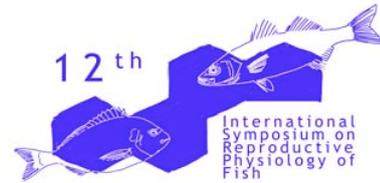




**12th International Symposium on Reproductive  
Physiology of Fish,  
Crete, Greece, 16-20 May 2022**  
*“Reproductive science for aquaculture  
production and conservation”*



Dear Selection Committee,

It is with great pride and full understanding of the responsibility associated with the undertaking, that I propose to organize the next **International Symposium on Reproductive Physiology of Fish (12<sup>th</sup> ISFRP)** in Crete, Greece, hosted by the Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR). I have attended the 5<sup>th</sup> ISFRP (1991) in Norwich, UK as my first scientific conference as a M.Sc. student, and have not missed any of the subsequent symposia. Thirty years afterwards, having gained immensely both professionally and personally from attending these unique –in many ways– symposia and my association with a great number of remarkable scientists, I would like to take on the challenge of organizing this symposium together with my host institution (HCMR). This is in part as a way to express my gratitude to this organization and to offer my services to this community of outstanding professionals and students, so as to contribute to the continuation of the ISFRP.

The 12<sup>th</sup> ISFRP will take place in the **island of Crete, Greece**, which is the most popular tourist destination in Greece. The island is serviced by a large number of direct flights from Europe, while visitors from around the world may travel via Athens, a 35-min flight away. The venue of the symposium will be the 5-star **Aldemar Knossos Royal Hotel**, located in Hersonissos at a distance of 25 km from the capital city of Heraklion (Iraklion) and 22 km from the International Airport of Nikos Kazantzakis. The accommodations within this hotel are not cheap, but for people sharing a room they are quite appealing, as the rooms include important amenities. Within the same complex, we have another hotel that is excellent and at affordable prices. We have also identified a number of lower cost hotels within walking distance or a short bus ride (included in the registration) from the venue. The weather at the time of the symposium (16-20 May) is very pleasant, and apart from the beach that is within a 5-min walk from the venue, the island of Crete offers a wide range of environments to visit, from high mountains (2553 m elevation), gorges, beaches, traditional villages and bustling towns with amazing restaurants, etc.

The social program includes the:

- Welcome reception dinner in the beautiful swimming pool and garden of the venue hotel,
- Excursion to either the Knossos Palace (the cradle of the Minoan Civilization) or the island of Spinalonga (a Venetian fortress turned into a Leper colony in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century), and
- Symposium dinner in a traditional village, with Cretan folk music and dancing, followed by more contemporary dancing music from a DJ.

Registration fees have been set to:

- **350 € for early-bird regular registration**, and
- **250 € for early-bird student registration**.

This includes the **welcoming reception (dinner and drinks) and lunch for all days of the conference**. The **Symposium dinner and Excursion is optional** and at an additional cost, though we expect that we will be able to obtain some **local sponsoring** that will allow us to cover one of the two events, at the very least for all students.

I would like to maintain the traditional format of the ISFRP with **no parallel sessions**, which is one of the characteristics that make this conference a very successful one, enabling all participants to attend all presentations and follow all ensuing discussions. As usual, posters will be displayed throughout the whole meeting in a nearby exhibition room, and **2 Poster sessions** will also be organized to allow presenters to explain their work. The **Book of Abstracts** will contain a 2-page presentation of each submitted work (oral and poster), and if there is interest we will approach an **open-access journal** to produce a special issue (Proceedings) with full articles.

As Greece does not have a critical mass of researchers working in the area of fish reproduction, instead of a local organizing committee, we have set up a European-based **Scientific Program Committee**, which will be responsible for (a) the development of the program -in collaboration with the established International Advisory Committee, (b) the evaluation of the submitted Abstracts and selection of oral presentations, (c) the evaluation of the best-poster awards and (d) any other scientific issues. All management and administrative issues of the symposium will be dealt by myself as the organizer/chair of the Scientific Program Committee, together with the professional conference organizing agency that has been already consulted for this proposal.

Finally, we propose the theme of this ISFRP to be **“Reproductive science for aquaculture production and conservation”**. With the importance of aquaculture production ever increasing and climate change affecting ecosystems throughout the world, the applied aspects of reproductive research should be given a high emphasis.

I hope you find this proposal appealing and I am really looking forward to organizing the **12<sup>th</sup> ISFRP 2022 in Crete, Greece**.

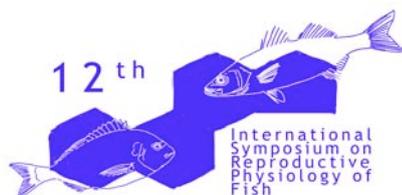
Yours sincerely



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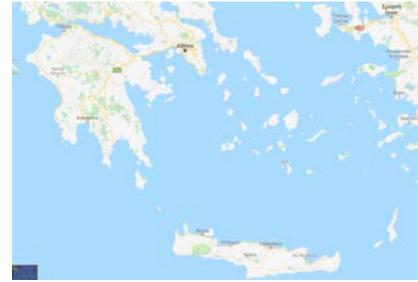
#### Scientific Programme Committee

Julian Bobe, INRA, France  
 Adelino VM Canário, Uni Algarve, Portugal  
 Yoav Gothilf, Uni Tel Aviv, Israel  
 Olivier Kah, CNRS, France  
 Evaristo Mañanos, IATS-CSIC, Spain  
 Herve Migaud, Uni Stirling, Scotland  
 José Antonio Muñoz Cueto, Uni Cadiz, Spain  
 Birgitta Norberg, IMR, Norway  
 Francesc Piferrer, ICM-CSIC, Spain  
 Hanna Rosenfeld, NCM-IOLR, Israel  
 Rüdiger Schulz, Uni Utrecht, Netherlands  
 Berta Levavi-Sivan, Uni Jerusalem, Israel  
 Yonathan Zohar, IMET-Uni Maryland, USA



### The island of Crete, Greece

The symposium will be held in the island of Crete, Greece. Crete is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest island in the Mediterranean, and one of the most popular vacation destinations in Greece, with more than 3 million tourists spending their summer holidays every year. Crete was home to the oldest civilization in Europe (2700-1420 BC), the Minoan Civilization who gave the name to the continent (Europa).



The island's tourism infrastructure caters to all tastes, including a very wide range of accommodation; the island's facilities take in large luxury hotels with their complete facilities, swimming pools, sports and recreation, smaller family-owned apartments, camping facilities and others. Visitors reach the island via two international airports in Heraklion and [Chania](#) (international charter and domestic flights starting May) or by boat to the main ports of Heraklion and Chania.



Popular tourist attractions include the archaeological sites of the Minoan civilization (Knossos Palace), the Venetian old city and port of Chania, the Venetian castle at Rethymno, one of the numerous gorges (e.g. the Samaria and Imbros Gorges), the islands of Chrysi, Elafonisi, Gramvousa and Spinalonga, and the Palm Beach of Vai, which is the largest natural palm forest in Europe. A

number of islets are scattered around Crete and can be visited in day trips, such as:

- Gramvousa (Kissamos, Chania) the pirate island opposite the Balos lagoon,
- Elafonisi (Chania), which commemorates a shipwreck and an Ottoman massacre,
- Chrysi Island (Ierapetra, Lasithi), with the largest Lebanon cedar forest in Europe.

Heraklion (HER) airport is the 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest of Greece and is located just 22 km from the conference venue. During the main tourist season (March to November) there are direct connections offered by dozens of charter and schedule airlines from nearly 200 airports within Europe, Russia and the Middle East. For visitors from North America, there are daily direct flights to Athens from Newark, JFK, Philadelphia, Montreal and Toronto airports with Emirates, United, Delta, American Airlines and Air Canada. From Athens one would then take a connecting flight (35 min) to Heraklion. With the Star Alliance airlines it is possible to include the Athens-Heraklion-Athens flights on one ticket. It is also easy to connect from other US and Canadian cities via the above hubs or via major north European hubs such as London, Amsterdam, Paris or Frankfurt.

From Asia, Africa and Australasia, SCOOT (subsidiary of Singapore Airlines) offers direct flights to Athens, while the Arabian Gulf airlines (Emirates, Etihad and Qatar) offer convenient and economical options with easy connections to Athens via Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Doha. It is also usually possible to combine the flights to/from Heraklion on one ticket with these airlines.

For people that would like to spend first some time in Athens before the symposium, there is also a daily connection with a ferry from Athens (Piraeus Harbor). There is also daily ferry and high-speed catamaran connection to the unique volcano island of Santorini (right).

On arrival to Heraklion, one can get a taxi for a 20 min ride to the venue area in Hersonissos (40 € for 4 persons). A shuttle bus may be organized knowing the arrival times of participants (this will be dealt with in the registration).



## Symposium Venue

**Aldemar Knossos Royal Hotel**, Hersonissos, Crete, Greece.

<http://www.aldemar-resorts.gr/GR/Family%20resorts/Knossos%20Royal/>

This is a 5-star family resort, located in one of the most popular tourist areas of Crete. It is located at the tip of the *Annisaras* peninsula in the community of *Hersonissos*, with a beautiful beach right in front of it. Bathed in sunlight, calmed by the gentle waves of the Aegean Sea rests this idyllic and stylish resort with Minoan-style architecture combined with recently refurbished rooms, gleaming swimming pools and lush gardens, putting the visitor in the relaxing mood.



### Conference Hall and Poster Session area

The conference hall can take 300 participants with appropriate projection and sound systems. The exhibition room for the poster session is separate and located 50 m from the conference hall. The coffee breaks will take place in the area of the Posters to facilitate their viewing.



### Date of the symposium

The proposed dates are **16-20 May, 2022**.

The weather towards the end of May is very pleasant (sunny with very small chances of rain) with air temperature ranging between 16 and 25°C. May is the beginning of the tourist season, which means that all hotels are open and many European airlines have started their direct flights to Crete. However, the island is still not too busy, and prices are below the peak-season maximum of July-August.

### Registration Fees

Normal registration fee (early bird): 350 €

Normal registration fee (late): 400 €

Student registration fee (early bird): 250 €

Student registration fee (late): 300 €

Accompanying member registration 150 €

Registration fees will include the abstract book, welcoming reception, coffees, and lunches. The symposium dinner and excursion are currently not included in the price. Our intention is to obtain outside sponsorship (we already secured some money) to be able to cover the cost of at least one of these events (symposium dinner or excursion), at the very least for all students attending the symposium. For accompanying members, it includes the welcome reception and lunches.

## Accommodations

### Aldemar Knossos Royal, 5-stars

Double room for double/twin use: 170 € per room/per overnight with breakfast (85€ euros per person if sharing a room with another conference attendant)

Double room for single use: 135 € euros per room/per overnight with breakfast

Number of rooms available: 100 rooms

**Aldemar Cretan Village, 4-stars** (in walking distance from the symposium venue and with possibility for transfer offered by the hotels, same hotel chain)

Double room for double/twin use: 149 € per room/per overnight with **all-inclusive** (74.50 € per person/per overnight if sharing a room with another conference attendant)

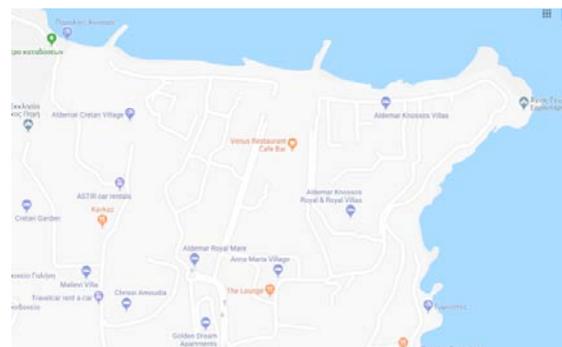
Double room for single use: 108 € euros per room/per overnight with **all-inclusive**

Number of rooms available: 20-30 rooms

**Various 3-star & 2-star hotels within walking distance from the symposium venue or with shuttle bus service, included in the price of registration (area of Hersonissos).**

Some of the available hotels are:

- Maragakis Beach Hotel,
- Orion Hotel,
- Central Hersonissos Hotel,
- Hotel Palmera,
- Adamakis Hotel,
- Pela Maria Hotel and others,



The price per overnight with breakfast in a single room is 40-60 € (including the shuttle bus service to and from the symposium venue for the day sessions).

## Currency and VISA information

Greece is a member of the European Union and in the Euro zone, so its currency is the Euro (€). You can bring this currency from your country, exchange at the airport/hotel or obtain cash more conveniently from any ATM in the island. Greece is part of the Schengen space and VISA **is not required for a large number of countries**. More information can be obtained at the link below:

<https://www.mfa.gr/en/visas/visas-for-foreigners-traveling-to-greece/countries-requiring-or-not-requiring-visa.html>

## Conference secretariat and travel assistance

The conference secretariat will be maintained by a professional conference-organizing agency (Diazoma Conference and Events, Crete, Greece), which will take care of the

- Registration to the conference, payments, and abstract submission,
- Reservation for hotels,
- Organization of social events (welcoming reception, symposium dinner and excursions),
- Transportation from/to local hotels to the conference venue.



A local travel agency (Ourios Travel, <http://www.ourios.gr>) would assist people with obtaining the most convenient and affordable flights from around the world to Greece. The agency has extensive experience with international travel from and to Crete.



## Social events

The social program includes:

- Welcoming dinner in the beautiful swimming pool and garden of the venue hotel,
- Excursion to either the Knossos Palace or the island of Spinalonga, and
- Symposium dinner in a traditional village.



**Knossos Palace.** Amongst all the ancient ruins in Crete, Knossos is the archaeological site that is a must-see in order to understand the greatness of the Minoan Civilization (2000 BC). The tour takes you to the island's capital, *Iraklio (Heraklion)*, and from there onto the village of *Knossos* where you will be led through the ruins of the ancient palace complex: the labyrinth, galleries and rooms of the Palace, and the Royal Palace of King Minos, the son Zeus (the God of Gods, in Greek Mythology) and Europa, who gave her name to our continent! Return back to your hotel after 5 hours approximately. **Price for at least 30 persons: 32€ + 16€ entrance fee.**



**Spinalonga Island.** Participants will be picked up from the hotel and transferred to the town of *Elounda*, and then after a 10 min boat ride from *Plaka* across to the island of *Spinalonga*. *Spinalonga* is a small island with an exceptionally interesting history and is now a Cultural Heritage site. The preserved Venetian Fortress was built in 1579 to protect the bay. After the Ottoman Turks left, the island became synonymous with human pain. In 1903, *Spinalonga* developed into a gathering place for lepers from all over Crete, until a cure for the diseases was developed in the 1950s. After this nice visit the boat will bring participants back at *Elounda* or *Ag. Nikolaos* for a coffee, before returning to the hotel at the end of the evening. **Price for at least 30 persons: 35€ + 2€ entrance fee.**



## Symposium dinner

This will be a "*Panigiri*" (fiesta or party in greek) at the beautiful square of *Mochos Village*, one of the better-maintained traditional villages of the island of Crete. Delegates will have the pleasure to be the guests of the whole village and use the whole central square of Mochos (4-5 different traditional taverns) at a distance of 8-10 km from the area of Hersonissos. A local folk dancing school will perform for us and with us, the agile and intricate dances of "*Syrtos*", "*Maleviziotis*" and "*Pentozalis*", which are trademark folk dances of Crete. A DJ will then entertain us with contemporary Greek and international music for a few hours of relaxation and dancing. **Cost per person is 50 €.**



### Suggested time schedule

The symposium will follow the general structure that has made it successful over the years: no parallel sessions; each session will begin with a keynote speech (30 min), followed by 15-20 min short presentations. A permanent poster session will take place in a separate, specialized area, together with two poster sessions dedicated to the attendance of the posters (Tuesday and Thursday). The Scientific Program Committee in consultation with the International Advisory Board will establish the topics for the Special Sessions (probably a total of 10).

2022	Sunday 15 May	Monday 16 May	Tuesday 17 May	Wednesday 18 May	Thursday 19 May	Friday 20 May
<b>Morning</b>		Start of symposium and scientific sessions	Scientific sessions	Scientific sessions	Scientific sessions	Scientific sessions
<b>Afternoon</b>	Registration	Scientific sessions	Scientific sessions & Poster session I	Excursions to Knossos Palace or Spinalonga Island	Scientific sessions & Poster session II	Scientific sessions and closing
<b>Evening</b>	Welcome reception (dinner and drinks)				Conference dinner	

### Scientific Presentations

- A) Invited lectures:
  - a. An opening and closing conference lecture of 45 min
  - b. Keynote lectures of 30 min for each of the Special Sessions
- B) Oral presentations of 15 minutes, including discussion chosen from the Abstract submissions. The **Scientific Program Committee** will select the oral presentations based on the themes of the Special Sessions and the quality of the abstract submissions.
- C) Posters will be on display permanently and two periods are reserved for official poster sessions (Tuesday and Thursday afternoon). There will be prizes for the 3 best posters.
- D) Round tables can be organized in the available evenings, if there is interest from participants.

### Book of Abstracts and Proceedings

The **Book of Abstracts** will contain a 2-page presentation of each submission (oral and poster), and if there is interest by the participants we will approach an **open-access journal** to produce a special issue (Proceedings) with full articles. This will be discussed by the Scientific Program Committee, in collaboration with the International Advisory Committee.

### Timetable of actions towards the symposium

- a. Website and first circular – July 2018 (already established at [12ISFRP.weebly.com](http://12ISFRP.weebly.com))
- b. Second circular - January 2021 (request for intentions to attend)
- c. Registration and Abstract submission – September 2021 to January 2022
- d. Announcement of final program – March 2022

### Sponsorship

We already began the process of identifying sponsorship. We have secured some funds from HCMR and IRIDA S.A. (a Greek Aquaculture feed company) and we will try to get more, so that we can cover the cost of one of the social events for all participants, or at the very least of all the students.

We look forward to welcoming you to Crete, Greece.  
The cradle of western civilization!



[www.12ISFRP.weebly.com](http://www.12ISFRP.weebly.com)

