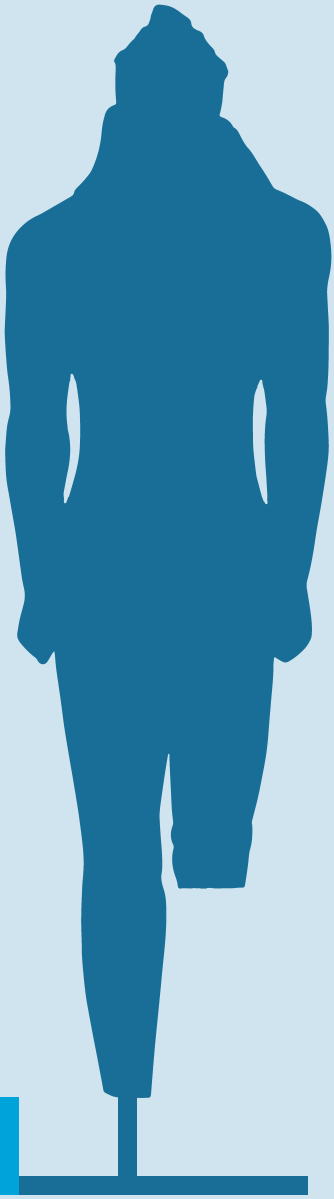

SYMPOSIUM

COSMOPOLITIES IN ANTIQUITY AND MODERNITY – MECHANISMS OF MULTIETHNICITY

MAY 15TH–16TH 2026
ART SPACE PYTHAGORION, SAMOS

PROGRAMME

ELEONORA SCHAMBERGER STIFTUNG

DEUTSCHES ARCHÄOLOGISCHES INSTITUT ATHEN

COSMOPOLITIES IN ANTIQUITY AND MODERNITY

Day 1: Friday, 15.05.2026

Welcome/ Greetings

09:30 Welcome/Greetings

09:50 Vignette 1, *The Concept of Cosmopolitanism*

Keynote

10:00 Camille R. Acosta (University of California)
Multiculturalism, Migration and Belonging, Past and Present

Session 1: Samos – Archaeological Evidence and Its Significance for Theoretical Discourse on Early Iron Age Cultural Contacts in a ›Cosmopolitan‹ Setting

10:30 Fotis Georgiadis & Stella Katsarou (Ephorate of Paleoanthropology-Speleology; Hellenic Ministry of Culture) *Cosmopolitanism in Prehistoric Samos: Ceremonial Interactions in the Agriomernos Cave*

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 Jan Wagenführ (Freie Universität Berlin) *The Relevance of Egyptian Bronze Figurines Found in the Heraion of Samos for Reconstructing Greek-Egyptian Contacts in the Late 8th and Early 7th Centuries BC.*

12:00 Jan-Marc Henke (Deutsches Archäologisches Institut Athen)
The Heraion of Samos from the Late 8th to the Early 6th Century BC: How Can We Learn About the Nature of Intercultural Contact in the Eastern Mediterranean from Material Culture?

12:30 Discussion

13:15 Lunch Break

Session 2: ›Cosmopolitan‹ Cohabitation in 1st Millennium Egypt – Archaeological Evidence and Historical Sources

14:10 Vignette 2, *Cosmopolity*

14:15 Alexandra Villing (British Museum) *Naukratis – a ›Cosmopolitan‹ port in Egypt. Plurethnicity and interaction in the Late Period Nile Delta*

14:45 Rogier E.M. van der Heijden (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) *Cohesion in Cosmopolis: Religious Spaces and Social Cohesion in Hellenistic Alexandria*

15:15 Mario C.D. Paganini (Università degli Studi di Roma ›Tor Vegata‹)
A Unique Insight into Ancient Multicultural Life: Case Studies from Hellenistic Egypt

15:45 Discussion

16:30 Coffee Break

Session 3/1: Athens and Delos, the Organisation of Intercultural Coexistence and the Question of Identity

16:55 Vignette 3, *The Meaning of Foreignness*

17:00 James Hua (University of Oxford) *Forming Communities of Refugees in Classical-Hellenistic Athens and Samos: Cosmopolities of Exiles*

17:30 Camille Acosta (University of California) *Untangling Mobility and Material Culture: An Archaeology of Immigrant Burials in Classical Athens*

18:00 Discussion

19:30 Speakers Dinner

MECHANISMS OF MULTIETHNICITY

Day 2: Saturday, 16.05.2026

09:00	**Excursion:** Heraion of Samos (Jan-Marc Henke)
12:00	Lunch Break
13:00	**Introduction into day 2**
Session 3/2:	**Athens and Delos, the Organisation of Intercultural Coexistence and the Question of Identity**
13:10	Vignette 4, *Sociology on Being Foreign 1/2*
13:15	Sabine Neumann (Philips-Universität Marburg) *Negotiating the Divine: Multiethnic Encounters and Local Agency in the Cults of the Greco-Egyptian Deities in Athens*
13:45	Alexandre Vlamos (CReAAH, Université de Rennes 2) *»Am I a Cosmopolitan While Knowing Nothing of It?« Approaches to Cosmopolitanism in Hellenistic Delos*
14:15	Discussion
14:45	Coffee Break
Session 4:	**The True Cosmopolis – a Diachronic View**
15:10	Vignette 5, *Sociology on Being Foreign 2/2*
15:15	Marina Bazzani (University of Oxford) *Twelfth-Century Byzantium: Bastion of Orthodoxy or Cosmopolitan Hub?*
15:45	Sibel Zandi-Sayek (William & Mary College, Virginia) *Smyrna's »Paradise«: Heritage-Making in a Multiethnic Landscape*
16:15	Esmeralda Agolli & Alexander Gramsch (Universiteri i Tiranës; Deutsches Archäologisches Institut RGK) *Multiple religious identities in a modern rural environment: an ethnoarchaeological approach to burial practices in today's Albania*
16:45	Discussion
17:30	*Round Table*
19:00	Speakers Dinner

Layout: Julia Engelhardt, DAI Athen