

5th INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON SPARTA

**The Legal and Educational System in Ancient Sparta
and Its Contribution to Shaping Citizens.
*A Comparison with Corresponding Educational Methods
in other Cities of the Greek antiquity***

Sparta, 11, 12 & 13 September 2026

Honored Sparta: SPARTA, GEORGIA

Co-organized by

**INSTITUTE OF SPARTA
RESEARCH CENTRE FOR THE HISTORY OF GREEK LAW, ACADEMY OF ATHENS
SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY OF ROME**

Under the auspices and with the kind financial support of
the **MUNICIPALITY OF SPARTA** and the **REGION OF PELOPONNESE**

in Cooperation with:

- **Department of Law and Digital Society, Unitelma Sapienza University of Rome**
- **School of Human Movement and Quality of Life Sciences, University of the Peloponnese**
- **Scientific Journal *The Historical Review of Sparta***

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE

Michael-Constantinos Stathopoulos, Chair of the Scientific Committee and of the Conference, Member of the Academy of Athens, Honorary and Emeritus Professor, School of Law, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Rita Sassu, Professor, Department of Law and Digital Society, Unitelma Sapienza University of Rome/Department of Classical Studies, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

Maria Youni, Professor, Department of Private Law, School of Law, Democritus University of Thrace

Athena Dimopoulou, Professor, Department of History and Theory of Law, School of Law, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Iro Mylonakou-Keke, Professor, Department of Pedagogy and Primary Education, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Konstantinos Koliopoulos, Professor, Department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus

David Phillips, Professor, Department of Classics, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), USA

Athanasios Karafyllis, Professor, Department of Primary Education, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Georgios Kypraios, Professor, Department of Sports Organization and Management, Dean of the School of Human Movement and Quality of Life Sciences, University of the Peloponnese

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

Friday, 11 September 2026

Conference venue: University of the Peloponnese, Auditorium, Sparta

18.30-19.00: Registration of Participants

Introduction and Presentation of Speakers: Ms. Mary Chantzou, member of the Institute of Sparta

19.00-19.10 Welcome Adresses

Ms. Anastasia Kanellopoulou, President of the Sparta Institute

Dr. Lydia Paparriga, Research Director, Acting Director of the Research Centre for the History of Greek Law of the Academy of Athens

19.10-19.40 Greetings:

His Eminence Efstathios, Metropolitan of Monemvasia and Sparta,

Prof. Emeritus Antonios Rengakos, Member of the Academy of Athens, Secretary General of the Academy of Athens

Mr. Athanasios Davakis, Deputy Minister of National Defence, Member of Parliament for the electoral region of Laconia

Mr. Neoklis Kritikos, Member of Parliament for the electoral region of Laconia

Ms. Naya Grigorakou, Member of Parliament for the electoral region of Laconia

Prof. Sofia Zyga, Dean of the University of the Peloponnese

Mr. Dimitrios Ptochos, Regional Governor of Peloponnese

Mr. Michael Vakalopoulos, Mayor of Sparta

Prof. Giorgio Piras, Department of Classics, Sapienza University, Co-Editor-in-Chief of *The Historical Review of Sparta*

Dr. Roberto Marcucci, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Publishing House *L' Erma di Bretschneider*

19.40-20.00 Greeting from the Conference by Allen Haywood, Mayor of Sparta, Georgia

20.00-20.10 Welcome speech from **Prof. Emeritus Michael-Constantinos Stathopoulos**, **Member of the Academy of Athens, Chair of the Conference**, *Thoughts on Aristotle's Critique of Sparta*

20.10-20.30 Prof. Emeritus Georgios Bitros, *Education and Governance: The Russell–Hayek Puzzle through the Lens of Ancient Sparta and the “Sparta of the East”*

20.30-20.45 Discussion

Dinner hosted by the Region of the Peloponnese

Saturday, 12 September 2026

1st Session: *Citizenship and Education in Antiquity: Comparative Approaches*

Chair: **Dr. Lydia Paparriga**, Research Director and Acting Director of the Centre for the History of Greek Law, Academy of Athens

- 10.00-10.20:** **Prof. Athena Dimopoulou**, *Education and the Formation of the Polity: Spartan Agoge and Athenian Coming of Age through the Lens of the Ephebic Oath*
- 10.20- 10.40:** **Prof. Ioannis Mpetsas**, *The Education of the Citizen in Ancient Greece: Spartan Agoge, Athenian Paideia and Civic Integration*
- 10.40-11.00** **Prof. Iro Mylonakou-Keke**, *Sparta as a Socio-Pedagogical System: Law, Education and the Formation of Active Citizenship in Greek Antiquity*
- 11.00-11.20:** **Prof. Emerita Sofia Adam-Magnisali**, *Sparta-Athens: A Comparison of Two Opposing Educational Models*
- 11.20-11.40** **Dr. Junyang Li**, *The "Gymnopaediae" in War (Thuc. 5.82): An Athenian Perspective on Spartan Education*
- 11.40-12.00** **Discussion**
- 12.00-12.30** **Coffee break**

2nd Session: *The Legal System in Ancient Sparta and its Contribution to Shaping Citizens*

Chair: **Maria Kouri, Ass. Prof.**, Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources Management, University of the Peloponnese

- 12.30-12.50** **Prof. Constantinos Koliopoulos**, *The Mechanism for Producing Generals: How Sparta and Other Powers continued to create Great Military Leaders throughout the Centuries*
- 12.50-13.10** **Ass. Researcher Dionysis Filias**, *The Assessment and Control of Educators in Classical Sparta and in the Enactments of the Hellenistic Poleis*
- 13.10-13.30** **Prof. Paul Rahe**, *Politeia as Paideia: Aristotle and the Way in which the Distribution of Offices and Honors shaped the Ancient Spartans*
On line
- 13.30-13.50** **Prof. Timothy Doran**, *Demographic Considerations of Female Power in Sparta*
On line
- 13.50-14.10** **Discussion**

Coffee Break & Light lunch

16.00- 18.00 **GUIDED TOUR OF MYSTRAS AND THE HOUSE OF EUROPA**

3rd Session: Education (“agoge”) and Training in Ancient Sparta

Chair: **Iro Mylonakou-Keke**, Prof., Department of Pedagogy and Primary Education,
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

18.00-18.20 **Prof. David Phillips**, *“Orthia”, Cheese and the Lash: Theft in Spartan Education and Law*

18.20-18.40 **Ass. Professor Andreas Helmis**, *“Krypteia”, an Initiation Ritual*

18.40- 19.00 **Prof. Rita Sassu & Dr. Stefania Golino**, *Beyond the “Agoge”: Education, Cult and Civic Identity in Ancient Sparta*

On line

19.00–19:20 **Dr. Stavros Giannopoulos**, *Education in the “Koinon of the Lacedaemonians / Eleutherolaconians” in the Light of Socio-Political Conditions*

19.20-19.40 **Dr. Christos Baloglou**, *The Reformist Socio-Economic Program of the Stoic Sphaerus of Borysthenes and the Education of the Spartans*

19.40-20.00 **Discussion**

Dinner hosted by the Municipality of Sparta

Sunday, 13 September 2026

Conference venue: University of the Peloponnese, Auditorium, Sparta

4th Session: Education (“agoge”) and Training in Ancient Sparta

Chair: **Dr. Athanasios Grammenos**, International Relations Expert, Executive Director of the Council on International Relations

10.00-10.20 **Dr. Sotiria Giannaki**, *Spartan lifelong Education and Paideia as the “μόνη δημοσία ἐπιτηδεύουσα τὴν καλοκάγαθον” [Xenophon, Lac. Pol. X.4]*

10.20-10.40 **Dr. Maria Anagnostou-Mitsi**, *Biopolitics and Education in Ancient Sparta: Agoge as a Technology of the Self and a Framework for the Formation of the Political Subject*

10.40-11.00 **Ass. Prof. Kalliopi Papakonstantinou**, *The Contribution of Poetry to Spartan Education*

11.00-11.20 **Prof. Lukas Thomen**, *Girls’ Education in Sparta: An Overview along the Sources*

11.20-12.00 **Prof. Maria Youni**, *Women and Education in Ancient Sparta*

12.00-12.20 **Ass. Prof. Maria Kouri & Ass. Prof. Androniki Makri**, *Did the Paradise Acknowledge Corporal Punishment? Discipline and Education*

12.20-12.30 **Discussion**

12.30-13.00 **Coffee break & light lunch**

5th Session: *The Influence of Spartan Education ("agoge") on the Modern World*

Chair: **Ioannis Rachiotis**, Lawyer, Criminal Law Specialist, member of the Board of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL)

13.00-13.20 **Prof. Athanasios Karafyllis**, *The Influence of Spartan "Agoge" and Training on the Modern World and on the Educational Systems*

13.20-13.40 **Dr. Athanasios Grammenos**, *The "Agoge" as a Mechanism of National Security: Education, Political Stability and Regional Power in Ancient Sparta*

13.40-14.00 **Prof. Georgios Kypraios**, *From the "Agoge" to the Agoge Race: Spartan Paideia as Endurance Model for Modern Extreme Sports*

14.00-14.20 **Dr. Meletis Meletopoulos**, *Useful Lessons from Spartan "Agoge" for the Education of Greek Children Today*

14.20-14.40 Discussion

CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE

14.40-15.00 Prof. Constantinos Koliopoulos, Conference Conclusions

**17.00- 19.00 GUIDED TOUR OF THE ACROPOLIS OF SPARTA &
THE SANCTUARY OF APOLLO AMYKLAIOS**

**Farewell dinner offered to the Conference Participants
by the Institute of Sparta**

Farewell address to the delegates by:

- **Member of the Academy of Athens and Supervisor of the Research Centre for the History of Greek Law, Prof. Michael-Constantinos Stathopoulos**
- **Ms. Anastasia Kanellopoulou, President of the Institute of Sparta**

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE

Anastasia Kanellopoulou, President of the Sparta Institute

Lydia Paparriga, Research Director and Acting Director of the Research Centre for the
History of Greek Law of the Academy of Athens

Athanasia Antoniou, responsible for the Conference Secretariat & communication with delegates

Konstantina Tzavidopoulou, responsible for decorating the Conference venue

Panagiotis Georganes, responsible for organizing Conference spaces

Panagiotis Kanellopoulos, responsible for catering, delegates' meals & organizing guided tours

Georgia Kosma, responsible for conference finances

Mary Chantzou, responsible for protocol and presentation of greetings

Kostas Zacharakis, responsible for IT

Iro Laskari, responsible for website & social media

Giorgos Keramidas, responsible for communications of the Sparta Institute

Konstantina Tampaki, responsible for welcoming delegates

Christina Kosma, responsible for welcoming delegates & broadcasting the conference via YouTube

Bessy Polyzoigopoulou, responsible for welcoming delegates

Chrysa Salamanou, responsible for welcoming delegates

Anastasia Giknouri, responsible for welcoming delegates

Veronika Lekka, legal support

Stella Gkini, legal support

Sotiris Roinos, responsible for delegates' transportation

Villy Petakou, responsible for interpretation