

**20th International Symposium  
on  
Environmental Pollution  
and its Impact on Life  
in the Mediterranean Region  
April 25-28, 2020  
Athens - Greece**



with focus on  
**Climate change impacts on the environment and  
human: threats and opportunities for sustainable  
development**

Organized by



**MESAEP**

Mediterranean Scientific Association  
of Environmental Protection

in collaboration with

Institute of Advanced Study in Pavia, Italy, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece,  
Politecnico di Torino, Italy, Akdeniz University and Technical University of Istanbul, Turkey,  
Helmholtz Zentrum München, Germany, Public Health England, the ICARUS consortium.

**First Announcement**

Previous symposia were held in Athens, Greece (1981), Crete, Greece (1983), Istanbul, Turkey (1985), Kavala, Greece (1987), Blanes, Spain (1989), Como, Italy (1991), Antibes, France (1993), Rhodes, Greece (1995), Sorrento, Italy (1997), Alicante, Spain (1999), Limassol, Cyprus (2001), Antalya, Turkey (2003), Thessaloniki, Greece (2005), Seville, Spain (2007), Bari, Italy (2009), Ioannina, Greece (2011), Istanbul, Turkey (2013), Crete, Greece (2015), Rome, Italy (2017).

The Executive Committee of MESAEP has the pleasure to present a warm invitation to all MESAEP members, friends and interested scientists to attend the 20th International MESAEP Symposium that will be held in Athens at the Zappeion Megaron, Greece from April 25 to 28, 2020.

## OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the symposium are to offer opportunities for scientists of different countries to:

- exchange recent results related to environmental pollution processes and their effects on sustainable management of natural resources, public health, well-being and the economy in the Mediterranean region
- discuss current scientific, technological and legal issues to avoid or reduce the degradation of the Mediterranean environment
- provide suggestions and recommendations to regulatory authorities and policy makers on environmental quality and safety in the Mediterranean and other neighbouring countries.

## MAIN SUBJECTS

The General Theme of the Conference is:

**“Climate change impacts on environment and human: threats and opportunities for sustainable development”**

This overarching theme will be dealt with in sessions focusing on the following specific topics:

1. Direct and indirect impacts of climate change
2. Sustainable natural resources and waste management
3. Environmental health and well-being
4. Climate change mitigation and air pollution abatement: smart, green and healthy cities
5. Indoor and outdoor air pollution
6. Water and soil pollution and control including microplastics
7. Ecotoxicity and biodiversity
8. Energy, environment and sustainability
9. Environmental economics, policy and education
10. Numerical methods for environmental assessment
11. New and emerging technologies for environmental and health applications

*Panel discussion: Climate change impacts in the Mediterranean area*

The above topics will be addressed in interdisciplinary sessions, bringing together different aspects of sustainability science, technology, policy and education.

## ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

The program of the symposium will include plenary and keynote lectures, and voluntary oral and poster presentations. Selected posters will be presented in short (5-minute) oral sessions in full audience (Rapid Fire sessions). All presentations (oral and posters) should be in English.

## PAPERS PUBLICATION and ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

For both oral and poster contributions, a one-page abstract should be submitted through the abstract submission system <http://www.abstractagent.com/mesaep2020/> not later than January 15, 2020. Authors will be notified on acceptance and on the form of presentation of their contribution by February 15, 2020.

The book of abstracts will be distributed on electronic media to all participants upon registration at the Symposium. Poster or oral presentations will be accepted if at least one of the authors is registered and present at the symposium. All papers presented at the symposium will be eligible,

upon refereeing, for publication in a special issue of the peer reviewed international journal FRESNIUS ENVIRONMENTAL BULLETIN (FEB), the official journal of MESAEP and Environmental Research, a prime publication of Elsevier.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Welcome cocktail
- General Assembly of MESAEP
- Gala Dinner
- Social and cultural excursion

## REGISTRATION

Symposium participants may register before or at the Symposium. Prior to the conference please use the on-line registration form on the homepage of MESAEP for registration. This is the preferred registration option. Alternatively, you may register on site upon your arrival at the Symposium.

## REGISTRATION FEES

	Early Registration (€)	Late Registration (€)
MESAEP Members	150	200
Special fee*	100	150
Non-MESAEP members	250	300
Special fee*	150	200
Students	100	125
Special fee*	75	100
Accompanying person	75	100
MESAEP membership	40 (per year)	

\* This fee is applicable only to delegates residing in countries classified as lower middle-income by the World Bank. Please check the classification of your country in the [relevant list](#).

The registration fee includes the final program, the book of abstracts in electronic format, access to the hospitality desk, coffee and refreshments during the symposium, the welcome cocktail and official dinner and the certificate of participation (on request). Other social and cultural events are not included. Accompanying guests will be entitled to the welcome cocktail and official dinner. Undergraduate and graduate students can register at a reduced fee if they provide a formal letter certifying their student identity from their academic institution.

## ROADMAP TO THE SYMPOSIUM

January 15, 2020	Abstract submission deadline
February 15, 2020	Notice to Authors on the acceptance and form of presentation
March 31, 2020	Deadline for payment of early registration fee
April 25, 2020	Symposium opening, on-site registration.
July 31, 2020	Submission of full papers for publication

## SUPPORT TO YOUNG SCIENTISTS

In memory of Dr. Manos Lahaniatis, founding member and past president of MESAEP, the association established one (1) scholarship to support a young scientist in his/her first year of post-graduate studies. The scholarship will be awarded during the 20<sup>th</sup> Symposium of MESAEP. The “Dr. Emmanuel Lahaniatis Scholarship” is a €5,000 non-renewable award and is intended to support young scientists in pursuit of graduate education. To qualify, the applicant must:

- ❖ be a graduate student with University B.Sc. degree
- ❖ be up to 30 years of age
- ❖ have already applied for an M.Sc. or PhD Program in the general area of “Environmental and Life sciences”
- ❖ be a national or resident of a country of the Mediterranean Region.

The applicants should fill out and send the application form existing in the MESAEP website (<http://www.mesaep.org>) along with a short CV and their B.Sc. degree. Applicants should send their applications **by the end of February 2020** at [mesaep2020@gmail.com](mailto:mesaep2020@gmail.com).

A Selection Committee of past MESAEP presidents will be appointed to review the applications.

## SYMPOSIUM LOCATION

The Symposium will take place at the premises of Zappeion Megaron in Athens, Greece. The 2nd circular will include more details on the venue and the facilities available to participants.

## ACCOMODATION

The 2nd circular will include detailed information on hotel reservation and transportation.

## VISA

Visa is required for some countries. Please check with the Greek Consulates or the official representatives of the Hellenic Republic in your country. No visa is required for European citizens.

## FELLOWSHIPS

A limited number of fellowships up to 500 EUR will be available for young scientists from Balkan, Mediterranean, Asian and African countries upon specific request, and on the basis of their CV and the scientific quality of the paper submitted.

## INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

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## Links

- Homepage of Mesaep:
- Fresenius Environmental Bulletin:

<http://www.mesaep.org>

<http://www.psp-parlar.de>

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*Athens*



Athens is the capital of Greece and of the Attika region. Athens is one of the world's oldest cities, with its recorded history spanning over 3,400 years and its earliest human presence starting somewhere between the 11th and 7th millennium BC.

Athens is a center for the arts, learning and philosophy, home of Plato's Academy and Aristotle's Lyceum and it is widely referred to as the cradle of Western civilization and the birthplace of democracy. In modern times, Athens is a large cosmopolitan metropolis and central to economic, financial, industrial, maritime, political and cultural life in Greece.

Athens is a global city and one of the biggest economic centres in southeastern Europe. It has a large financial sector, and its port Piraeus is both the largest passenger port in Europe, and the second largest in the world.

The Municipality of Athens (also City of Athens) had a population of 664,046 within its administrative limits, and a land area of 38.96 km<sup>2</sup>. The urban area of Athens (Greater Athens and Greater Piraeus) extends beyond its administrative municipal city limits, with a population of 3,090,508 (in 2011) over an area of 412 km<sup>2</sup>.



## *Athens attractions*

The heritage of the classical era is still evident in the city, represented by ancient monuments and works of art, the most famous of all being the Parthenon, considered a key landmark of early Western civilization. The city also retains Roman and Byzantine monuments, as well as a smaller number of Ottoman monuments. Athens is home to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the Acropolis of Athens and the medieval Daphni Monastery.

Landmarks of the modern era, dating back to the establishment of Athens as the capital of the independent Greek state in 1834, include the Hellenic Parliament and the so-called "architectural trilogy of Athens", consisting of the National Library of Greece, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and the Academy of Athens.

Athens is also home to several museums and cultural institutions, such as the National Archeological Museum, featuring the world's largest collection of ancient Greek antiquities, the Acropolis Museum, the Museum of Cycladic Art, the Benaki Museum and the Byzantine and Christian Museum. Athens was the host city of the first modern-day Olympic Games in 1896, and 108 years later it welcomed home the 2004 Summer Olympics, making it one of only a handful of cities to have hosted the Olympics more than once.



**The Parthenon** is a former temple on the Athenian Acropolis, Greece, dedicated to the goddess Athena, whom the people of Athens considered their patron. Construction began in 447 BC when the Athenian Empire was at the peak of its power. It was completed in 438 BC, although decoration of the building continued until 432 BC. It is the most important surviving building of Classical Greece, generally considered the zenith of

the Doric order. Its decorative sculptures are considered some of the high points of Greek art. The Parthenon is regarded as an enduring symbol of Ancient Greece, Athenian democracy and Western civilization and one of the world's greatest cultural monuments. To the Athenians who built it, the Parthenon and other Periclean monuments of the Acropolis were seen fundamentally as a celebration of Hellenic victory over the Persian invaders and as a thanksgiving to the gods for that victory.

The Parthenon itself replaced an older temple of Athena, which historians call the Pre-Parthenon or Older Parthenon, that was destroyed in the Persian invasion of 480 BC. The temple is archaeoastronomically aligned to the Hyades. Like most Greek temples, the Parthenon served a practical purpose as the city treasury. In the final decade of the sixth century AD, the Parthenon was converted into a Christian church dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

After the Ottoman conquest, it was turned into a mosque in the early 1460s. On 26 September 1687, an Ottoman ammunition dump inside the building was ignited by Venetian bombardment. The resulting explosion severely damaged the Parthenon and its sculptures.



**The Hellenic Parliament** is the parliament of Greece, located in the Old Royal Palace, overlooking Syntagma Square in Athens. It is a neoclassical three-floor structure designed by Friedrich von Gärtner and completed in 1843, originally served as a palace for the Greek monarchs, hence sometimes still referred to as the "Old Palace".

After suffering fire damage in 1909, it entered a long period of renovation. The king and royal family moved to what was from

1897 until then the Crown Prince's Palace, from then on known as the "New Palace", one block to the east on Herodou Attikou Street, while some royals continued to reside in the "Old Palace" until 1924, when a referendum abolished the monarchy. The building was then used for many different purposes

— functioning as a makeshift hospital, a museum, et al. — until November 1929, when government decided that the building would permanently house Parliament. After more extensive renovations, the Senate convened in the "Old Palace" on 2 August 1934, followed by the Fifth National Assembly on 1 July 1935. Although the monarchy was restored that same year, the building has housed Parliament ever since. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, guarded round the clock by the Evzones of the Presidential Guard, is located in the formal forecourt of the building. Construction of the monument began in 1929 and it was inaugurated on March 25, 1932.

The **Academy from Athens** is situated near the center of city of Athens. It was designed by the Danish architect Theophil Freiherr von Hansen, as part of his famous Trilogy of neo-classical buildings including the Academy of Athens and the original building of the Athens University. It was founded by Ioannis Kapodistrias.



The original idea for establishing a National Library was from the philhellene Johann Jakob Mayer, in an August 1824 article of his newspaper *Ellinika Chronika*, published at Missolonghi, where Mayer and Lord Byron had been promoting Greece's independence. Mayer's idea was implemented in 1829 by the new Greek government of Ioannis Kapodistrias, who grouped together the National Library with other intellectual institutions such as schools, national museums, and printing houses. These

were all placed in a building on the island Aegina and supervised by Andreas Moustoxydis, who thus became director of the National Archaeological Museum of Athens, and director of the National School. In 1842, the Public Library merged with Athens University's library, and was housed together with the currency collection at the new building of Otto's University. The first director was Georgios Kozakis-Typaldos of the newly enlarged institution, retaining the job until 1863. At this time, the Library was enriched with significant donations and with rare foreign language books from all over Europe. With the royal charter of 1866, the two libraries merged, and were administered as the "National Library of Greece". The library has currently 4,500 Greek manuscripts which is one of the greatest collection of Greek scripts. There are also many chrysobulls and archives of the Greek Revolution.

The **National Archaeological Museum** in Athens houses some of the most important artifacts from a variety of archaeological locations around Greece from prehistory to late antiquity. It is considered one of the greatest museums in the world and contains the richest collection of artifacts from Greek antiquity worldwide. It is situated in the Exarcheia area in central Athens between Epirus Street, Bouboulinas Street and Tositsas Street while its entrance is on the Patission Street adjacent to the historical building of the Athens Polytechnic university.

