

**Congress of the Roman Frontier Studies/Limes Congress XXVI
September 8-14, 2024
Batumi, Georgia**

Report by Natia Phiphia (TSU) and Tedo Dundua (TSU)

On September 8-14 Congress of the Roman Frontier Studies/Limes Congress XXVI was held in Batumi, the first time in Georgia. 350 scholars from 42 countries participated in it. Congress was organized by Cultural Heritage Protection Agency of Autonomous Republic of Adjara (Georgia), Education, Culture, and Sports Ministry of Adjara, Government of Autonomous Republic of Adjara, Batumi Shota Rustaveli State University, Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland, Polish Center of Mediterranean Archaeology at Warsaw University, Faculty of Archaeology at Warsaw University, etc.

The Congress of the Roman Frontier Studies is among the most important conferences in history and archaeology held in Europe once every three years. The first Congress was held in 1949 in Newcastle (UK), while the most recent one was in Nijmegen (Netherlands) in 2022. The committee of the Congress consists of leading scholars and scientists in the world.

In Classical Antiquity Roman limes (frontier) united Europe into one world. East coast of the Black Sea was also a part of the Roman limes. Thus, Georgia was seen as a part of unified Europe as usual. Therefore, study of the issue is very interesting also to understand the modern situation.

The Congress scientific committee selected five papers from Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. Reports were given by Prof. Tedo Dundua (Coins on the Pontic Limes and Beyond: Patterns of Hoarding in Lazica/Western Georgia), Assoc. Prof. Ekaterine Kobakhidze and Assist. Prof. Natia Phiphia (Basilissa Ulpia – New Circumstances in Roman-Iberian

Diplomatic Relations), Assoc. Prof. Nino Silagadze (Mithras of Trapezus – Syncretic Images at Pontic Limes), PhD student Lana Chologauri (Roman and Sasanian Silverware from Colchis and Iberia: Evidence for Diplomatic Interaction with Rome and Persia), PhD student David Gagoshidze (The Palace of Dedoplis Gora: the Residence of an Iberian Nobleman of the 1st Century (New Discoveries). Reports were met with serious interest and were followed by a Q&A session and discussion.