Doctoral student: Errikos Maniotis

Supervisor: Marek Mesko

**The Sword in the Byzantine Armies (5th -15th c.): The study of the Archaeological material**

Definition of the research problem Examination of the archaeological material of swords that had been used in the Byzantine armies through the centuries

Goals and research questions sword typologies, examination of art and the written sources, categorization, changes that occurred in different periods, influences

Theoretical basis mentioning the focus of the recent bibliography on weapons studies, the progress that has been achieved so far, the importance of the archaeological material, the vital role of the study of different research fields, such as History, Ethnology, Science

Methodical approach gathering the archaeological material, evaluation, categorization, setting the chronological frame, typological examination, comparison with the Art representations of swords

Specification of the method working with excavation teams in major Byzantine settlements in order to study possible sword finds, collaborating with Museums and Ephorates of Antiquities in Greece and abroad, examination of the paintings of Byzantine churches searching for sword depictions, but also studying the mosaics which decorated public spaces and depict everyday life scenes, such as hunting, battles etc.

Expected results the first organized study about the Byzantine swords definition of the Byzantine sword, catalogue, the first comparative work that has been done concerning the archaeological material and the historical and iconographical sources

Schedule of work

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| --- | --- |
| **Duration**  **(Year or semester)** | **Comment (Activities)** |
| **First year** | *-Bibliography research and databases* |
| **Second year** | *- Material studies e.g., archaeological specimens and*  *sources* |
| **Third year** | *systematization of the archaeological material* |
| **Fourth year** | *writing process* |

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