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CRHMA-CMP project

CRHMA CULTURAL RUPESTRIAN HERITAGE  
IN THE  
MEDITERRANEAN AREA  
*A Mobility - New Perspective*

THE RUPESTRIAN SETTLEMENTS  
IN THE  
CIRCUM-MEDITERRANEAN AREA



CRHIMA CULTURAL RUPESTRIAN HERITAGE  
IN THE  
CIRCUM-MEDITERRANEAN AREA  
Common Identity - New Perspective

**THE RUPESTRIAN SETTLEMENTS  
IN THE  
CIRCUM-MEDITERRANEAN AREA**



*Università degli Studi di Firenze*

Culture Programme 2007-2013, Budget 2010, Strand 1.1 Multi-annual  
cooperation projects, Strand 1.2.1 Cooperation measures

CRHIMA-CINP October 2010 - September 2012

Thanks to all the Istitutions and the scholars for the availability and the cultural contribution.  
Thanks to all architecture students who participated to this project.

• MASSAFRA, PALAGIANELLO. October 2010



• MASSAFRA. April - May 2011



• ISTANBUL, ORTAHISAR. September 2011



• FLORENCE. June 2012



**Scientific Committee**

- M. ALPER - Kadir Has Üniversitesi, Virtu Art Facultı. Istanbul
- M. ASSIMAKOPOULOU - National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- R. CAPRARA - Archeogruppo "E. Jacovelli" Massafra. Taranto
- C. CRESCENZI - Università degli Studi di Firenze, Dip.to Architettura - DSP
- E. CRESCENZI - Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris La Villette
- A. DE PASCALE - Museo Archeologico del Finale-IISL e Centro Studi Sotteranei di Genova
- J. LLOPIS VERDÜ - Universitat Politècnica de València, Expresión Gráfica Arquitectónica
- U. TRAMONTI - Università degli Studi di Firenze, Dip.to Architettura - DSP



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Common Identity New Perspective (CRHIMA- cinp)

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## CULTURAL RUPESTRIAN HERITAGE IN THE CIRCUM-MEDITERRANEAN AREA. COMMON IDENTITY, NEW PERSPECTIVE. CRHIMA-cinp DATA, OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS OF THE PROJECT

C. Crescenzi

DAdsp, Facoltà di Architettura, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Italia

### Culture Programme

The project activity of Crhima-cinp has been financed with funds from the Culture Programme 2007-2013, Budget 2010, Strand 1.1 Multi-annual cooperation projects, Strand 1.2.1 Cooperation measures. The purpose of the Culture 2007-2013 is to propose the reevaluation of the cultural area shared by Europeans through the cooperation between creators, operators and cultural institutions of the countries participating in the Programme. More specifically, it promotes transnational mobility of cultural operators, encourages the diffusion of transnational work, artistic and cultural products, and promotes an intercultural dialogue. All these factors tend to: a cultural and social reinforcement of Europe, not only economic and political; a support for the exchange of knowledge and experiences, encouragement of the cooperation between different regions and operators. Specifically, the Action of Cooperation 1.2.1 is devoted to the development of multi-sectored cultural cooperation, creativity and innovation and possibility of long-term cooperation.

### Additional data

- Evaluation of the executive agency of the cultural program at the European Commission. The project "Rupestrian cultural heritage in the circum-mediterranean area. Common identity, new perspectives" has been ranked at the first place amongst the 108 candidate projects, with a rating of 95/100.
- The total investment amounts to € 394,000.00; the Financing is equal to € 194,742.67 with a ratio of 49.80% co-financing.
- The program of the project was completed in 24 months; the activities began 01/10/2010 and ended on 29/09/2012.

### The partnership of project

*Project Coordinator (coordinator):*

(IT) Università Di Firenze, Dipartimento di Architettura - Disegno, Storia, Progetto.  
Project manager Prof. Carmela Crescenzi

*Project partners (co-organiser):*

(EL) National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of Energy Physics National.  
Project manager: Prof. Assimakopoulou Margarita

(ES) Universidad Politecnica de Valencia - Departamento de Expresión Gráfica Arquitectónica  
Project manager: Prof George Llopis

(FR) Ecole Supérieure Nationale de Paris La Villette, Department of Sciences Humaines and Department of Science and Techniques for Architecture. Project manager: Prof Edith Crescenzi

(IT) Archeogruppo "E. Jacovelli" Onlus. Project manager: Avv. Giulio Mastrangelo

(TR) Kadir Has University Of Istanbul, Virtu Art Faculty. Project manager: Prof. Mehemet Alper

*Added partners:*

(IT) Centro Studi Sotterranei di Genova; Museo del Territorio di Palagianello e Centro Unesco di Firenze Onlus

### The rupestrian culture - General information

The troglodyte architecture, rupestrian or underground, is a heritage cross and contemporary culture subdive, implemented over time with variations and is connected to all cultures. Living in caves is still present in many parts of the world, at all latitudes, with different climates and different types of soils. Climatic factors, integration or mimesis of the landscape architecture, economics based on the use of local materials, the variety and richness of the living space, tricks of light, are all factors which characterize rupestrian architecture and are to be considered. The study of ancient habitations, carried out almost exclusively by historians and archaeologists, has increased in the last decades the interest for its technical and design features.

The energy crisis of the last decades, has led technologists and scholars of the built environment, to inform about the passive methods of air conditioning and bioclimatic solutions adopted in the ancient "houses of man". In addition, the attention of multidisciplinary operators for the environment, collapsing in many areas, has focused attention on rupestrian sites.

The cultural synergies have brought to attention the "rupestrian culture", a parallel culture and not different from that suffered it contemporary.

### The project

The project takes shape in 2007 through the identification of the areas of study, the weaknesses and motivations while focusing on specific activities for its implementation.

Areas of study. The project Crhima-cinp turns its attention to the rupestrian phenomenon in the Mediterranean and chooses as a place of work and study some regions and municipalities of the partner countries: the island of Santorini in Greece, Andalusia and the Ebro Valley in Spain, the Loire Valley in France, Italy and Puglia in Cappadocia in Turkey.

### Critical issues and motivations

- 1) It is important to remediate for the lack of a census of the rupestrian architectural and cultural heritage in the Mediterranean area in order to prevent further loss of history knowledge caused by the destructive effects of human activity and by natural deterioration, as it has already happened for many of these neglected areas, real “eco-museums” in the open, during the past years.
- 2) A particular interest for the rediscovery of the rupestrian villages, which have been inhabited until the last century, has grown stronger in many countries of Europe and the Mediterranean in an effort to recover the material and non-material values and memories of the past which are threatened with extinction due to economic-speculative interests.
- 3) We need to promote an intensive exchange of information of greater scientific rigor between the various countries of the Mediterranean in order to remediate for the scarcity of specific studies and publications on the rupestrian sites that leads to the dissemination of false information.
- 4) There is a wide flow of information on Christian rupestrian architecture in the Mediterranean area, but little information about the Islamic architecture: presence of mosques carved into the rock in Turkey, Africa, Sicily

### Project targets

- 1) Promote the conservation and development of these sites and settlements through the definition of new guidelines for future action; preservation and enhancement of the common practice of rupestrian architecture in the different regions of the Mediterranean, intercultural and interdisciplinary exchange of information between all the partners, propositions for new uses or protection of the uses that have already been established.
- 2) Stimulate the interest of the scientific community and local government for this particular heritage with the promotion and use of new methods of investigation and communication that can help to define new sustainable development processes.
- 3) Reinforce the European cultural identity and promote the dialogue amongst the different populations and religions present in these areas: the rupestrian settlements have been an important element of Christian culture in the Byzantine era, which in some countries has been adapted to successive Islamic influences, leaving important traces and evidences of a cultural continuity. The project involves five different countries of Christian Catholic - Orthodox and Islamic culture. It promotes a dialogue between Turkey and Greece, which have seen their populations share the rupestrian settlements of Cappadocia until the early twentieth century, when the Orthodox community moved away from this region after the rise of the Turkish state; Orthodoxies had inhabited the Cappadocian land for centuries, leaving important cultural influences that the project aims to recover, as a sign of a common culture that can promote the dialogue between different religions.

### Performed and planned activities

#### Special activities

- September-October 2010 - Workshop on the survey field

Italy, Massafra: Responsible Organizer Archeogruppo Onlus organization; DAdsp - UniFI

Turkey, Ortahisar: Responsible Organizer DAdsp - UniFI; Kadir Has Universitesi

- October 2010 -Italy, Puglia - Workshop

Responsible Organizer: Archeogruppo Onlus organization; DAdsp - UniFI.

- Presentation of the project to scholars, cultural operators and authorities not directly involved in the activities.

- Exposition of the first graphic reliefs of the rupestrian environments.

- Acts of the “Study Days on Jonica Land. Rupestrian habitat in the Mediterranean. From archeology to new practices for its recovery and protection.” Massafra 29- 31 October 2010. Antonio Dellisanti publisher, May 2012.

#### Ordinary activities

- April 2011 - Italy, Puglia - Opening Workshop

Responsible Organizer: Archeogruppo “E. Jacovelli” with DAdsp - UniFI and the Museum of the Territory of Palagianello.

Palagianello. Flag-raising ceremony to start work.



Massafra. Survey in Madonna della Scala ravine.



“Day of rupestrian”. Tour of Palagianello ravine.



The Transnational Workshop has been based on the exchange of information about the progress of ongoing research on rupestrian sites in the various involved countries. It was preceded by similar activities in October 2010 for the promotion of the project in the first months of work.

All the participating institutions and local cultural associations, together with project partners and experts coming from Italy and from abroad, have attended these activities. Additionally, through these meetings, new partners had the possibility to join our project, such as the Museum of the Territory of Palagianello, the Centre for Underground Studies of Genoa and the UNESCO Centre of Florence. Finally, both activities involved an exhibition with the early surveys of rupestrian sites, organized by the University of Florence.

• April 2011 - Italy, Puglia - Educational Tours

Responsible Organizer: Archeograppo with DAdsp - UniFI.

The tour has concerned the rupestrian sites of Grottaglie, Statte, Ginosa, Castellaneta and Matera, a World Heritage Site; it has involved organizations, local associations, and schools, as well as international experts and workshop participants.

In addition, during the day dedicated to Rupestrian Culture, the citizens of the various municipalities in the Tarentine area had the chance to participate to guided tours of both known rupestrian churches and hidden sites, part of private and inhabited units.

• November 2010-2011 - Census activities and georeferencing of the rupestrian settlements and sites in:

Italy: Puglia; extraordinary activities in Tuscany and Sicily - Archeograppo with UniFI, UniME;

Turkey: Cappadocia - Khas, Archeograppo with Centro Studi Sotterranei (GE) and UniFI;

Greece: Santorini - NKUA, UniFI;

France: Loire Valley, ENSAPLV with UniFI;

Spain: Andalucia - UPV: EGA, IRP, ICGF.

The census is published on the site: [www.rupestrianmed.eu](http://www.rupestrianmed.eu).

The census has elaborated bibliographic information, and it has collected data with the territorial reconnaissance defining the thematic maps, and it has pursued the analysis and cataloguing of the architectural, structural and artistic features of houses, churches, tombs, etc. in the studied rupestrian settlements.

• November 2010-February 2012 - Studies of urban geography of some settlements in France, Italy, Turkey, Spain

Project Manager: ENSAPLV and UniFI together with Archeograppo for Massafra, Khas for Ortahisar, Association Carrefour Anjou Touraine Poitou for Saumur, Municipality of Fira - Oia for Santorini.

The analysis of structural, technological, economic and landscape components, was intended to enhance the whole system of environmental, anthropological, anthropic elements, and evidence of the elements of contrast and conflict, considering the possibility of developing new strategies for the architectural and landscape planning according with the principles of the European Landscape Convention.

The graphic works were included in exhibitions in progress and summarized in the final presentation in Florence, June 2012; the relations of partners were published in various publications.

• September 2011 - Turkey - Informative and training seminars

Responsible Organizer: Khas with the participation of all partners.

The seminars consisted in a week of information exchange between researchers and students from the involved countries on the following topics:

- new survey technologies for rupestrian sites: 3D scanners and photogrammetry;
- new tools for the representation of architecture;
- direct and indirect techniques for environmental and physical survey;
- survey and conservation techniques for pigments in mural cave paintings;
- analysis techniques for urban and landscaping structural geography;

*Ginosa. Survey workshop in the Rivolta ravine.*



*Hot-air balloon ride on the Goreme valleys.*



*Uchisar. House of the Honorary Consul of Cappadocia Veli Toren.*





### Architectural and environmental surveys:

- May 2011 - Italy - The architectural and landscape survey in Puglia involved the town of Massafra, Palagianello, Mottola and Ginosia (UniFI-DAdsp, Archeograppo, UPV-EGA MTP, private companies and cultural associations).

Surveying in the field has persisted, in different steps, during the two years of the project. In addition, the survey activities have been extended in the municipality of Sorano in Tuscany, and in the municipalities of Casabona and Zungri in Calabria (UniFI-DAdsp). SPAIN, Valencia, city of Paterna (UPV-EGA)

- June-October 2011 - Environmental and landscape survey, Santorini, Greece (UniFI-DAdsp, NKUA, community of Fira - Oia).

- September 2011 - Environmental and landscape survey, Cappadocia, Turkey (KHAS with UniFI),

Further research phases have been added to the programmed survey activities and have been carried out with the collaboration of the Superintendence of Nevşehir and the municipality of Ortahisar

- June 2012 - Italy, Florence - Final Workshop

Responsible Organizer: UniFI

The project's results have been presented during the Workshop activities; the information and techniques used during the project have been conveyed, the foundation for the establishment of a European network of experts in rupestrian settlements has been laid, in order to contribute to the economic and tourist development of the Mediterranean countries.

### Results

The Specific activities of the partners are published in:

- the present book *The rupestrian settlements in the circum-Mediterranean area*, published by DAdsp, typ. Il David, Florence, September 2012. isbn: 978-88-96080-09-2;

- the texts discuss: historical and cultural features; studies of some settlements with unpublished drawings of the architectural emergencies; thematic studies on the rupestrian culture;

- the CD documentary "Journey through the rupestrian cultures". The CD contains a video presenting the three territories of the Workshop: Puglia, Santorini and Cappadocia; 3D virtual video of the rupestrian environments with architectural and landscape values in Cappadocia and Puglia. It collects photographic material representing the qualities of the territories: rupestrian settlements, humanized villages, architectural emergencies; moments of socialization and activities of Crhima-CINP;

- the CD "Music for bagpipes in the Mediterranean Area", with sounds and music of the Mediterranean area;

- in the web site [www.rupestrianmed.eu](http://www.rupestrianmed.eu). The site is an important data source that promotes the activities of the Crhima-CINP project, collects drawings and papers developed during its activities, as also the data from the censuses that have been carried out or are still in progress.

The results of the project activities, including the works on the rupestrian heritage by the participating students, are published in:

- *Days of Study on the Jonica Earth. Rupestrian habitat in the Mediterranean. From archeology to new practices for its protection and recovery*. Massafra 29-31 October 2010. Antonio Dellisanti publisher, May 2012. isbn: 978-88-89220-92-4

- *Days of Study on the Jonica Earth. Rupestrian habitat in the Mediterranean. From archeology to new practices for its protection and recovery*. Massafra April - May 2011 published by DAdsp, typ. Il David, Florence, June 2012. isbn: 978-88-96080-06-1.

- *Crhima Cultural Rupestrian Heritage in the Circum-Mediterranean Area, Conference Firenze 21-23 Giugno 2012, Abstracts*. published by DAdsp, typ. Il David, Firenze June 2012. isbn: 978-88-96080-07-8.

- Exhibition: Massafra 2010, Massafra 2011, Ortahisar 2011, Mustafapasha 2011.

- Final exhibition: Firenze 2012, Sorano 2012.

- *Rupestrian Landscapes and Settlements Chrима Cinp Project Workshops and Survey Results*. published by DAdsp, typ. Il David, Florence September 2012. isbn: 978-88-96080-08-5.

The volume contains descriptive graphic papers of the Crhima-CINP project; general information about the rupestrian sites of the partner countries; general information about the rupestrian territories and emergencies.

"Ürgüp. population: 18.600".



Excursion in Sobesos archaeological site.



Mustafapaşa. Exhibition of the rupestrian settlements of partner countries



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Centro UNESCO Firenze: Francesco Gramellini, Novella Mori

*Underground city of Kaymaklı. Lunch in the carpet shop of the Arsoy brothers.*



*Conference in Florence. Great Hall of the Rectorate of UniFI.*



*Florence. Exhibition of the rupestrian settlements at SESV - UniFI.*

