Buying and Selling
The Organisation and Amenities of Ancient Markets

International Conference

organized by the French School of Archaeology at Athens
and the International Research Group (GDRI - CNRS)
"Markets in Antiquity: places, practices, institutions",
in co-operation with the Archaeological Society at Athens.

Call for papers
The International Research Group (GDRI - CNRS) "Markets in Antiquity: places, practices, institutions" has begun a collective study of sources (both archaeological and written sources) relevant to the organization of ancient markets. Its goal is to give substance to our interpretations of the nature of exchanges in Antiquity.

A series of workshops has already been organized on these questions. The first focused on institutional aspects (Bordeaux, March 7-8 2007, and Paris, November 24 2007: Institutions and markets. Agoranomoi and aediles). The second meeting concentrated on the circulation of products taking pottery as a case-study (Brussels, June 19-21 2008: The markets of Greek pottery).

Organized by the French School of Archaeology at Athens (École Française d'Athènes) in co-operation with the Archaeological Society at Athens, the third meeting of the GDRI is going to focus on the archaeological sources that provide evidence for the organization of ancient markets.

Using case-studies and syntheses, this meeting is intended to arrive at a more precise vision of the material organization of markets, their spatial configuration, their architectural amenities, the materials and equipment used for sales. This data is essential for the analysis of vending practices and the organization of exchanges. It will help to provide a more comprehensive picture of ancient markets.
Contributors submitting papers are asked to approach the following problems either as case-studies, or as presentations of archaeological material, or by textual analysis (this list is not exhaustive):

Specialized locations:
- the demarcation of the commercial agora in time and space
- the *macellum* in a Greek context
- market sector specialization of commodities
- regulations

Infrastructure:
- markets in the demes
- locations of fairs and markets
- workshops, shops, rear rooms
- store houses
- gates and control of goods
  - the *deigma*
  - the *agoranomion*

Equipment and furniture for sales:
- balances, weights and measures, *sekomata*
- the location of commercial regulations on stone
The meeting will take place in the French School of Archaeology at Athens, June 17-19, 2009

The subject matter will be limited to the Greek world, but in its widest geographical and chronological understanding, that is, including the Roman Republican and Imperial periods.

Papers should be projected to last 30 minutes and will be followed by discussion. Proposals for papers should be sent, before 30th September 2008, to the following address:

agora2009@efa.gr

Those who have submitted papers will receive a reply during October 2008, with information about the organization of the meeting and details covering expenses.

Hoping for your participation and looking forward to seeing you at Athens,

sincerely yours

La Directrice des Études

Véronique CHANKOWSKI