

EDITORIAL FOREWORD

The main goal of the conferences on Modern Greek Dialects and Linguistic Theory is to highlight the importance of Modern Greek dialects for linguistic theory and vice versa, promote the studies of dialectal variation and contribute to the preservation of Greek linguistic heritage. The MGDLT9 was to take place in 2020 in Tsakonia (Leonidio, South Kynouria, Greece) where one of the most special Modern Greek dialects is still spoken.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, we had to change our initial plans. Instead of 18–20 September 2020, the conference was postponed until 4–6 June 2021, and for the first time in the history of the conference it was held in virtual mode, online on Zoom. Despite the unusual format, the conference was a great success: there were not only 30 talks (including a special session devoted to Tsakonian) and a poster session with a discussion period but also even an online excursion in Tsakonia with the most vivid samples of the local dialect and culture¹ and a virtual reception (on “Gather”).

This volume contains 16 contributions based on talks and posters presented at MGDLT9. They cover a wide range of subjects related to Modern Greek dialectology and linguistics such as phonetics and phonology, phraseology, compounding, verb and noun morphology, pronominal clitics, sociolinguistics, sign-languages, implementation of digital technologies, dialectal material in school education, problems of terminology and glossonymy, etc.

We are grateful to all speakers and participants of the conference, and especially to Sergei Belousov for his excellent work on the layout of the volume. We offer our special thanks to the Tsakonian Archives and personally to Dimitris Tsingounis (the chairman), Eleni Poutsela and Nikos Vlamis for their assistance on all stages of the organization and their offering the possibility of publishing this volume not only online but as a paper-book as well.

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¹ The excursion was organized by the mayor of South Kynouria Charalambos N. Lysikatos in collaboration with the Tsakonian Archives (<https://www.tsakonianarchives.gr>), the organization aimed at preservation, popularization and study of the Tsakonian linguistic and cultural heritage.