

## **Annual Report ACAWA-GR** **March 2018-March 2019**

### **ACAWA Committee:**

President: Chatzigiannis Dimitrios  
Vice President: Siatou Amalia  
Secretary: Lagouda Eleni  
Treasurer: Sakki Zoe  
Members: Vouzatou Anna  
Kardara Evagelia  
Mandrou Kassiani

In March 2018, ACAWA counted 585 members, out of which 4 new and 30 having fulfilled their financial requirements.

Throughout the year, the association's committee followed and handled different subjects regarding the profession, legislation, education and dissemination of results, both in public and private sector. The main subjects were:

### **Professional rights**

A significant part of the committee's work is to follow all job announcements (mostly from the public sector) that are employing Conservators - Restorers and check if the required qualifications are correct, in accordance with the national legislation and conservation-restoration ethics.

To this extent, the association intervened in several cases to clarify the professional rights, the need of expertise in conservation works and the importance of the C-Rs in Cultural Heritage assets that are not protected by the archaeological law. Additionally, ACAWA is trying to raise awareness to local and national bodies of the need to protect our Cultural Heritage.

Within the same scope, the committee members are always available to give clarifications and recommendations to any authority, public or private, that wishes to hire C-Rs or request tendering for C-R treatments or planning.

### **Legislation**

Resulting from the National Law on the protection of Cultural Heritage, the Directorate of Conservation-Restoration of Ancient and Modern Monuments (DCAMM) has asked for the collaboration of the associations related to C-R to contribute to the Ministerial Decrees (MD) concerning the following issues:

1. The "need to institutionalise the C-R work and C-R planning". A document clarifying the professional rights and who can perform C-R plans or works both in the public or private sector.
2. "Establishment and operation of C-R laboratories". A document dedicated to the specifications and requirements for setting up a C-R laboratory, certified by the Ministry of Culture.

Both MD are foreseen to be published in the following years.

### **Dissemination Actions**

In the frame of the European year of CH 2018, ACAWA-Gr has participated and organized different events to raise awareness amongst C-R professionals and to communicate with the public.

**9/6/2018-"Conservators at Risk: By protecting our Cultural Heritage, are we destroying our environment?"** (one day conference)

The scope of the conference is to inform C-Rs and related professions on the proper disposal of the chemical substances that are used in outdoor monuments, archaeological sites and conservation laboratories. More specifically, we are aiming:

- To enlist the chemicals that need special treatment and the measures that are taken for their disposal in the public sector.
- To inform about the existing legislation related to the disposal of chemical waste and the obligations of the public and/or private C-R sectors
- To advise on the consequences of the disposal of chemical waste to the environment
- To guide on the potential of the proper disposal of chemical waste
- To raise awareness to the C-R professionals and lead them to proper disposal or even replacing chemicals with other less harmful substances.

**8-11/10/2018-"European Day of Conservation-Restoration of Cultural Heritage"** (two weeks of Celebration)

Following the call by ECCO to establish a European day dedicated to C-R, ACAWA-Gr has collaborated with DCAMM and the C-R committee of ICOM Greece to create an open call throughout all the official bodies, public and private, that are involved in C-R, to communicate our profession to the public. More than 30 bodies (private or public museums, antiquities ephorates etc) responded to the call by organizing open laboratories, conferences, lectures, thematic tours, educational programs for children and adults, etc.

**22-23/11/2018-" Occupational Risk Assessment - Personal Protective Equipment"** (two days seminar)

The Hellenic Institute of Occupational Health and Safety (EL.IN.Y.A.E.), joining ACAWA's initiative, organized a training program aiming to communicate key concepts of Risk Assessment that are directly related to the profession of C-R.

**30/11/2018-Participation to the one-day conference of the Association of permanent C-R employees of the Ministry of Culture**

ACAWA -Gr was invited to participate in one-day conference that is held every year by the Association of permanent C-R employees of the Ministry of Culture. The scope was to present the actions that took place for the Celebration of the European Day of C-R.

**16/02/2019-"C-R of Cultural Heritage: Health, Safety and Environment"** (one day conference, Ioannina-Greece)

ACAWA -Gr was invited by the C-R Dpt. of the Antiquities Ephorate of Ioannina to collaborate in presenting the outcomes of the previous conferences that took place in Athens, aiming at communicating critical issues concerning the safety and health of the C-R, as well as protecting the environment during C-R works, to colleagues who did not have the opportunity to participate in the previous events. Experts, mostly local, were invited to consult on health and professional risk assessment issues, as well as to provide "good practices" for an environmental friendly C-R approach. The goal of this conference was to create a local community that can collaborate in equivalent issues.