

## **Pontic in the past and the present: Following the traces of an endangered Asia Minor Greek dialect**

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Pontic is a Greek dialectal group originally spoken in the north-eastern part of Asia Minor along the coast of the Black Sea. With the year 2023 marking 100 years after the majority of its speakers left their homeland and moved to Greece because of the population exchange that followed the Greek-Turkish war in the 1920's, we can collect much knowledge about the external and internal history of this endangered Asia Minor Greek dialect *ex situ*. However, in order to trace back and fully understand its development, one needs also to consider the situation of Pontic *in situ*, i.e. in Turkey before and after 1923, as well as in some ex-Soviet Union countries, such as Georgia, Ukraine, Russia, etc, to which Pontic speakers had also moved or migrated. In addition, a new ecosystem of the dialect has emerged in the diaspora, i.e. in Pontic communities of immigrants coming from Greece and Turkey in countries such as Germany, etc. In aiming at gathering insights about the Pontic varieties both *in situ* and *ex situ*, this workshop aims at displaying the importance of documenting and investigating the linguistic and sociolinguistic properties of all Pontic varieties, both in the past and the present, so that we gain a better understanding of their status as well as of the interplay of external and internal language change in the course of their history. Some specific questions to be addressed will be:

- (1) How can we establish a more detailed subclassification of Pontic Greek?
- (2) Which kinds of language change can be observed in the Pontic varieties?
- (3) Which language contact phenomena can be observed in the Pontic varieties?
- (4) What is the status of Pontic Greek spoken now in Greece?
- (5) Are *in situ* varieties of Pontic more resistant to language change than Pontic varieties spoken *ex situ*?
- (6) Which is the best way to include urban fieldwork into Pontic studies?

Since we want to emphasize the importance of the interaction between several subfields of linguistics contributing to Pontic studies, we welcome contributions of studies dealing with Greek dialectology, language documentation, urban fieldwork, (sub)dialectal variation, synchronic and diachronic analyses of grammatical phenomena and subsystems, and sociolinguistic issues.

### Organizers

Vassilios Spyropoulos (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)  
Isabella Greisinger (Heinrich Heine Universität Düsseldorf)

### Call for Papers:

Abstracts of no more than 300 words (including examples, excluding references) should be sent by email both in word and pdf files to the workshop convenors, Vassilios Spyropoulos (vspyropphil.uoa.gr) and Isabella Greisinger (Isabella.Greisingerhhu.de), by November 8, 2022.