

4. Ζώνη 1 Φύλλο 3

4. Row 1 Sheet 3



Φαίνεται μία καταποντισμένη πόλις εις τήν Θάλασσαν

Α Β Α(π)



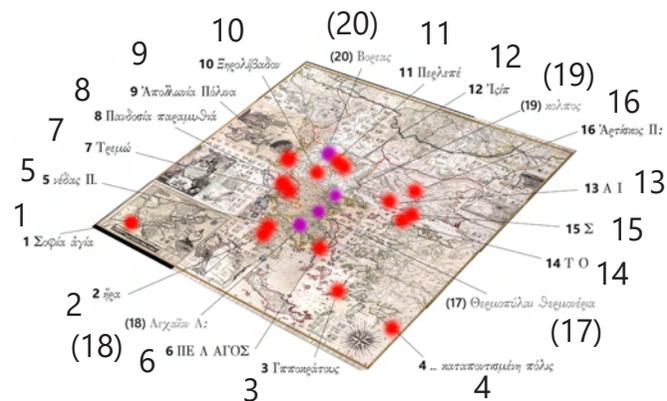
in Gazis' Pinax

Legent

Exists ~~Does not exist~~ (π) variant

A Version A, B Version B, A(π) Version A(π)

Example of difference in Versions A, B and A(π).



Synopsis of the 20 differences that create Versions A, B and the variant A(π): the two "faces" (typologies) and their variants

The Tricoglou Library in the AUTH Library & IC

In the numerous and the thematically multifaceted collection of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) Library & Information Centre the *Tricoglou Library* holds a prominent place. It still is the most important donation to the University's Library by Ioannis Tricoglou, a nobleman of the Greek Diaspora in Egypt. Among the wealth of books and other treasures of knowledge The Tricoglou Library includes a number of maps and cartographic material which concerns not only Greece and its history but also the international community.

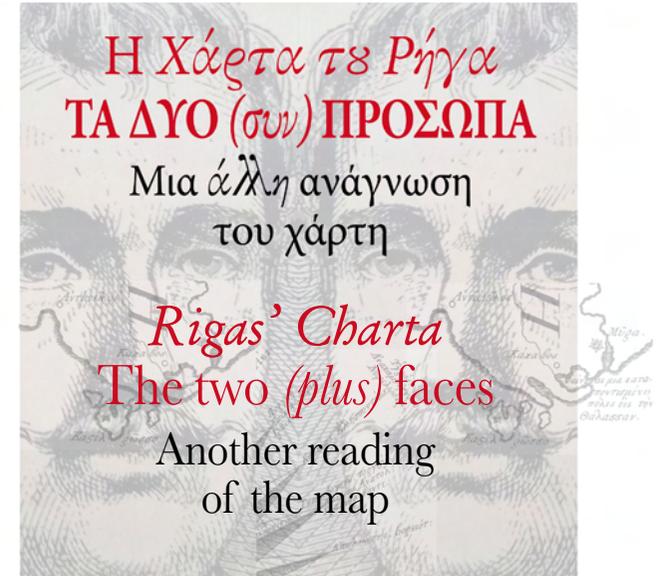
Rigas Velestinlis' *Charta* (1797), with which we celebrate the 220 years anniversary from its printing in Vienna and the 90 years from the foundation of the University Library, predominates, but it is also accompanied by a significant amount of maps and rares, dated before and after the *Charta*, all relevant to Hellenism. All these comprise a distinct unit of added value for the University Library, according to international standards established for centuries by emblematic libraries since their foundation.

With my thanks to all those who contributed in this anniversary event, I wish to emphasise that the Exhibition in the AUTH Telloglion Fine Arts Foundation, together with the accompanying book, are initiatives of typical *examples of good practice*, thanks to the vitality and potential of the Aristotle University but above all of its people.

Prof. Pericles Mitkas  
Rector AUTH



220 Years *Charta* 1797-2017



ΤΕΛΛΟΓΛΙΟΝ  
ΙΔΡΥΜΑ  
ΤΕΧΝΩΝ  
Α.Π.Θ.

6 *Chartas* in Exhibition

Thessaloniki  
15.12.2017-14.1.2018



## The Exhibition

The exhibition of the *Grand Map/Charta* of Greece by Rigas Velestinlis (1757-1798) is first and foremost an anniversary event to honour the 220 years since its publication in Vienna (1797), 20 years since the official declaration of the *Charta* as a historical monument for preservation by the Greek Ministry of Culture (1997) and the 260 years since the birth of Rigas (1757 provided the date is correct).

The exhibition also coincides with:

- a. The 90 years of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) Library and Information Centre since its foundation in which houses a copy of the *Charta*, part of the Tricoglou Library rare.
- b. The 90 years since the foundation of the Bank of Greece (1927), which participates in the exhibition with two copies of the *Charta* from its collection.
- c. The 100 years of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Thessaloniki (1917) whose copy of the *Charta* is also part of the exhibition.

The innovation of this exhibition aspires to reveal the less known, technical and production aspects of the *Charta*, basically presenting it as what it really is, a map. The two (main) types of the *Charta* and some variants, as discovered by the digital analysis of its copies in 2008, is going to be presented for the first time.

The exhibition enriches our perception with new depictions of the *Charta* that, though included in it, are not readily visible without the cartographic process as well as other cartographic analysis. The unveiling of these new depictions enable new reading of the *Charta*, beyond the so far stereotyped interpretations of previous approaches.

For the first time six copies of the *Charta*, of different origins and typologies, meet in an exhibition to offer to the public their cartographic secrets: together with the one from the AUTH Tricoglou Library, the two from the Bank of Greece and the one

from the Thessaloniki Chamber of Industry and Commerce, two more, one from the Sylvia Ioannou Foundation and the other from the Paschaleios School of Kapesovo, are added to complete the set of six!

## The Content

### THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE *CHARTA*:

The historical environment, the cartographic environment and the chronology of the period of the *Charta*'s conception and birth.

THE CARTOGRAPHY OF THE *CHARTA*: The 12-sheet *Charta*. The "window" of the represented surface of the earth. The sequence of the 12 sheets. The cartographic models for the *Charta*'s construction. The map projection employed in the representation. The copying and drawing issues. The density of settlements in the *Charta* and their connotations. The coins depicted in the map.

THE TWO (plus) FACES OF THE *CHARTA*: **Versions A, B and A( $\pi$ )** with variants. The **20 differences** in the *Charta*'s Versions.

THE *PINAX* OF ANTHIMOS GAZIS AND RIGAS' *CHARTA*: the relation of Gazis' *Pinax* to Rigas' *Charta*.

### The two (plus) faces of the *Charta*

The exhibition and its homonymous volume, by choice focus on the enticingly charming discovery of the *Charta*'s two "faces" (typologies) and their variants (as if "grimaces" of the two "faces"). The analysis of the *Charta*'s cartographic elements that are not visible at first glance such as the mapping system, the drawing of the coastline, the cartographic models and their copying procedures, makes it possible to understand the synthetic and construction themes Rigas chose to follow, which in some instances, he also chose mainly empirically to alter by intervening drastically, in order to support his work.

From the deformations of the map's geometrical content, it seems that Rigas follows copying techniques of his era, and also that the drawing hand was not solely one but probably more and indeed of unequal competence and experience at that. The areas that show the greatest spatial fit (according to the top map models of his era) are the areas Rigas was most interested in, mainly the Aegean coastline. Be that as it may, the geometric copying procedure concentrates on the content of the map and not the projection system, which, moreover, is more closely followed in the *Pinax/Map of Greece* of the clergyman scholar Anthimos Gazis, a work related to but also different from the *Charta*.

### The *Charta* represents the recurring at the time mixed feeling of joy turning into regret of the Greeks

It is in a frenzy of expectations and their reversals for the Greek nation that the *Charta* was conceived and born during the few required years for its making, a fateful symbol of a continuously recurring mixed feeling of joy turning into regret and vice versa.

Yet, as soon as it appears, the *Charta* is enigmatically transformed into a passionate myth, eventually reaching its modern *metamorphosis* into a historical monument of cultural heritage worthy of admiration, respect and of continuing research. 📖

*Rigas' Charta. The two (plus) faces, another reading of the map* is a special publication issued by the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki-AUTH Library & Information Centre with the support of the AUTH Research Committee, on the occasion of the Library's 90+ years anniversary. The book is the first issue of the series of publications about the rare kept in the *Tricoglou Library* by the AUTH Library & Information Centre, on the occasion of the homonymous exhibition held in the AUTH Telloglion Fine Arts Foundation. Thessaloniki 15.12.2017-14.1.2018.