



International Course on ArchaeoGeophysics

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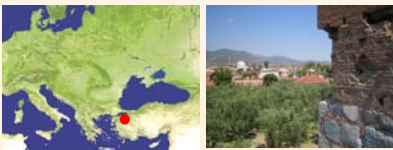
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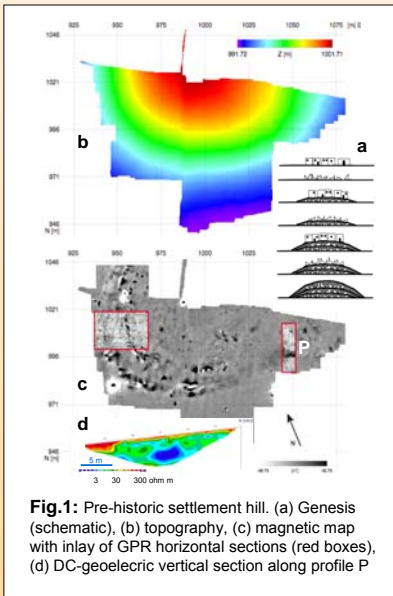
Comenius University
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Kocaeli University
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Under the roof of the European Union ERASMUS program the Universities of Kiel, Kocaeli and Bratislava performed an international summer school on archaeological prospecting with geophysical methods. The field course was held in Iznik (●), Turkey, near the ancient city of Nicea. Course participants were 35 students of Archaeology and Geophysics.



Aims: Aims of the course were to provide an introduction to the local archaeological and seismo-tectonic situation, lectures, practical field work with state-of-the-art geophysical instruments (geomagnetics, geoelectrics, ground penetrating radar, micro-gravimetry), digital data processing and interpretation techniques.

Sites: In cooperation with the local authorities investigation sites were selected in order to demonstrate the different potential and requirements of geophysical prospecting in archaeology. The selected investigation sites comprised urban areas as well as sites on the countryside, such as a suspect settlement hill (Fig.1), the prospecting of future construction ground (Fig.2), ancient and recent water supply systems, a fault zone, and a roman cemetery.

Results: The field examples demonstrate the advantages, and often the need, to apply different exploration methods in order to obtain a founded idea about the origin of geophysical images of underground structure (Fig.3). The course highlight was the detection of the buried remnants of a previously unknown basilica of Byzantine age within the city of Iznik (Fig.2).

