
- ▶ Sophia Kalopissi-Verti, Greece
- ▶ Maria Panayotidi-Kesisoglou, Greece
- ▶ Maria Parani, Cyprus
- ▶ Vasiliki Tsamakda, Germany
- ▶ Dragan Vojvodić, Serbia
- ▶ Asnu-Bilban Yalçın, Turkey

Honorary members of the CHAB/AIEB (2022-2026):

- ▶ Jean-Michel Spieser, Switzerland
- ▶ Annemarie Weyl Carr, USA



Commission for the History of Byzantine Art /
International Association of Byzantine Studies
(CHAB/AIEB)

Chalke Gate

A portal to Byzantine art and material culture

<https://www.chalkegate.eu/>

CHALKE GATE



A portal to Byzantine art and material culture

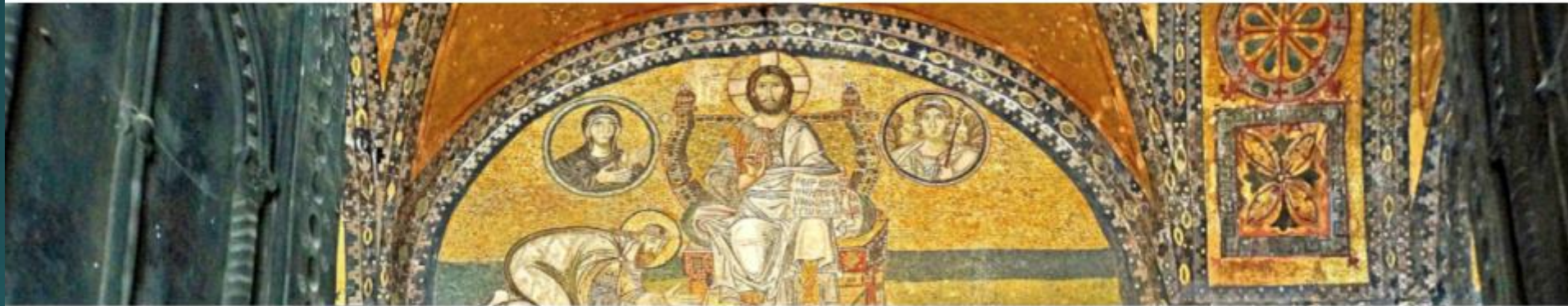


CHALKE GATE

A portal to Byzantine art and material culture



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Welcome to Chalke Gate

The Chalke Gate (ΧΑΛΚΗ ΠΥΛΗ) is an open-access web portal where electronic material on Byzantine art and material culture would be gathered, organized, and be made easily accessible to all. Such a much-needed resource will serve as a valuable research and teaching resource, and as a means for updates, communication, and scientific collaboration. This open-access web portal was named: **ΧΑΛΚΗ ΠΥΛΗ / CHALKE GATE: A portal to Byzantine art and material culture.**



International Association
of Byzantine Studies



Commission for the History of Byzantine Art (CHAB)
International Association of Byzantine Studies (AIEB)



Χριστιανική Αρχαιολογική Εταιρεία
Christian Archaeological Society

Subsidy from the donations in memory of Dr St. Kalantzopoulou, member of the ChAE



Association Internationale des Études Byzantines (AIEB)
Commission pour l'Histoire de l'art byzantin (CHAB)

International Association of Byzantine Studies (IABS)
Commission for the History of Byzantine Art (CHBA)

The **International Association of Byzantine Studies (IABS)** (Association Internationale des Études Byzantines – AIEB) was established in 1948 aiming at promoting Byzantine studies at an international level (<https://aiebnet.gr/>). In addition to the International Bureau (<https://aiebnet.gr/international-bureau-2/>) there are established National Committees that represent the actual status of Byzantine studies in their countries (<https://aiebnet.gr/national-committees/>). The AIEB has also established a number of special Commissions in order to support and to promote particular specialist areas of research in the field of Byzantine Studies (<https://aiebnet.gr/commissions/>).

The **Commission for the History of Byzantine Art (CHAB/AIEB)** was revived in 2016 on the initiative of Jean-Michel Spieser. Its primary aim is the co-ordination of efforts for the promotion and advance of the study of Byzantine Art and the dissemination of knowledge not only among Byzantinists but also the wider community of mediaeval art historians East and West. More specifically, the Commission is working towards: (1) The development of research and educational tools; (2) The collection and the dissemination of information drawn from various research projects whose outcome, though significant, at present, remains scattered and therefore relatively unexploited; (3) The fostering of international and

“Athens Team” Ioanna Bitha, Anastasia Drandaki, Vicky Foskolou, Sophia Kalopissi-Verti and Maria Panayotidi-Kesisoglou.

Construction of the portal :
LP-Development

Collection and uploading of data on the portal: **Anna Takoumi** (Archaeologist-Byzantinist, PhD University of Athens)



International Association of Byzantine Studies

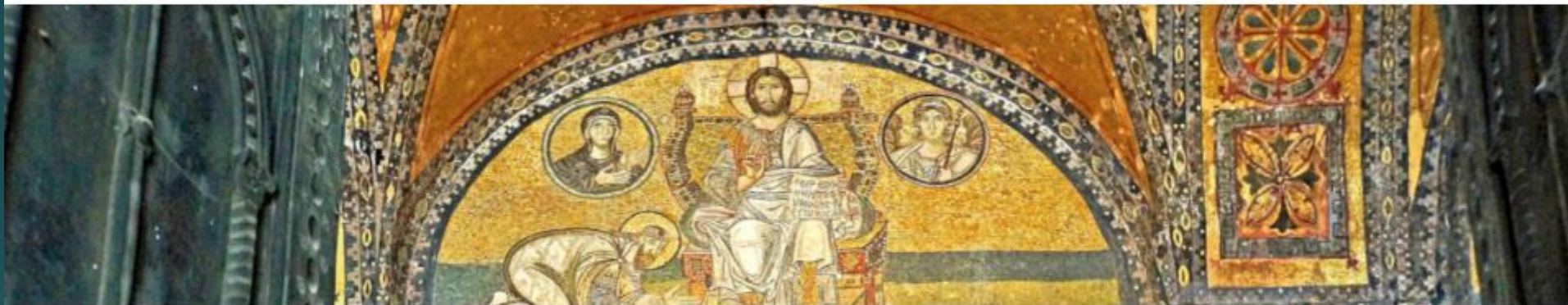


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- Museums By Country
- Libraries By Country
- Digital Collections
- Digitized Manuscripts
- Exhibitions
- Educational Material

Welcome to Chalke Gate



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Museums by country



Albania
Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
China
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Great Britain
Greece

Hungary
Israel
Italy
Japan
Netherlands
North Macedonia
Norway
Poland
Romania
Russia
Serbia
Slovakia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Ukraine
USA
Vatican

Educational Material

Exhibitions



Benaki Museum, Athens, Greece

Byzantine and Christian Museum, Athens, Greece

Museum of Byzantine Culture, Thessaloniki, Greece

The Metropolitan Museum, New York, USA



Libraries by country



- Albania
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Canada
- China
- Croatia
- [Cyprus](#)
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- [France](#)
- Georgia
- Germany

- Hungary
- Israel
- [Italy](#)
- Japan
- Netherlands
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Poland
- Romania
- Russia
- [Serbia](#)
- Slovakia
- [Spain](#)
- [Sweden](#)
- Switzerland
- [Turkey](#)
- Ukraine

Digitized Manuscripts



[Digital Vatican Library \(DigVatLib\), Vatican City](#)

[Digitized Greek Manuscripts, Princeton University Library, UK](#)

[Hellenic Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies, Venice, Italy](#)

[John Scylitzes, History of Byzantium, National Library of Spain](#)

[Manuscripts in the Byzantine Collection, Dumbarton Oaks](#)

[National Library of Greece](#)

[The Codex Sinaiticus project](#)



Protection and Management



Institutes for Protection and Management

Institutes for Protection and Management of monuments and the cultural heritage.

- [Albania](#)
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Excavations



[Excavations in ancient Halasarna on Kos: The Hellenistic Sanctuary of Apollo and the Early Christian Settlement, University of Athens](#)

[Excavations in Eleutherna, University of Crete](#)

[Excavations in Palaiopolis on Andros, University of Athens](#)



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CHALKE GATE

A portal to Byzantine art and material culture



The Chalke Gate (ΧΑΛΚΗ ΠΥΛΩΝ) was gathered, organized, and became a resource, and as a means for up



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A portal to Byzantine art and material culture



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Institutes Scientific Societies by country

Scientific Societies by country



Albania
Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
China
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Great Britain
[Greece](#)

Hungary
Israel
Italy
Japan
Netherlands
North Macedonia
Norway
Poland
Romania
Russia
Serbia
Slovakia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Ukraine
USA
Vatican



International Association of Byzantine Studies



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Χριστιανική Αρχαιολογική Εταιρεία
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Universities by country



Albania
Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
China
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Great Britain
Greece

Hungary
Israel
Italy
Japan
Netherlands
North Macedonia
Norway
Poland
Romania
Russia
Serbia
Slovakia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Turkey
Ukraine
USA
Vatican



International Association
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Commission for the History of Byzantine Art (CHAB)
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Greece

Postgraduate studies
Doctoral studies
Research programmes

Greek Universities: Postgraduate studies



Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of History and Archaeology

Interdepartmental Postgraduate Programme, Cultural heritage management: Archaeology, city and architecture

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), Department of History and Archaeology

University of Crete, Department of History and Archeology

University of Ioannina, Department of History and Archaeology

University of Patras, Department of History and Archaeology

University of Peloponnese - Institute for the Research of Byzantine Culture (IN.EVYP)

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Bibliography on Gender in Byzantium, Dumbarton Oaks

Bibliography on the alchemy in Byzantium and in Greek-speaking communities of the Ottoman Empire

North of Byzantium. Medieval art, architecture, and visual culture in eastern Europe

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e-publications



Electronic Publications of the Christian Archaeological Society, Greece

vi, Serbia

member of the ChAE



Open access repositories



[E-Locus, University of Crete Institutional Repository](#)

[HELIOS Repository, National Hellenic Research Foundation](#)

[National Archive of PhD Theses, Greece](#)

[PERGAMOS Repositories, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens](#)

[Tabula Imperii Byzantini \(TIB\)](#)



Open access databases



[A Digital Corpus of Early Christian Churches and Monasteries in the Holy Land, Israel](#)

[Acta Sanctorum Database, UK](#)

[Blago Fund, An online collection of pictures from the serbian medieval monuments, Serbia](#)

[Byzantium 1200](#)

[Database of Byzantine Book Epigrams, Belgium](#)

[Digital Research Archive for Byzantium \(DiFaB\), Austria](#)

Chalke-Gate Contributors (2023-2024):

- ▶ Anna Takoumi, PhD, Independent scholar, Greece
- ▶ Ourania Perdiki (on behalf of Thanasis Vionis), PhD, University of Cyprus
- ▶ Maria Parani, University of Cyprus
- ▶ Michael Peyton-Polachowski, PhD candidate, University of Cyprus
- ▶ Ivana Jevtić, Koç University, Turkey
- ▶ Asnu-Bilban Yalçın, Istanbul University, Turkey
- ▶ Damla Dalgiç, undergraduate student, Koç University, Turkey
- ▶ Manuel Antonio Castiñeiras González, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
- ▶ Ivana Lemcool, PhD, National Museum of Serbia, Belgrade
- ▶ Nancy Ševčenko, Independent scholar, USA