

EUROCLASSICA ACADEMIA RAGUSINA 2026.

**University of Dubrovnik – Student Center Dubrovnik, Marka
Marojice 2b, 20000 Dubrovnik**

PROGRAM

Homage to Marinus Ghetaldus on the 400th anniversary of his death

Marinus Ghetaldus and his predecessors, Plinius the Elder and Oppian, ancient naturalists, as an inspiration for the preservation of the Earth's land, water, and air.

Academia Ragusina is one of the Euroclassica “schools“, conceived as a biennial symposium, combination of scholarly lectures and didactic workshops. It is intended for high-school students (primarily those attending classical gymnasiums, but also other schools), university students of classical philology, history, national literatures of various European countries, archaeology and doctoral students in related scientific disciplines interested in classical and postclassical texts in Latin and Greek from all over Europe and beyond as well as for teachers and researchers. The school is international in character, its lecturers and attendees coming from Croatia and other European countries. Euroclassica’s Academia Ragusina aims to constantly remind contemporary society of the importance of learning classical languages. The lecturers strive not only to highlight the greatness of ancient writers but also the relevance of their works almost two thousand years after the collapse of the states in which they lived, refreshing our memory of all later authors who were inspired them in any way.

Furthermore, the theme of this symposium, Pliny the Elder's *Naturalis Historia*, the first encyclopedia—an incentive to preserve the soil, water, and air of planet Earth—has been somewhat expanded, first with a Greek scientific author, Oppian, then with one Croatian scientific author, Marinus Ghetaldus.

On April 11, 2026, Dubrovnik will commemorate the 400th anniversary of the death of the eminent mathematician of the Republic of Ragusa, Marinus Ghetaldus (1568–1626). One of his works, *Promotus Archimedes seu De Variis corporum generibus gravitate et magnitudine comparatis*, is considered an example of the modern approach to natural science research. His affiliation with Latin literature, as a naturalist and author of works on the works of the Greek scholar Archimedes, motivated me to include him in our program.

Lectures for all participants will focus on various chapters from the work of Pliny the Elder, Oppian and Marinus Ghetaldus with an emphasis on the text and the context of the time the work was written, as well as today's ecological problems in preserving the Earth and its atmosphere. Connection of Pliny's work with the endeavours on preserving the Earth will be a good contribution to the celebration of upcoming Earth Day (Apr 22).

Pedagogical workshops will include work on the text and connecting our rich natural heritage and today's ecological problems, and will be conducted at two levels:

- a) for students of classical high schools
- b) for undergraduate, post graduate and doctoral students of humanisties and natural sciences.

Working languages are English, French, Croatian and Latin. Good knowledge of English is required.

Level of Latin and Greek: intermediate (ECCL, Ianua)

The symposium will take place in Dubrovnik, Croatia, a city with a rich cultural heritage and significant manuscript collections and libraries as well as numerous traces of Greco-Roman civilization.

We can get the support of relevant institutions, students, teachers and scientists in Dubrovnik and in Croatia, but we need the help of all of

you, national representatives, so that Euroclassica's Academia Ragusina can gain an international character through its participants.

At this moment we can only provide a list of activities, we cannot set the participation price for participants (pupils and students) before we know the amount of the approved sponsorship. We would like the price for participants to be as low as possible because they pay their own travel expenses. We expect to have more specific information by the end of November 2025.

Regarding the program, we have provided the following:

Sunday, March 29, 2026.

After my introductory address to the participants (Eng. and Fr.) under the title: "Euroclassica Academia Ragusina – goals and expectations", the following will be held:

1. Lectures

Prof. Dr. Sci. Ivica Martinović: "Marin Getaldić: life and works" (Engl.)

prof. Inge Belamarić, "Society vs. nature in the Encyclopedia of Pliny the Elder, the forerunner of ecology" (Engl.)

prof. Ninoslav Zubović, University of Zagreb "The octopus in Oppian's poem on Fisheries (Halieutiká)" (Engl.)

2. Pedagogical workshops

Doc. Dr. Sci. Jelena Jurčić, University of Mostar: work on the Latin text of Marin Getaldić (Engl.)

Dr. Sc. Mirko Sardelić, Croatian Academy of Sciences: work on the Latin text of Pliny the Elder (Engl.)

prof. Ivana Marijanović: work on the text of the Greek writer Oppian (Engl.)

Monday, March 30, 2026.

1. Lectures

Prof. Dr. Sci. Neven Jovanović, University of Zagreb: “Pliny the Elder as a scientific writer” (Engl.)

Dr. Sci. Mirko Sardelić, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts: “Emotional and intellectual characteristics of animals in Pliny’s work *Naturalis Historia*” (Engl.)

Prof. dr. sc. Bruna Kuntić-Makvić, University of Zagreb: “Pliny the Elder and the natural resources of the Croatian historical area” (Fr.)

2. Pedagogical workshops

Vjekoslava Margetić, student of the Department of Classical Philology, University of Zagreb: work on the Latin text of Pliny the Elder (Engl.)

prof. Luigi Miraglia, Accademia Vivarium Novum: „De scientiis naturalibus Latine loquamur!“ (Lat.)

Free evening for participants who do not speak Croatian.

For Croatian participants and for citizens of Dubrovnik:

Presentation of the translation of Book X of Pliny's *Naturalis Historia* into Croatian by Prof. Inge Belamarić

Tuesday, March 31, 2026

Tour of the city and the libraries and manuscript collections of the Monastery of the Friars Minor, the Scientific Library and the State Archives in Dubrovnik.

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

Full-day excursion to **Narona** and **Ston (Stagnum)** (Engl.)

Narona was an Ancient Greek trading post on the Illyrian coast and later Roman city and diocese, located in the Neretva valley in present-day Vid, Croatia.

Initially *Ston (Stagnum)* was an Illyrian settlement until the Romans established their own colony there, in 167 BC. Located at the gates of the peninsula, surrounded by three seas, protected by four hills, rich in fresh water and saltwater, as well as fertile plains, it has been an important political, cultural and ecclesiastical centre.

Important!

- If any of you would like to participate with a lecture or pedagogical workshop on the topic of this year's symposium or lead a teaching workshop on a text by Pliny or Oppian, it's not too late. I would kindly ask everyone to provide me with the title of the talk or workshop as soon as possible. I would appreciate receiving abstracts, along with a brief CV, before February 1, 2026, so that we can print the abstract booklet in time.

Jadranka Bagarić, Director of the Academia Ragusina