

## Registration form - for Participants

for the annual meeting 2026 of the

**DEGUWA - German Society for the Promotion of Underwater Archaeology e.V.**

under the patronage of the

Ministry of Culture of Autonomous Republic of Ajara

with the topic

## *Pontos Axeinos - Pontos Euxeinos*

**LEPL - Ajara Museum - Batumi**

**German Society for the Promotion of Underwater Archaeology**

**from 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at Batumi, Georgia**

**Registration deadline: 31<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

Please complete this form digitally and send it to [ipr@deguwa.org](mailto:ipr@deguwa.org)

Alternatively, it may be sent as a printed form via letter mail to the address below.

### Contact Information

a) Surname*	
b) First name*	
c) Title	Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/>
d) Institution	
e) Address Workplace	
f) Address Private	
g) Phone / Mobile	
h) E-Mail*	
i) Poster	I would like to present a poster entitled:  
* Necessary information	I agree with my address being added to the address list of the conference papers. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

## **Conference participation fee and registration**

The participation fee for the lecture part, incl. supporting program (from 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026) is **175,00 Euros**, for students (no older than 30 years), it is **75,00 Euros**.

All participation fees for the cultural and scientific supporting program must be paid by the end of the registration process.

We kindly ask you to pay the fee with this application to the following account:

*(confirmation of the registration and the registration will take place only after receipt of payment)*

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Account holder: **Deutsche Gesellschaft zur Foerderung der Unterwasserarchaeologie e.V.**

BIC: **BYLADEM1ERH**

IBAN: **DE77 7635 0000 0019 0012 03**

Purpose: **IPR XXXI - your name**

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## **Important information about:**

### **Cultural and scientific supporting program**

All current information on the cultural and scientific supporting program can be found on the registration form, the separate detailed description and on our website: <http://www.deguwa.org>. Non-substantial changes can also be made without prior notice. Please register early for the events to ensure your participation.

### **Here you will find the contact details and accommodation prices for the conference hotel:**

#### **HOTEL-IRE PALACE**

N26 Luka Asatiani St, Batumi 6010, Georgia

Telephone: +995 579870707

URL: <http://irepalace.ge/english/home>

Email: [irepalace@mail.ru](mailto:irepalace@mail.ru) or [irepalace@gmail.com](mailto:irepalace@gmail.com)

an alternative option is the (distance - 1 km from the museum)

#### **HOTEL-Chao**

75 Zurab Gorgiladze St, Batumi 6000, Georgien

Telephone: +995 0422222400

URL: <https://www.hotelchao.ge/en>

Email: [info@hotelchao.ge](mailto:info@hotelchao.ge)

There are problems with individual hotel bookings.

We are looking for a solution at the presentation / meeting with our Georgian partners on 4 February 2026.

Please let us know ([ipr@deguwa.org](mailto:ipr@deguwa.org)) if you would like to book one of the suggested conference hotels.

#### **Both hotels can be booked at the same price:**

Single room = 40 Euros/night (including breakfast for 1 person)

Double/twin room = 50 Euros/night (including breakfast for 2 people)

Reservation keyword: **DEGUWA**

Reservation deadline: 31 March 2026



**Cultural and scientific supporting program**

**Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – NAS – Course (Diving)**

**DEGUWA – NAS – Course (Diving)**

**Yes** ☐

**No** ☐

The dive's destination is a sunken steamship located near the island - *Tombeau d'Absyrte*, which levels have varied between +2 to +3 meters and -10 to -13 meters and where local fishermen occasionally recovered cultural heritage artifacts from the seabed of Gonio area. This dive-spot can only be reached by boat.

Venue: Gonio (Details will be announced to participants later)

Time: 09:00 am – 05:00 pm

Fee: **€50 per person**

Please be advised that all scuba divers must be certified.

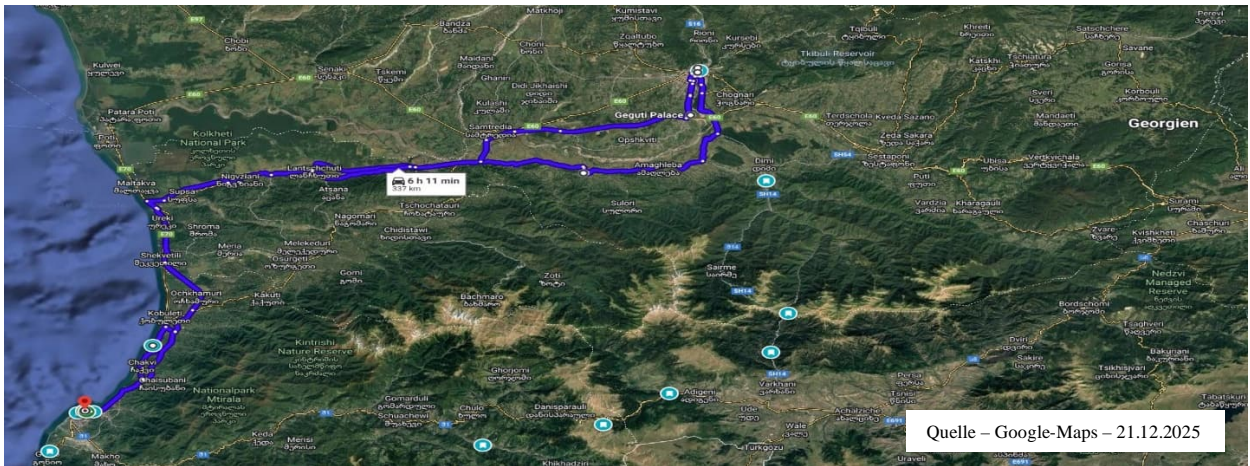
Please communicate your diving suit size.

## Cultural and scientific supporting program

### Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026 - Excursion

#### “N route” to Imereti, western Georgia

- *Petra-Tsikhisdziri Fort*
- *Vani Museum*
- *Kutaisi State Historical Museum*
- *Bagrati cathedral*
- *Geguti Palace*

Yes ☐No ☐

#### **Petra-Tsikhisdziri Fort:**

*A weathered monument perched atop a rugged, rocky hill in the village of Tsikhisdziri, Petra Fortress occupies an important place in Georgian and Byzantine history. Located about 23 kilometres from Batumi, Petra was once an impregnable citadel connecting western Georgia with the Byzantine provinces and dominating the eastern coast of the Black Sea. Today, although in ruins, it offers a fascinating portal into a rich past that spans Europe and Central Asia.*



#### **Vani Archaeological Museum:**

*Located in the Imereti region, near the Vani archaeological site. It was founded on September 25, 1985, on the initiative of Academician Otar Lortkipanidze, the head of the Vani Archaeological Expedition. The material preserved in the Vani Museum dates to 800 BCE-100 CE. Unique samples of gold, silver, bronze wares, numismatics and more are kept here.*



#### **Kutaisi State Historical Museum:**

*Established in 1921 in the former National Bank building, contains more than 200,000 artifacts displaying the archaeological, numismatic, palaeographical, ethnographical and spiritual heritage of Georgia. Artefacts date from between the 9th Century BC, to the late Medieval period, artefacts from across Georgian, Roman, Byzantine history, including manuscripts, items of jewellery, pottery, leather, textiles and woodwork. Of particular interest is the Gold Treasury Hall, displaying many religious gold pieces, removed from the Bagrati cathedral.*



## Cultural and scientific supporting program

### **Bagrati cathedral:**

*Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God is an 11<sup>th</sup>-century cathedral built in Kutaisi, Georgia.*



### **Geguti palace:**

*The Royal Palace of Geguti was a Georgian royal palace active during the Middle Ages. Currently only ruins remain at the eponymous village, 7 km south of the city of Kutaisi.*



*Lunchboxes will be provided at „Vani Museum”*

*Dinner is planned at Kutaisi.*



Venue:	The bus will depart and arrive at the <b>IRE-PALACE</b> <b>“N route”</b> - departure from Batumi at <b>08:30 am</b> and arrival to Batumi around at <b>09:00 pm</b>	
Fee:	<b>150 EUR / Person</b> <b>Price includes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tourist coach transportation during the program days</li> <li>- lunch and dinner</li> <li>- Entrance fees to all mentioned in the programme sites</li> <li>- Guiding services in English &amp; German</li> </ul> <b>Price do not include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Personal insurance</li> <li>- Drinks /Personal expenses</li> <li>- Eventually costs of visa to Georgia</li> <li>- Transportation to and from the airport</li> </ul>	
	<b>General information:</b> Trip will be organised on the territory of Georgia. Please check the visa requirements for your citizenship! Participants should carry a valid passport during the entire trip.	



## Cultural and scientific supporting program

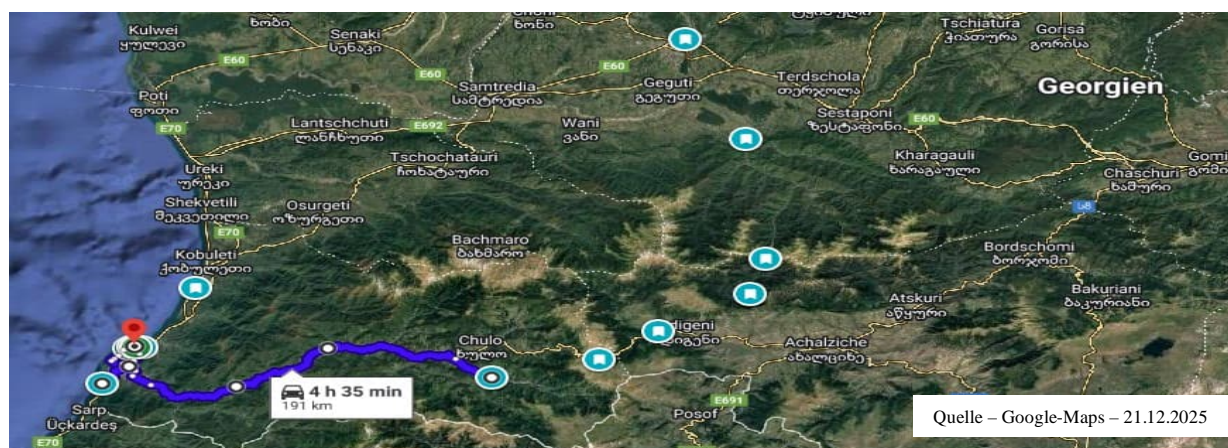
**Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026 - Excursion**

**“E route” to highland Ajara, southwestern Georgia**

- *Gonio-Apsarus Fort*
- *Borigalo ethnographical Museum*
- *Makhuntseti Medieval bridge and fall*
- *Keda Historical Museum*
- *Skhalta cathedral*

Yes ☐

No ☐



### **Gonio-Apsarus Fort:**

Located at municipality of Khelvachauri, in the Autonomous Republic of Ajara. This typical Roman shape fort was occupied by auxiliary cohorts and legionary troops since 1<sup>st</sup> century to 4<sup>th</sup> century AD. There are remains of Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman period architectural ruins, exhibition halls and several historical attractions.



### **Borigalo ethnographical Museum:**

The Museum is located about 2 km away from Batumi covering 3000 m<sup>2</sup> with suitable infrastructure, greenery and pedestrian paths. 62 mannequins representing the life and traditions of local people including workmanship, industrial farming, woodcarving, residential or industrial buildings and 11 meters high waterfall with the forest cover. Ethnographic museum is the first private museum in Georgia and presented domain, sculpture or houses are created by only one person, Kemal Turmanidze because of his dedication and hard work for decades.






### **Makhuntseti Medieval bridge and fall:**

High Medieval period arch bridge (length: 24 m; width 2-2.5 m; height above the water level 6 m) located at the village of Makhuntseti, Keda municipality. Natural rocks of different heights are used as piers. Local market with all traditional food and drinks and souvenirs along the route to the waterfall to the distance of 50 m.



## Cultural and scientific supporting program

<p><b><u>Keda Historical Museum:</u></b></p> <p><i>Showcasing the Keda region's history through archaeological finds (tools, coins), geological samples, local art, and ethnographic items.</i></p>		
<p><b><u>Skhalta cathedral:</u></b></p> <p><i>Dating from the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century. It is a large hall church design, with fragments of the 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> century Palaiologan-style wall painting.</i></p>		
<p><i>Lunchboxes will be provided at Makhuntseti and dinner close to Skhalta cathedral where Izo Surmanidze traditional cuisine will be served.</i></p>		
Venue:	<p>The bus will depart and arrive at the <b>IRE-PALACE</b></p> <p><b>“E route”</b> departure from Batumi at <b>08:30 am</b> and arrival to Batumi around at <b>09:00 pm</b></p>	
Fee:	<p><b>150 EUR / Person</b></p> <p><b>Price includes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tourist coach transportation during the program days</li> <li>- lunch and dinner</li> <li>- Entrance fees to all mentioned in the programme sites</li> <li>- Guiding services in English &amp; German</li> </ul> <p><b>Price do not include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Personal insurance</li> <li>- Drinks /Personal expenses</li> <li>- Eventually costs of visa to Georgia</li> <li>- Transportation to and from the airport</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>General information:</b></p> <p>Trip will be organised on the territory of Georgia. Please check the visa requirements for your citizenship!</p> <p>Participants should carry a valid passport during the entire trip.</p>	

**Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

### **Registration of participants (from 09:30 am)**

Participation in the conference presentations	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Conference room	<p><b>State Art Museum</b> (ground floor)</p> <p><i>State Art Museum of Adjara</i></p> <p>8 Zurab Gorgiladze St, Batumi 6000, Georgia</p> <p><a href="https://ajaramuseums.ge">https://ajaramuseums.ge</a></p>	

## Conference program

**Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

<b>Academic Part: Lectures – I</b>	
Venue:	<b>Conference room = State Art Museum (1<sup>st</sup> upper floor)</b> <i>8 Zurab Gorgiladze St, Batumi 6000, Georgia</i>
Time:	<b>10:00 am - Welcome speeches:</b>  <b>Eliso Bolkvadze</b> (Ministry of Culture of Autonomous Republic of Ajara) <b>Teona Zoidze</b> (Director of LEPL Ajara Museum – Batumi) <b>Winfried Held</b> (President of the DEGUWA)  <b>Chair: Winfried Held</b>  <b>Topic: Antiquity / Landscape</b>  Baghaturia-Kner, Eliso <b>Historical matter of maritime piracy and archaeological reflection:</b> <b>Colchian Tzanni, Henniochi and Roman Empire</b> Mayorov A., Khotylev A., Olkhovskiy S. <b>«Bosporan Atlantis»: Myth and Reality of Phanagoria</b> Olkhovskiy, Sergey <b>Maritime trade between the Mediterranean and the Bosporan Kingdom:</b> <b>evidence from the seaport of Phanagoria</b> Discussion
	11:30 am – Coffee break
	Petrovic, Vladimir <b>Roman Infrastructure Remains in the Iron Gates beneath the Danube:</b> <b>Current Knowledge and Preservation Challenges</b> Reinfeld, Michaela <b>Submerged Histories:</b> <b>The Ancient Harbors of Klazomenai and Karantina in Context</b> Goldammer L., Miholjek I., Daňová, M. <b>Polače Harbour – Report of the 3rd Excavation Season in 2025</b>  Discussion

**Lunch break**



## Cultural and scientific supporting program

### Guided tour of the Collection of State Art Museum

Venue: <b>Conference room – State Art Museum</b> (ground floor)		<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Time:	03:00 pm – duration 1,5 h (4 Groups in German / English) <b>German</b> <input type="checkbox"/> / <b>English</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		

### Book - Presentation

<b>The Second Life of a Phoenix – by Honor Frost</b> Edited by Claire Calcagno, Elena Flavia and Castagnino Berlinghieri		<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Venue:	<b>Gallery – State Art Museum</b> (next to the art museum)		
Time:	06:00 pm		

### Opening of Poster Exhibition followed by a reception

		<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Venue:	<b>Gallery – State Art Museum</b>		
Time:	06:15 pm – 10:00 pm		

## Conference program

**Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

<b>Academic Part: Lectures – II</b>	
Venue:	<b>Khariton Akhvlediani Museum of Ajara (1<sup>st</sup> floor)</b> 4 Khariton Akhvlediani St, Batumi, Georgia <a href="https://ajaramuseums.ge/en">https://ajaramuseums.ge/en</a>
Time:	10:00 am  <b>Chair: Teona Zoidze</b>  <b>Topic: Byzantine / Landscape / Research</b>  Khokhlov, Sergey <b>Underwater Investigations of the Sarkel Fortress: Remote Sensing Methods and Expedition Results</b>  Morozova, Yana <b>The Maritime Network of the North-Western Black Sea: Structure and Dynamics</b>  Alfonso, Cristiano <b>Designing the Underwater Archaeological Map of Puglia: A 30-Year and Continuously Evolving Project</b>  Discussion
	11:30 am – Coffee break
	Brchisky, Sami <b>Locating the Site of the 1714 Battle of Gangut through GIS Analysis</b>  Fantalkin, Alexander and Sharvit, Jacob <b>Unveiling the Depths: Advancements and Challenges in Deep-Water Underwater Archaeology of the Mediterranean</b>  Ziemer, Leon <b>Versunken, verloren und vergessen - Probleme des Kulturgutschutzes mit unterwasserarchäologischen Objekten</b>  Discussion

**Lunch break**

**Cultural and scientific supporting program**

**Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**Guided tour of Khariton Akhvlediani Museum of Ajara**

Venue:	Main entrance of Khariton Akhvlediani Museum of Ajara	<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Time:	03:00 pm – duration 1,5 h (4 Groups in German / English) <b>German</b> <input type="checkbox"/> / <b>English</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		

**Guided tour of the city of Batumi**

Venue:	Main entrance in front of the State Art Museum	<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Time:	05:00 pm – duration 1,5 h (4 Groups in German / English) <b>German</b> <input type="checkbox"/> / <b>English</b> <input type="checkbox"/>		

**Georgian Folklore Dance Concert**

**Arsiani Folklore Ensemble will present magic concert, pls see:**  
*FANTASTIC GEORGIAN DANCE / ENSEMBLE ARSIANI* - YouTube  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IE1xeTwN5ro>

		<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Venue:	<b>Summer Theatre in the Old Boulevard</b>		
Time:	Evening 07:30 pm (participants coming there directly after the finish of the city tour, last part of which will be exactly old boulevard)		

## Conference program

**Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

<b>Academic Part: Lectures – III</b>	
Venue:	<b>University - Conference room – (3<sup>rd</sup> upper floor – room 55)</b> <b>Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University</b> 35, Ninoshvili street, Batumi <a href="https://bsu.edu.ge/?lang=en">https://bsu.edu.ge/?lang=en</a>
Time:	10:00 am  <b>Chair: Eliso Baghaturia-Kner</b>  <b>Topic: Antiquity / Ship</b>  Duca, Mihai <b>Beneath the Black Sea: Exploring Romania's Hidden Maritime Past</b> Friedman, Zaraza <b>The Black Sea Shipwreck Sinop D and Shipwreck Yenikapi 12 - Evidence of 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Century CE, Changes in Sailing Rigging</b> Kakhidze, Emzar <b>Fishing on the southern part of the eastern Black Sea littoral in Antiquity</b>  Discussion
	11:30 am – Coffee break
	Tal, Oren <b>Clay Boat Models of the Persian-Hellenistic Periods from Israel: Toward an Understanding of their Function and Use</b> Wachsmann, Shelley <b>Sea Peoples in the Medinet Habu Naval Battle Scene</b> Wiese, Aleksandra <b>Revealing the Shipwright's Hand: Quantitative 3D Analysis of Tool Marks from the Late Antique Ma'agan Mikhael B Shipwreck</b>  Discussion

**Lunch break**



## Conference program

**Saturday, 09<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

<b>Academic Part: Lectures – IV</b>	
Venue:	<b>University - Conference room – (3<sup>rd</sup> upper floor – room 55)</b> <b>Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University</b>
Time:	03:00 pm <b>Chair: Emzar Kakhidze</b>  <b>Topic: Prehistoric / Antiquity / Landscape / Ship</b>  Khakhutaishvili, Nana <b>Early Bronze Age sub-peat settlement at Ispani, southwestern Georgia</b> Chkhatarashvili, Guram <b>Fishing on the southern part of the eastern Black Sea littoral in the prehistoric period</b> Khalvashi, Merab and Kakhidze, Emzar <b>Classical, Hellenistic, Roman Imperial and early Byzantine pottery discovered at the southern part of eastern Black Sea coast by chance</b>  Discussion
	04:30 pm – Coffee break
Time	Tamar Shalikadze <b>Southwestern Georgia's trade relations in Antiquity according to archaeological data</b> Lasha Aslanishvili, Kakhaber Kamadadze <b>Roman Imperial and early Byzantine seaside fortifications in Ajara</b> David Lordkipanidze <b>Nikoloz Tushabramishvili researcher of the sea area close to the fort of Gonio-Apsarus, Georgia</b>  Discussion

## Conference program

### Public festive lecture with reception

Venue:	<b>Small conference room – (2<sup>nd</sup> upper floor – room 32)</b> <b>Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University</b>
Time:	07:00 pm <b>Introduction:</b> <b>University Rector – Tite Aroshidze</b>  Zoidze, Teona <b>Amiran Kakhidze,</b> <b>founder of the underwater archaeology in Ajara</b>

<b>Evening Banquet</b>		<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Venue:	<b>Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University</b>		
Time:	Evening 08:30 pm – 23:30 pm		
Vegan dishes desired		<b>Yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	

## Conference program

**Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

<b>Academic Part: Lectures – V</b>	
Venue:	<b>KHARITON AKHVLEDIANI MUSEUM</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> floor) <i>4 Khariton Akhvlediani St, Batumi, Georgien</i> <a href="https://ajaramuseums.ge/en">https://ajaramuseums.ge/en</a>
Time:	10:00 am  <b>Chair: Ansgar Bovet</b>  <b>Topic: Byzantine / Antiquity / Modern Times - Ship</b>  Jones, Michael <b>Byzantine-Period Warships and Naval Fleets on the Black Sea (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> centuries AD)</b> Alvik, Riikka <b>Shipwrecks of the Northern Baltic: Silent Witnesses of Maritime Trade</b> Čelebić, Jelena <b>Galeotti/rowers and galleys in the Kotor Archive</b>  Discussion
	11:30 am – Coffee break
	Flavia Elena <b>A Mediterranean Case Study on the Sustainable Preservation and Enhancement of UCH and Maritime Landscapes</b> Koivikko, Minna <b>From Warships to Peaceful Heritage: Underwater Archaeology at the UNESCO World Heritage Site Suomenlinna</b>  <b>Topic: Modern Times / Tourism</b>  Brandmeier, Rupert <b>Underwater Cultural Heritage Integration (UWCHI) in Tourism Concepts in Georgia – a Marketing and Operations Management Approach</b>  Discussion

**Lunch break**

## Conference program

**Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

### Academic Part: Lectures – VI

Venue:	<b>KHARITON AKHVLEDIANI MUSEUM (1<sup>st</sup> floor)</b>	
Time:	<p>03:00 pm</p> <p><b>Chair: Christoph Schäfer</b></p> <p><b>Topic: Antiquity / Trade</b></p> <p>Davis, Dan</p> <p><b>Cargoes Rare and Small in the Carpathian Sea: The Knidos X and Z shipwrecks from the Middle to Late Roman Periods</b></p> <p>Gerasimov, Vyacheslav</p> <p><b>Ankerplätze in den Gewässern der Krimhalbinsel, Ukraine</b></p> <p>Großmann, Eva</p> <p><b>Wine in Apollonia's vicinity</b></p> <p>Discussion</p>	
	04:30 pm – Coffee break	
	<p>Sharvit, Jacob</p> <p><b>The Beit Yanai Marble Ship: Insights into Roman Eastern Mediterranean Trade</b></p> <p>Tapavički-Ilić, Milica</p> <p><b>Finds of amphorae of the Black Sea type from Campsa</b></p> <p>Zelenko, Sergey</p> <p><b>Byzantine Maritime Transport Containers “Amphora-Jars” from Underwater Excavations off the Crimean Peninsula</b></p> <p>Barkai, Ofra</p> <p><b>A Cargo of Columns from the Northern Anchorage of Caesarea: Evidence of Trade in Columns for Secondary Use during the Ottoman Period</b></p> <p>Final discussion</p>	
	End of Conference (expected 06:00 pm)	

Optional	Traditional Georgian feast (fee: 55 Euros) at 07:30 pm	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time. We reserve the right of changes.

DEGUWA Secretary  
c/o Fasanenweg 2  
D-91088 Bubenreuth

E-Mail: [ipr@deguwa.org](mailto:ipr@deguwa.org)  
Internet: <http://www.deguwa.org>