



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

**Geography And Historiography
In Antiquity**

SHORT PRESENTATION



DESCRIPTION OF ITS MAIN FEATURES

1. Origin of the project

The original idea started from a proposal presented by me, the undersigned and current President of the Association, at the International Seminar “Géographie et géographes anciennes (Ancient Geography and Geographers”, conducted by P. Arnaud and F. J. Gómez Espelosín and hold at the University of Nice in October 2010, in which, besides the aforementioned scholars, also D. Marcotte, R. Talbert, G. Cruz Andreotti and L. A. García Moreno took part. At that occasion, the decision was agreed to formalise the creation of a network of specialists whose particular focus would be the Mediterranean ambit (this idea was initially proposed by our French colleagues). Such goal was never fulfilled, for reasons that were out of our control.

2. Scientific promoters

Nevertheless, the idea of grouping all the specialists interested in the study of ancient geographic thought and their relationship to historiography, of channelling their efforts and works and of strengthening the area in the context of Humanities has been kept alive to this day. The recent foundation of the International Association “Geography And Historiography In Antiquity (GAHIA), whose principal features are described here, is a consequence of it.

Some of the participants at that Seminar in Nice have taken over from that original idea, leaders of a number of research projects funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science and Technology that precisely aim, among others, to create an association like the one we have just founded. These research projects are:

1. University of Seville: “Literatura fragmentaria histórica y geográfica: tradición y transmisión en el contexto de los nuevos recursos tecnológicos” (“Fragmentary Historical and Geographic Literature: Tradition and Transmission in the Context of the New Technological Resources; FFI2012-36220-C02-01), directed by the undersigned and with the participation of J. M. Candau Morón and A. L. Chávez Reino.
2. University of Alcalá de Henares: “Conquista y exploración: Alejandro Magno

y la geografía“ (“Conquer and exploration: Alexander the Great and Geography”; FFI2012-36220-C02-02), under the direction of F. J. Gómez Espelosín, with the participation of L. A. García Moreno and A. I. Molina Marín.

3. University of Malaga: “Identidades étnicas e identidades cívico-políticas en la Hispania romana: el caso de la Turdetania-Bética” (“Ethnic Identities and Civic-Political Identities in Roman Hispania: the Case of Turdetania-Baetica”; HAR2012-32588), directed by G. Cruz Andreotti, with the participation of P. Moret, F. J. García Fernández, E. Castro Pérez, B. Mora Serrano and L. Sánchez Voigt.

3. Nature of the Association and body of legislation which covers it

GAHIA appears as a non profit associative organisation, covered by the following laws:

- Art. 22 of the Spanish Constitution.
- Organic Law 1/2002, 22nd March, governing the Right of Association (Ministerio del Interior, Spanish Government).
- Law 4/2006, 23rd June, of Associations in Andalusia, governing the Right of Association (Junta de Andalucía, Spain).
- Every other valid regulation, dictated in the complementary development and practice of the aforementioned Spanish laws.
- The Statutes of the Association themselves, agreed during the Founding Session and at this moment in the process of being registered in the Spanish Ministerio del Interior.

4. Head office and scope of application

GAHIA is covered by the Legal Services of the University of Seville. Its head office is based in the Faculty of Philology of this University, C/ Palos de la Frontera, s/n, 41004, Seville (Spain). The nationality of the Association is Spanish. However, the territorial area in which it will implement its activities can be either Spanish or international. Its official language is Spanish, even if, given its aim of internationality, it will admit all the common languages used in the studies of Antiquity.

5. Explanation of its name and logo

The name of the association (GAHIA) is not a product of hazard. Our intention has been to find a denomination clearly evocative of its matter of study: the humanistic-literary version of the “Science of the Earth”. Being Geography a discipline that originated in

Greece, we have played with the Greek term to designate Earth, ΓΑΙΑ (in its most poetic form), adding to it an “H”, alluding to the historiographical interest the Association also takes into account as research field. The mute nature of the “H” helps to keep the original intention of the name and, on the other hand, avoids the acronym being mistaken for those of other entities, most of them connected to ecology.

Moreover, the Logo of the Association is made up of the letters of the acronym and aims to look like an ancient armillary sphere, evoking the ancient geocentric view of the Universe, with a terrestrial sphere at its centre and a sky vault projecting on it.

6. Aims of the Association

The principal aims of the Association are as follows:

1. Studying the geographic thought in Antiquity and its implications within the Greek and Roman historiographical literature. Studying the ancient historical geography and promoting these matters of study and its tradition since the Ancient world to the present time, in all their aspects and genres, contributing to their diffusion.
2. To work together with every other institution or association, in Spain or abroad, which aims to study the same fields.
3. To defend its legitimate scientific and cultural interest.

7. Activities of GAHIA

In order to fulfil these aims, the Association envisages the following activities:

- To organize and contribute to the celebration of scientific meetings, sessions and other activities intended to the discussion and communication of the results of such studies.
- To publish periodical bulletins and other publications of scientific nature.
- To establish a network of scientific exchange with Universities, Research Centres, Associations, Territorial Networks or every other entities.
- To promote the permanent scientific and professional exchange between its members.
- To create a web site to widespread the activities of the Association and the news connected to it, in order to make it be a meeting point of the diverse online sites of similar entities.
- To create scholarships and grants for postgraduate students interested in ancient Geography.
- To promote the development of international Doctoral Theses.

- To offer excellence awards that recognize special research talent in the field.
- To organize cultural and study trips.

8. Social structure

The principal governing body of GAHIA is its General Assembly, which includes all its members. The meetings of the Assembly can be ordinary or extraordinary. It is ruled by the principle of majority or internal democracy and it shall meet at least once a year.

The Board of Directors is the collegiate body that manages, administrates and represents the Association. It is formed by the following nine members: a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and five Members of the Board.

The Association includes the following categories of Members: *Founder Members*, *General Members* (Ordinary, Pensioners and Students) and *Honorary Members*. To become a Member of the Association it is required to be a legal or a natural person (over 18 years old or emancipated and with all capacity to act legally) and to have the support of one of the Founder Members or two of the General Members.

The Association, at the moment of its constitution, has an initial patrimony of 0 €.

9. Founding session



A snapshot of the Founding Session,
presided by the Distinguished Rector of the University of Alcalá de Henares.

The founding ceremony of the Association took place the 20th and 21st November 2014, at the Central Building of the University of Alcalá de Henares. The program of the session consisted of two parts: an informative section regarding the principal features of the Association, and, after it, the Founding Assembly, of which a formal summary record was issued and in which the Statutes of the Association were discussed and agreed.

10. Founder Members

The Founder Members of GAHIA are:

- Jaime Alvar Ezquerro (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid).
- Cinzia Bearzot (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano).
- José María Candau Morón (Universidad de Sevilla).
- Antonio L. Chávez Reino (Universidad de Sevilla).
- Virgilio Costa (Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata).
- Gonzalo Cruz Andreotti (Universidad de Málaga).
- Luis A. García Moreno (Real Academia Española de la Historia).
- Marco V. García Quintela (Universidad de Santiago de Compostela).
- Franciso J. Gómez Espelosín (Universidad de Alcalá de Henares).
- Francisco J. González Ponce (Universidad de Sevilla).
- Arthur F. Haushalter (Université de Reims).
- Pierre Moret (Université de Toulouse).
- Roberto Nicolai (Università di Roma La Sapienza).
- Gabriella Ottone (Università degli Studi di Genova).
- Irene Pajón Leyra (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas).

11. Scientific supporters

Besides the Founder Members, the Association has the support of a wide number of internationally recognized scholars who, though circumstances beyond their control made it impossible to them to be present at the founding ceremony, will soon be included as General Members. The principal names of this list are:

- Pascal Arnaud (Université Lumière – Lyon 2).
- Ignacio Borja Antela Bernárdez (Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona).
- Serena Bianchetti (Università degli Studi di Firenze).
- Stefano Belfiore (CNRS-ENS Paris).
- Veronica Bucciantini (Università degli Studi di Firenze).
- María del Pilar Ciprés Torres (Universidad del País Vasco).
- Patrick Counillon (Université de Bordeaux III).
- Adolfo Domínguez Monedero (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid).
- Daniela Dueck (Bar Ilan University).

- Pietro Janni (Università degli Studi di Macerata).
- Hans-Joachim Gehrke (Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg).
- Klaus Geus (Freie Universität Berlin).
- Eugenio Lanzillotta (Università degli Studi di Roma Tor Vergata).
- Didier Marcotte (Université de Reims).
- Antonio Ignacio Molina Marín (Bodleian Library [University of Oxford]).
- Eckart Olshausen (Universität Stuttgart).
- Francesco Prontera (Università degli Studi di Perugia).
- Richard Talbert (University of North Carolina).
- Giusto Traina (Université de Paris-Sorbonne. Paris IV).

12. Current Board of Directors

As long as the new Association is not registered in the Spanish Ministry of Internal Affairs, the elected Board of Directors (second point in the agenda of the founding session) has only a provisory character and shall be ratified or changed by the General Assembly in an extraordinary meeting celebrated in due time specifically to this end. The current members of the provisory Board of Directors are:

- PRESIDENT: Francsico J. González Ponce.
- VICE-PRESIDENT: José María Candau Morón.
- SECRETARY: Gonzalo Cruz Andreotti.
- TREASURER: Francisco J. Gómez Espelosín.
- MEMBERS OF THE BOARD: Jaime Alvar Ezquerra, Virgilio Costa, Arthur F. Haushalter, Pierre Moret and Roberto Nicolai.

13. Projects for the future

In spite of its recent creation, the members of GAHIA are already working on the fulfilment of an ambitious program of activities to be implemented in the short and medium term. The most relevant of them are:

- ✓ Beginning of an ambitious campaign of diffusion and attraction of new members from the diverse European countries.
- ✓ Plan of exhaustive diffusion of the Association in the common scientific entities that are relevant to its field of study.
- ✓ Application to national and international (European) public programs of funding of research.
- ✓ Designation of a Honorary Presidency, formed by two especially prestigious scholars, from Spain and from abroad respectively.
- ✓ Establishment of a biannual series of scientific monographic meetings.
- ✓ Creation of a website able to cover all the scientific needs of the Association.
- ✓ Creation of a system of online commentary of the diverse books of Strabo's



- Geography*, to which a Scientific Committee is already designated.
- ✓ Celebration of an online session of scientific updating on the matter.
 - ✓ Creation of a periodical series of monographic volumes that will become the principal scientific product of the Association.
 - ✓ Admission of every other scientific activity carried out by the members of GAHIA as an initiative supported by the Association.

Francisco. J. González Ponce

President of the International Association
“Geography And Historiography In Antiquity” (GAHIA)