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“Protecting cultural heritage from the consequences of climate change – challenges and prospects” (Abstract)

Addressing the impacts of climate change on cultural heritage and the cultural environment is generally recognised as one of the challenges that states and the scientific community have to manage. No widespread or systematic risk from the impacts of climate change is currently recorded for monuments and archaeological sites in Greece. However, climate risks (forest fires, floods, erosion, droughts, heat waves, rising sea levels) that affect the natural landscapes where monuments and archaeological sites are located or the historic city centres and urban areas that function as cultural poles are recorded.

Addressing the impacts of climate change requires proactive action, of which a crucial part is the identification of climate risks (intensity-frequency-duration), the assessment of climate vulnerability in the present and the future, and the formulation of differentiated plans (at a broad spatial scale for natural landscapes and at a neighbourhood level for urban areas) to enhance resilience to climate risks. To be effective, these plans have to be based on a multidisciplinary approach, include the use of modern technical and technological solutions, incorporate local practices and engage in dialogue with local communities.