



## 13<sup>th</sup> Sino-European International Tourism Conference: Island & Coastal Tourism Futures ICTF 2026

21-23 September 2026

Heraklion, Crete, Greece



**Hosted by:** Department of Business Administration and Tourism,  
Hellenic Mediterranean University, Heraklion, Crete, Greece

**Co-organisers:** Hellenic Mediterranean University, Ningbo University, University of Angers,  
Tourism Geography Committee of the Geographical Society of China

### Call for Papers

Island and coastal destinations are among the most iconic tourism environments worldwide — yet they also represent territories that are highly exposed to climate change, seasonality, demographic decline, and shifts in the global tourism economy. As regions that depend heavily on tourism, their long-term resilience requires innovative policy frameworks, community empowerment, sustainable business transformation, and new experience models supported by education, technology, and cross-border collaboration.

**The International Conference on Island & Coastal Tourism Futures** aims to build a strong academic and cultural bridge between **Europe and China**, fostering multi-regional knowledge



exchange among countries with rich maritime heritage and strategic island/coastal tourism economies.

We invite high-quality submissions that explore the evolving landscape of island and coastal tourism through interdisciplinary research, case studies, policy analysis, theoretical and methodological advances, and industry perspectives.

## Conference Themes

- **Sustainable Islands and Coastal Communities**
- **Economic Resilience, Regional Development & Policy in Island Tourism**
- **New Forms of Tourism and the Experience Economy**
- **Digital Transformation & Smart Tourism**
- **Skills and Human Capital Development**

## **Important Dates:**

- Abstract submission deadline: **15 April 2026**
- Notification of acceptance: **15 May 2026**
- **Deadline for registration (early bird): 30 June 2026**

## **Registration Fees**

- Early registration: 340 euros
- Early student registration: 120 euros
- Full registration: 390 euros
- Full student registration: 150 euros
- Accompanying person: 180 euros

The maximum number of submitted papers or abstracts accepted per author (either single or co-author) is two.

Accepted papers/abstracts will be presented at the conference by at least one of the authors.

## **Submission Guidelines**

- **Extended Abstract:** 800 to 2,000 words
- **Paper types:** Research papers, work-in-progress, case studies, policy briefs
- **Language:** English (there will be a special session for presentations in Chinese)
- Title and names of the authors (with affiliation and contact details) should be provided on a separate page.
- **To submit your abstract, visit the conference website:** [ictf2026.hmu.gr](http://ictf2026.hmu.gr)

All accepted abstracts will be published in the **Book of Proceedings** (with ISBN and DOI).

## **Publication opportunities:**

1. Special Issue by Springer (10 full papers will be selected by the special issue editors)



2. All submitted full papers will have the opportunity to be considered for publication in the following journals:

- Tourism Studies
- International Journal of Spa and Wellness
- Journal of Tourism, Heritage & Services Marketing
- Regional Science Inquiry

The final decision will be made based on a double-blind peer review by the Editors and will be subject to the journals' requirements.

### 3. Elgar Encyclopedia of Island and Coastal Tourism

As part of the conference, the preparation of a companion encyclopedia published by Edward Elgar will be initiated. Each participant may contribute one or two entries to the encyclopedia. Each entry will be indexed as an individual publication in SCOPUS. An entry should be 1,000–3,000 words in length and focus on the analysis of a specific concept, following the dictionary–encyclopedia format—that is, concise, analytical, and reference-oriented.

The concept developed by each participant may be:

- Derived from one of the core ideas discussed in the paper, they will present at the conference, or
- An independent concept that falls within the conference theme and lies within the author's area of expertise.

Each entry should include 3–5 key references. Submission of encyclopedia entries will occur simultaneously with the full paper submission.

Overall, the encyclopedia offers participants an excellent opportunity to gain multiple publications from their involvement in the conference—

### **Keynote Speakers (list to be updated)**

**Xu Honggang**, Sun Yat-san University, China

**Chin Ee Ong**, Macao University of Tourism, Macao, China

### **Scientific Committee**

**Alexandros Apostolakis**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Maria Alebaki**, Agricultural Economics Research Institute, Hellenic Agricultural Organisation DIMITRA, Greece

**Irini Dimou**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Alexandros Garefalakis**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Stella Kladou**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Markos Kourgiantakis**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Ren (Eve) Lianping**, Macao University of Tourism, Macao, China

**Jia Liu**, Ocean University of China

**Aggeliki Menegaki**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Chin Ee Ong**, Macao University of Tourism, Macao, China

**Eirini Papadaki**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Emmanuel Papavasileiou**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece



**Dalia Perkumienė**, Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry, Lithuania

**Simona Perone**, Sapienza University of Rome

**Jérôme Piriou**, University of Angers, France

**Luca Reitano**, Sapienza University of Rome

**Larbi Safaa**, Cadi Ayyad University, Morocco

**Shiwei Shen**, Ningbo University, China

**Marianna Sigala**, University of Newcastle, Australia

**Luís Silveira**, University of Coimbra, Portugal

**Marios Soteriadis**, Ningbo University, China

**Jiuxia Sun**, Sun Yat-sen University, China

**Nikos Trihas**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Honggang Xu**, Sun Yat-sen University, China

### Organizing Committee

**George Apladas**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Irini Dimou**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Evangelos Douloufakis**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Afroditi Fanouraki**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Yi Liu**, Sun Yat-sen University, China

**Cenhua Lyu**, Ningbo University, China

**Sofia Maragkaki**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Vilma Thoma**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Xueji Wang**, Ningbo University, China

**George Xanthos**, Hellenic Mediterranean University

**Maria Xenaki**, Hellenic Mediterranean University, Greece

**Jean-René Morice**, University of Angers, France

### Venue

Heraklion, situated on the northern coast of Crete, is a vibrant city that seamlessly blends a Mediterranean atmosphere with an energetic urban rhythm. Rather than being solely defined by its ancient past, Heraklion today functions as a modern cultural and academic hub, with vibrant pedestrian areas, landmark squares, and a strong local identity shaped by its people and traditions. Its walkable city center, lively cafés, and seaside promenades offer delegates an accessible and enjoyable environment beyond the conference schedule.

The conference will take place at **the Hellenic Mediterranean University (Heraklion Campus)** in the new facilities of the School of Health Sciences, providing a welcoming and well-equipped academic setting for participants.

**Further information:** If you would like to learn more about the event, please contact the organising committee at [ictf2026@hmu.gr](mailto:ictf2026@hmu.gr).