

Action Plan for The Norwegian Institute at Athens (NIA)

2023-2026

Core Objectives:

- Maintain and advocate the NIA's role as a national infrastructure for researchers and students within the Norwegian universities and colleges (UHR sector) that wish to conduct research, teaching and disseminate knowledge about the Greek world and related topics within the spectrum of humanities, social sciences, and the arts from antiquity to recent times.
- Fulfil scientific and administrative obligations toward the Greek state in accordance with the status of NIA as a Foreign Archaeological School in Greece (i.e., annual meetings and archaeological reports, preservation and safeguarding of the antiquities, publications of the archaeological excavation results, outreach).
- Foster closer ties with the Norwegian UHR sector by building long-term thematic collaboration in form of research- and teaching projects, lecture series and related events (archaeology, classics, digital humanities, heritage, social sciences).
- Build upon NIA's values and the legacy to attract early career Norwegian scholars to research archeology and, and more generally, cultural and social issues in Greece and the Mediterranean, in the Antiquity, the Byzantine and more recent times. Promote UiB's sustainability goals.

Priority area A Research:

- Encourage and facilitate Norwegian archaeologists along with scholars from the humanities, social sciences, and the arts, to persist their work in Greece, including lecturing at NIA, publishing their research results and fulfil commitments to the Greek Ministry of Culture (if applicable). Priority is given to research project proposals originating from the NIA's owner and supporter institutions.
- Promote research activities by contributing to applications and externally funded projects.
- Provide NIA's facilities to Norwegian scholars for research projects spanning reasonable durations (e.g., the [Research Affiliate Program](#)) to facilitate consistent presence at NIA.

Priority Area B Teaching/Education:

- Develop a viable strategy to attract more student courses from UiO, UiB, and other Norwegian universities by allocating office space and resources (e.g. access to the Nordic Library).
- Promote the NIA by establishing collaborations with study programs, departments, and faculties at UiB, UiO and other Norwegian universities.
- Explore the potential for a Summer Field School initiative with UiB (in collaboration with UiO) to enhance visibility, thereby establishing NIA as a natural academic resource and destination for future generations of academics.

Priority Area C Dissemination:

- Leverage the NIA's research network and its role as an international hub to disseminate the work of Norwegian researchers to the Greek, Nordic, and broader academic communities.
- Maintain hosting and facilitating income-generating activities originating from the UHR sector and third parties, while promoting them on our website and social media platforms.
- Sustain collaboration with the Nordic and the other Foreign Schools in Greece to foster a sense of belonging to a broader academic community, promoting shared goals and exchanging good practices (i.e., the Democracy program).

New activities in 2025-2026 related to all three priority areas A, B and C:

- Continue efforts to attract new archaeological projects led by Norway-based scholars and to facilitate currently pending applications, such as the University Museum of Bergen's field survey project proposal scheduled for November 2025. *Priority Area A.*
- Engage with the newly established Nordic Research School of Museums and Cultural Heritage (NorMus), which has received funding from NFR to offer PhD courses all over Scandinavia, with the aim of involving the NIA. *Priority Area A and B.*
- Launch the new joint lecture series *Encounters*, organized by the NIA and NIR, aimed at attracting early career scholars from Norway and the respective host countries. Rome October 9, 2025, Athens May 2026). *Priority Area C.*

- Launch a new lecture series titled *Ministry Lecture Series*, inviting archaeologists and other scholars from the Hellenic Ministry of Culture to present their work. The series will feature one lecture per year, alternating among the Foreign Schools in Athens that choose to participate. *Priority Area C*.
- Continue supporting the hybrid workshops initiated by the NIA (Digital Archaeology Workshop Series 2024-2027, Cuius Regio). *Priority Area A*.