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History of Roman Sinope

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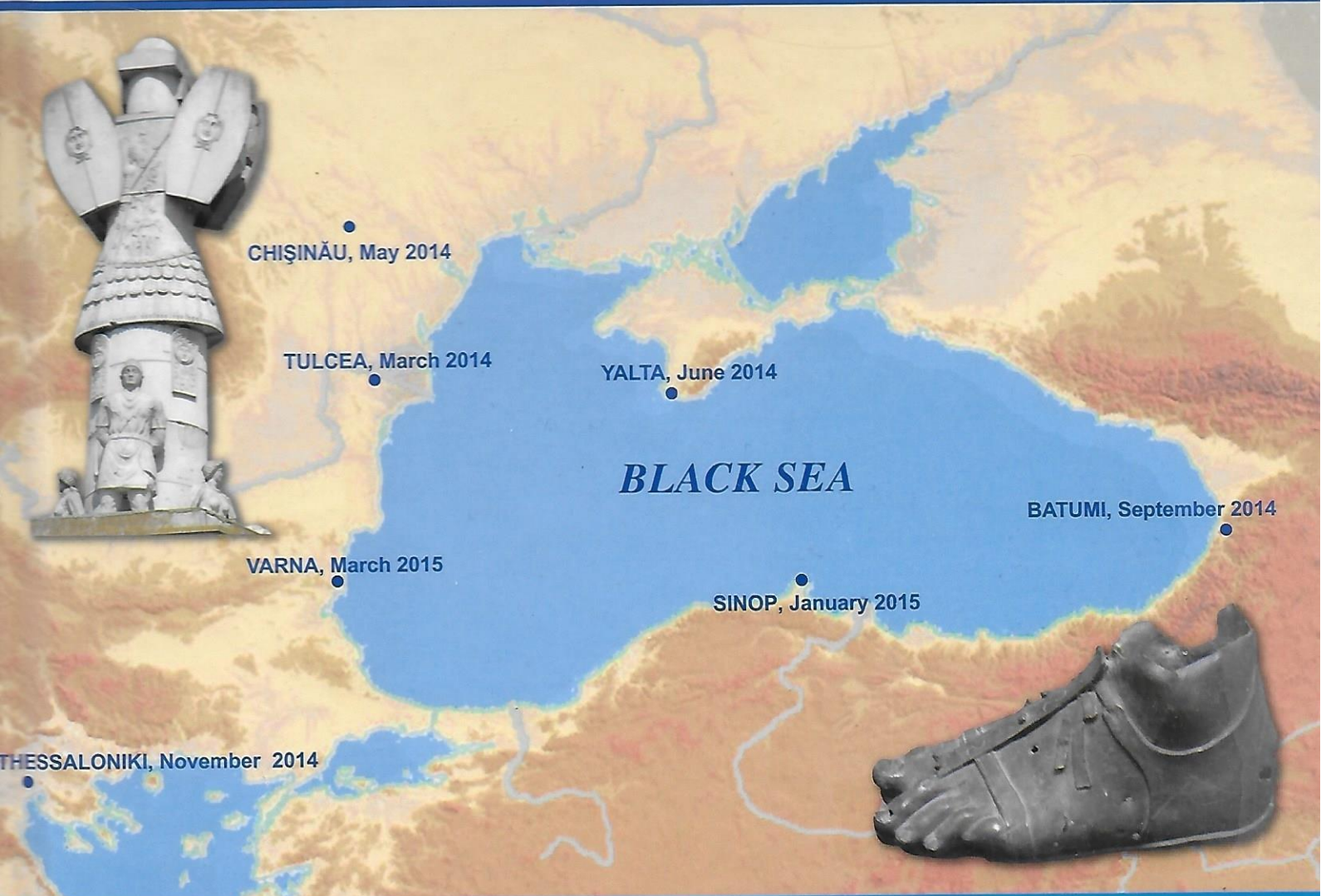
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BLACK SEA BASIN JOINT OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

Common borders. Common solutions.



Roman Art and Civilization – a Common Language in Antiquity

Catalogue of the itinerant exhibition



Project funded by the
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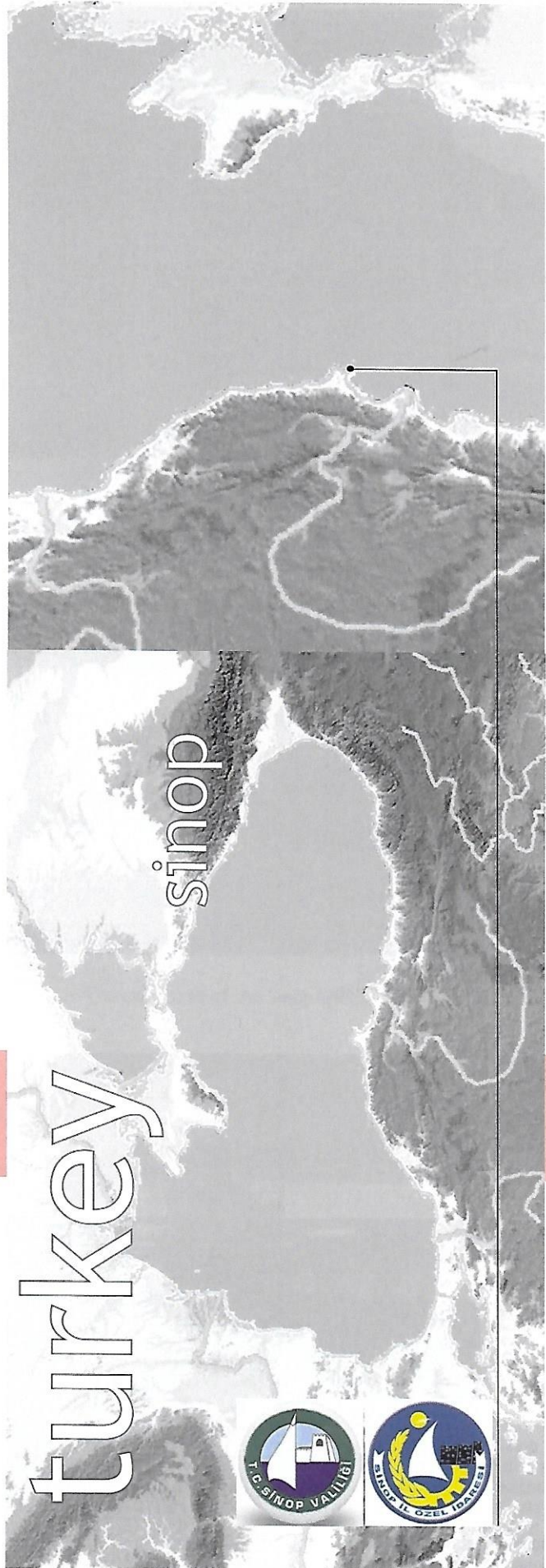
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coordinator: Mihaela Iacob



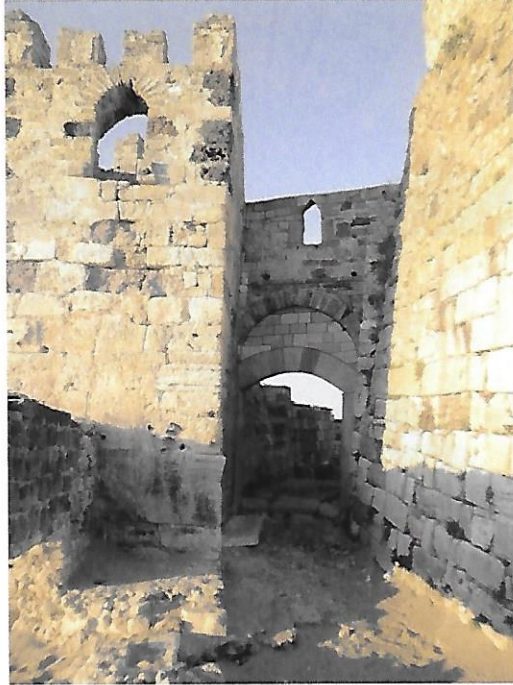


tarih

tarih, istorie, ἱστορία, история, історія, ისტორია, istorie, history



Sinope Helenistik Sur Kalıntıları
Remains of the Hellenistic fortifications of Sinope



Kumkapı Savunma Kapısı
View of the fortified gate, Kumkapı (Sand Gate)



Akropol Surlarının Güney-Batı Köşesi
Southwestest corner of the *acropolis* fortifications

The Greek city of *Sinope* was taken in 70 BC by Roman General Lucius Licinius Lucullus during the Second Mithridatic War. After the suicide of Mithridates VI Eupator in Crimea in 63 BC, Pompey the Great allowed Mithridates' burial in Sinop, his birthplace and burial place of the Kings of *Pontus*.

In 62 BC, *Sinope* became one of the twelve *politeiai* (communities) of the Pontic part of the new Roman Province of *Bithynia* and *Pontus*, organized by Pompey.

In 48 BC, Pharnakes, son of Mithridates VI Eupator and King of Cimmerian *Bosporus*, taking advantage of the Civil War in Rome and of the rivalry between Pompey and Caesar, invaded the Roman Province of *Bithynia et Pontus*, and took *Sinope*, the former capital city of his father's kingdom

Caesar arrived quickly in northern Anatolia and defeated Pharnakes in the battle of Zela in 47 BC. Pharnakes fled to Cimmerian *Bosporus* and in 45 BC Caesar founded a Roman colony in *Sinope*, the *Colonia Iulia Felix Sinope*, so that Roman citizens should settle in *Sinope* and assure him the loyalty of the city.

In 45 BC, the colonial status was a punishment status, but very soon, it became an advantage for the development and prosperity of *Sinope* during the Roman Empire.