

# The Information System SYNTHESIS and its use in the Documentation and Study of Artefacts Mobility

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# The team (behind the presented work)

## Centre for Cultural Informatics (CCI)

- Specialised Unit of FORTH, founded in 1994
- First and pioneer in cultural informatics in Greece
- Significant successes
  - ❖ Competence center for CIDOC CRM (the only **ISO Standard**...made in Greece!)
  - ❖ Over 100 projects (over 40 European)
- International collaborations (ICOM, British Museum, MPIWG, DAI, Getty, ...)
- Increase of employed staff (~20 persons, ~50% women)

## The CCI team of RICONTRANS

- Konstantina Konsolaki
- Lida Charami
- Theodosia Bitzou
- Despoina Pratikaki
- Dimitris Angelakis
- Kostas Petrakis (former member)
- Manos Paterakis (former member)
- Chrysoula Bekiari
- Pavlos Fafalios

**Mission:** to pursue a comprehensive, **cross-disciplinary** approach to supporting the **entire lifecycle of cultural information and documentation procedures** for the benefit of study, preservation and promotion of cultural heritage.

- Pure research
- Consulting
- Application development
- Community work on methods and standards

# Outline

- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ The information system '**Synthesis**'
- ❑ Data access **Web Application**

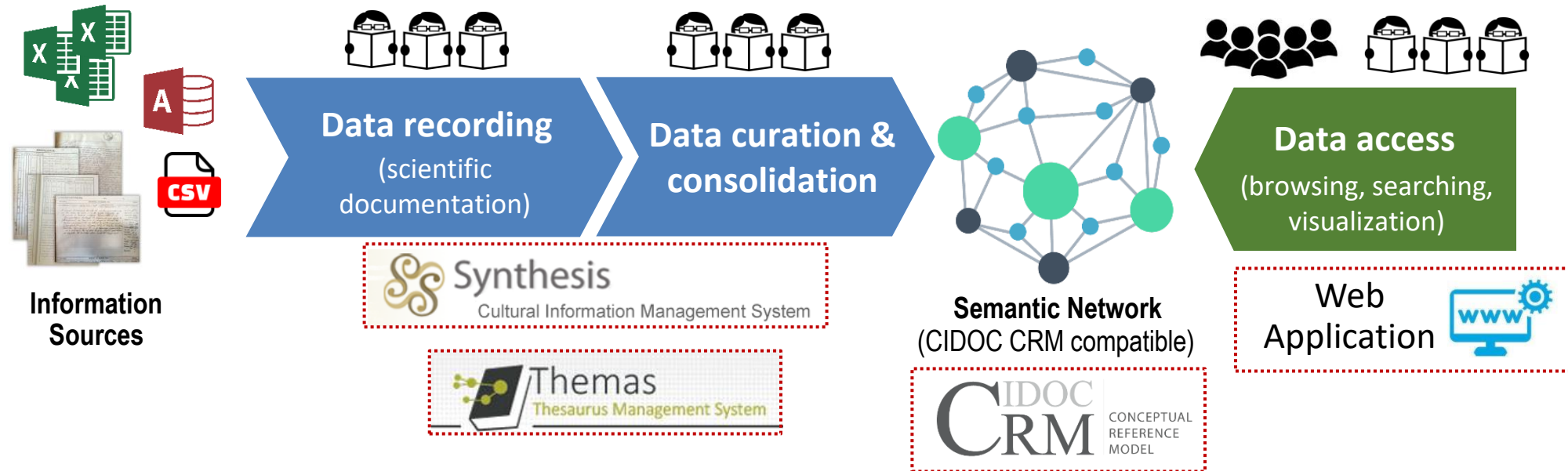
# Introduction

# Research and data management

- ❑ The study of **religious artefacts mobility** encompasses a wide range of activities
  - Discovering and analyzing **primary and secondary sources**
  - Collecting, recording and examining information about the **key entities involved** (objects, locations, events, persons, etc.), their **associations** as well as data **provenance** information (archival sources, bibliography, etc.)
- ❑ This data:
  - should be **systematically organized in a database** that can be (collaboratively) developed and maintained by researchers and domain experts
  - should be **made publicly available** to other researchers and the public via external data access applications



# Data management process



## Our primary aim:

- The production of data of **high-quality** and **long-term validity** that can be **reused** and **extended** on demand, beyond the scope of a particular research project.

# The information system **Synthesis**

# The *Synthesis* system

- ❑ Web-based information system for the **collaborative documentation** of data and knowledge in **cultural heritage** and the **humanities**
  - Can be easily **configured** for specific domains and requirements!
- ❑ Making use of **international standards** for data modelling and storage
  - **CIDOC-CRM (ISO 2117:2023), XML/RDF**
  - Focusing on **semantic interoperability** (data with unambiguous meaning, understood by both humans and computers)
- ❑ Successfully applied in **multiple domains**
  - ❖ **Cultural Heritage**: Museum of Agia Ekateríni Sinaitón, Koules marine fortress, Messara Musuem
  - ❖ **Culture and Science/Technology**: Laser analysis, remote sensing (KRIPIS-POLITEIA, POLITEIA II)
  - ❖ **Ecclesiastical cultural heritage** (project «Ψηφιακό Αποσφράγισμα Αγίωνύμων Νήσων»)
  - ❖ **History of Feminism** (project FE.P.I.B.)
  - ❖ **History of Art** (ERC project RICONTRANS)





# The *Synthesis* system

- ❑ Utilizes **XML technology** and a multi-layer architecture
  - **Flexibility** and **extensibility** (in terms of data structures and data types)
  - **Sustainability** (XML documents readable by both humans and machines)
  - Database: **eXist-db** (native XML database) 

- ❑ Supports:

- the use of multiple **languages**
- **versioning** of information
- **data searching**
- **map visualization**
- **data export** (excel, csv, xml, rdf, ...)
- ...

## Example of XML text file

```
<ObjectTransfers>
  <IdentificationNumber sps_fixed="">
    https://ricontrans-project.eu/ObjectTransfers/920
  </IdentificationNumber>
  <Name>Bishop's Scepter</Name>
  <MovementDate>
    <AtSomeTimeWithin>
      <DateValue x="0" y="0">3ος αιώνας π.Χ.
        -1ος αιώνας μ.Χ.</DateValue>
    </AtSomeTimeWithin>
    <InTheCourseOf>
      <DateValue x="0" y="0">δεκαετία του 1850 -
        18ος αιώνας</DateValue>
    </InTheCourseOf>
    <FromTo>
      <From x="" y=""/>
      <To x="" y=""/>
    </FromTo>
    <EventRelated sps_id="" sps_vocabulary=""/>
    <CulturalPeriod sps_id="" sps_vocabulary=""/>
    <Justification/>
  </MovementDate>
  <MovedObject>
    <Object sps_id="2171" sps_type="Objects">
      .../Object/2171, Bishop's Scepter</Object>
    <ObjectName>Bishop's Scepter</ObjectName>
  </MovedObject>
  <MovedFrom>
```

# Synthesis – Users Roles

## □ User roles

- **System administrator** – can create new ‘organizations’ (groups of users)
- **Organization administrator** – can create editors and guests for a particular organization
- **Editor** – can create and document entities for a specific organization
- **Guest** – can only view the documented entities of a specific organization

## □ The management of rights can be easily adjusted for any specific need

- E.g., user with edit access to all documented entities (for making corrections, etc.)

## □ **Editors** create and document **entities** organized in **entity types**

- Example: the **entity** “*Brass icon depicting the Three Hierarchs (Benaki Museum)*” is of **entity type** “Object”

# Synthesis – Web Interface

Entity types



VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY  
AND PROPAGANDA:  
TRANSFER AND RECEPTION OF  
RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS ART IN THE BALKANS  
AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN  
(16TH – EARLY 20TH C.)

 **Synthesis**  
Cultural Information Management System

?

Pavlos Fafalios

+

👁

📄

📍

More

🔍

Search

Objects and Transfers

Objects

Object Transfers

Routes

Sources

Archival Sources

Books

Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews

Oral History Sources

Web Sources

Related Bibliography

Bibliography

Passages and Comments

Source Passages

Collection of Source Passages

Researcher Comments

Related Documentation

Historical Figures

Historical Events

Showing: All

🔄

Filter Table

Showing 10 entries

|                          | Object name (Ricontrans)                       | Current Location                                      | Archive                                                                               | Creator   | Card Status | Last Modified | Id          |  |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Icon with the Virgin "Vzyskanie pogubshih"     | .../Location/1221, Regional Museum of History - Varna |   | sim.tonch | unpublished | 2022-07-12    | Object/2019 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Icon with St. John the Baptist and life scenes | .../Location/1221, Regional Museum of History - Varna |  | sim.tonch | unpublished | 2022-07-12    | Object/2021 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Composite icon in two registers                | .../Location/1221, Regional Museum of History - Varna |  | sim.tonch | unpublished | 2022-07-12    | Object/2020 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Icon with the Virgin Besednaya                 | .../Location/1221, Regional Museum of History - Varna |  | sim.tonch | unpublished | 2022-07-10    | Object/2018 |  |

11

# Synthesis – Entity Types

□ The **entity types** in the case of **RICONTRANS**

## Objects and Transfers

Objects  
Object Transfers  
Routes

## Sources

Archival Sources  
Books  
Newspapers and  
Periodicals/Reviews  
Oral History Sources  
Web Sources

## Related Bibliography

Bibliography

## Passages and Comments

Source Passages  
Collection of Source  
Passages  
Researcher Comments

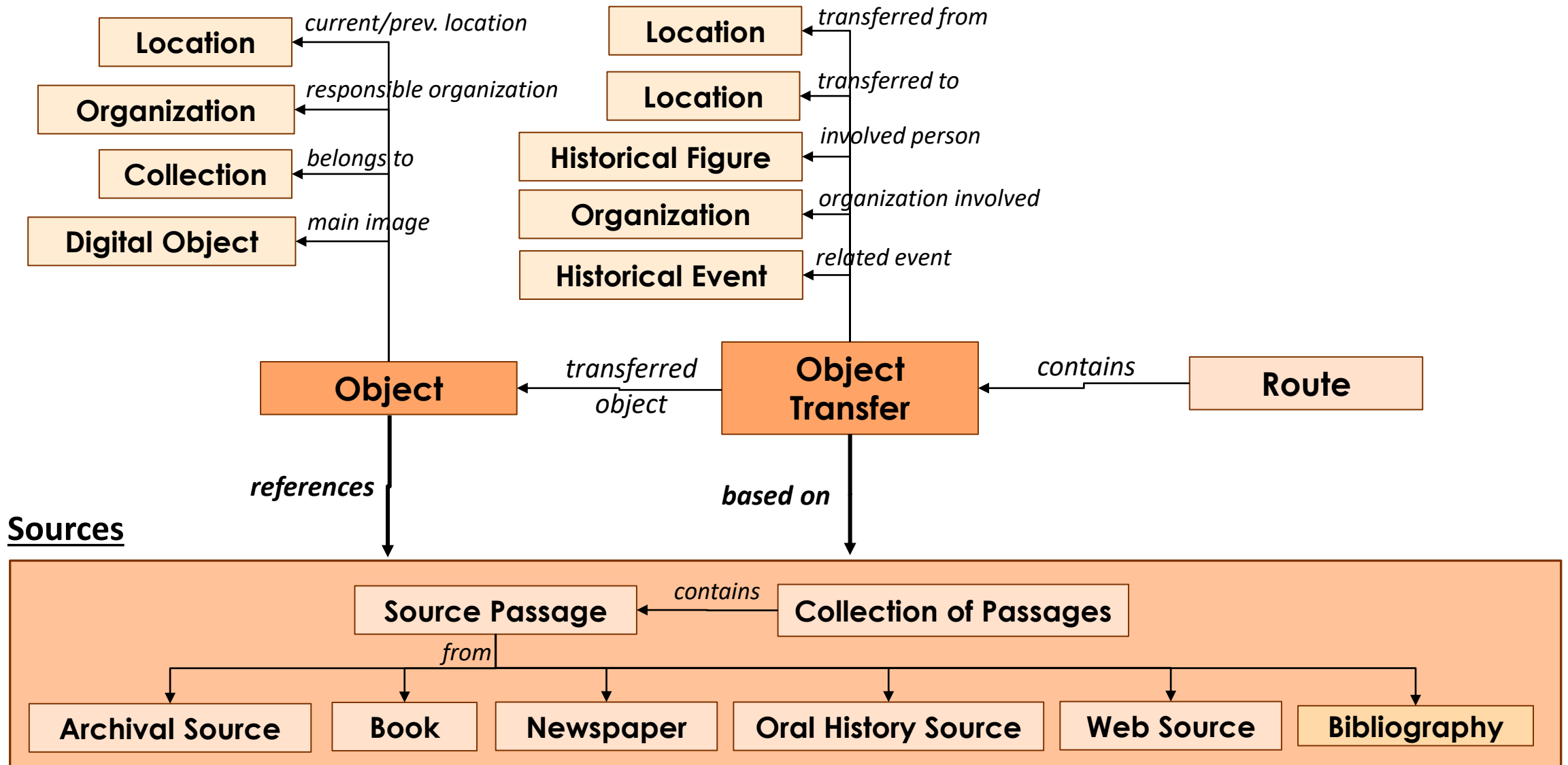
## Related Documentation

Historical Figures  
Historical Events  
Collections  
Locations  
Persons  
Organizations

## Presentation

Digital Objects  
Information Texts

# How the main entity types are connected





# Synthesis – Inspecting the documented entities



**RICONTRANS**

VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY  
AND PROPAGANDA:  
TRANSFER AND RECEPTION OF  
RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS ART IN THE BALKANS  
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(16TH – EARLY 20TH C.)

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**Objects and Transfers**

**Objects**

Object Transfers

Routes

**Sources**

Archival Sources

Books

Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews

Oral History Sources

Web Sources

**Related Bibliography**

Bibliography

**Passages and Comments**

Source Passages

Collection of Source Passages

Researcher Comments

**Related Documentation**

Historical Figures

Historical Events

🔍 Search

**Objects**

Showing: All

**Table of documented entities of selected entity type**

Filter Table

Showing 10 entries

|                          | Object name (Ricontrans)                       | Current Location                                      | Archive                                                                               | Creator   | Card Status | Last Modified | Id          |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Icon with the Virgin "Vzyskanie pogubshih"     | .../Location/1221, Regional Museum of History - Varna |   | sim.tonch | unpublished | 2022-07-12    | Object/2019 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Icon with St. John the Baptist and life scenes | .../Location/1221, Regional Museum of History - Varna |  | sim.tonch | unpublished | 2022-07-12    | Object/2021 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Composite icon in two registers                | .../Location/1221, Regional Museum of History - Varna |  | sim.tonch | unpublished | 2022-07-12    | Object/2020 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Icon with the Virgin Besednaya                 | .../Location/1221, Regional Museum of History - Varna |  | sim.tonch | unpublished | 2022-07-10    | Object/2018 |

# Synthesis – Creating a new entity for documentation

The screenshot displays the Ricontrans Synthesis Cultural Information Management System interface. The main header includes the Ricontrans logo, the title "VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY AND PROPAGANDA: TRANSFER AND RECEPTION OF RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS ART IN THE BALKANS AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (16TH – EARLY 20TH C.)", and the Synthesis logo. The user is logged in as Pavlos Fafalios.

The left sidebar contains navigation menus for "Objects and Transfers", "Sources", "Related Bibliography", and "Passages and Comments". The "Objects and Transfers" menu is expanded, showing "Objects", "Object Transfers", and "Routes".

The main content area shows the "Objects" section with a "Showing: All" filter. A table lists objects, with the first row highlighted. The "Object name (Ricontrans)" column is visible.

A red box highlights the "+" icon in the top toolbar, indicating the action to create a new entity. Another red box highlights the "Object name (Ricontrans)" column header.

An inset window titled "FeXML - Google Chrome" shows the FeXML editor interface. The URL is [isl.ics.forth.gr/FeXML\\_ricontrans/Index?type=Objects&id=Objects2022&lang=en](https://isl.ics.forth.gr/FeXML_ricontrans/Index?type=Objects&id=Objects2022&lang=en). The record is "Object/2022". The editor displays the following structure:

- Object
  - Object Identity
    - SYNTHESIS Code Number
      - Value
        - <https://ricontrans-project.eu/Object/2022>
      - Attributed by
        - RICONTRANS Project
      - Attribution Date
        - 2022-07-13
    - Other Code / Identifier
    - Originator of Reference
    - Collection
    - Object Category
    - Object Name (Ricontrans)
      - Icon of | (Type:string)

The "OK" and "Cancel" buttons are visible at the bottom of the editor window.

# Synthesis – Viewing an existing entity



## RICONTRANS

VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY  
AND PROPAGANDA:  
TRANSFER AND RECEPTION  
RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS ART  
AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN  
(16TH – EARLY 20TH C.)

### Objects and Transfers

- Objects
- Object Transfers
- Routes

### Sources

- Archival Sources
- Books
- Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews
- Oral History Sources
- Web Sources

### Related Bibliography

- Bibliography

### Passages and Comments

- Source Passages
- Collection of Source Passages
- Researcher Comments

### Related Documentation

+ 👁 📄 📍 More ▾

### Objects

Showing: All

🔄 Filter Table

| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Object name (Ricontrans)                       |     |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Icon with the Virgin "Vzyskanie pogubshih"     | ... |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Icon with St. John the Baptist and life scenes | ... |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Composite icon in two registers                | ... |

### FeXML

Record: Object/2019

Object

Object Identity

SYNTHESIS Code Number

Value

https://ricontrans-project.eu/Object/2019

Attributed by

RICONTRANS Project

Attribution Date

2022-07-12

Other Code / Identifier

Value

BG. VARNA. 1.36

Category

RICONTRANS Project Code Number

Other Code / Identifier[2]

Value

Inventory number: BИИ 156

Category

Museum collection inventory number

Originator of Reference

.../Organization/587, Regional Museum of History - Varna



# Synthesis – Editing an existing entity

The screenshot displays the Ricontrans web application interface. The main header includes the Ricontrans logo, a decorative medallion, and the title "VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY AND PROPAGANDA: TRANSFER AND RECEPTION OF RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS ART IN THE BALKANS AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (16TH - EARLY 20TH CENTURY)". The user "Pavlos Fafalios" is logged in.

The left sidebar contains navigation menus for "Objects and Transfers", "Sources", "Related Bibliography", and "Passages and Comments".

The main content area shows the "Objects" section with a table of entities. The table has columns for selection checkboxes and "Object name (Ricontrans)". The first row is selected, and the "Edit" icon (a pencil) in the top toolbar is highlighted with a red box.

An overlay window titled "FeXML - Google Chrome" is open, showing the "FeXML" interface for editing the selected entity. The URL is "isl.ics.forth.gr/FeXML\_ricontrans/Index?type=Objects&id=Objects2022&lang=en". The interface includes a toolbar with icons for file operations and a "Record: Object/2022" label. The "Object" section is expanded, showing fields for "Object Identity" and "Object Name (Ricontrans)". The "Object Name (Ricontrans)" field is highlighted with a red box, and the "Creation/Production Date" field is set to "19th century".

| Object name (Ricontrans)                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Deesis icon with St. Zosima and St. Savvaty of Solovki          |
| Great Deesis icon                                               |
| Icon of Holy Week (Deesis with Apostles, Archangels and Saints) |

FeXML

Record: Object/2022

Object

Object Identity

SYNTHESIS Code Number

Other Code / Identifier

Originator of Reference

Collection

Object Category

Object Name (Ricontrans)

Deesis icon with St. Zosima and St. Savvaty of Solovki

Object Name (Official)

Creation/Production Date

19th century (Type:time\_span)

OK

Cancel

General Subject

Topics

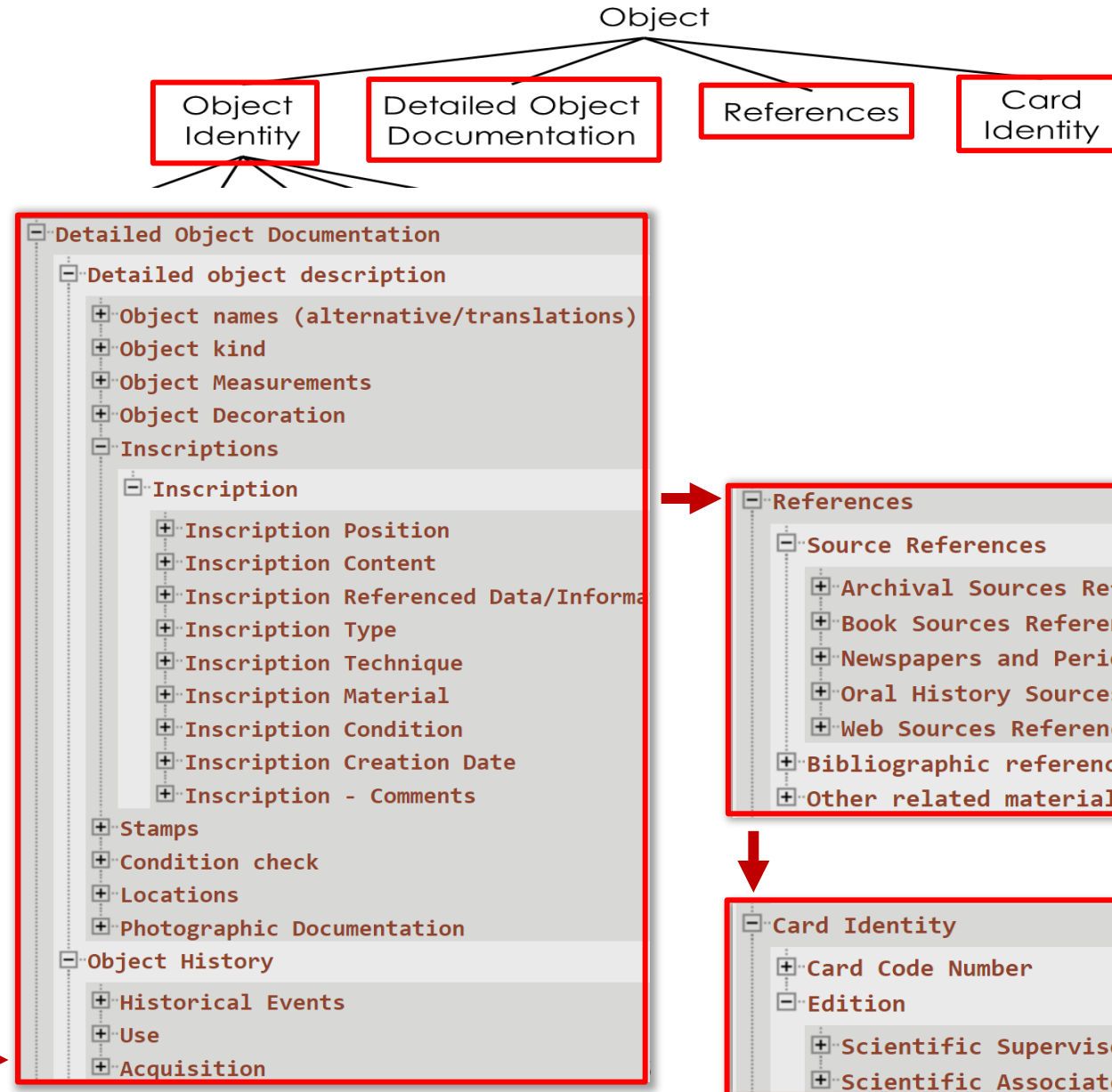
Basic material(s)

# Synthesis – Data Model

- ❑ Specially-designed for the domain of **History of Art** and the particular needs of the **RICONTRANS** project
- ❑ Each **entity type** has its own data structure (**documentation schema**)
  - A documentation schema is **XML-based**, containing a set of fields organized in an **hierarchical structure**
  - The leaves in this hierarchy are the **documentation fields** that are to be filled by the users

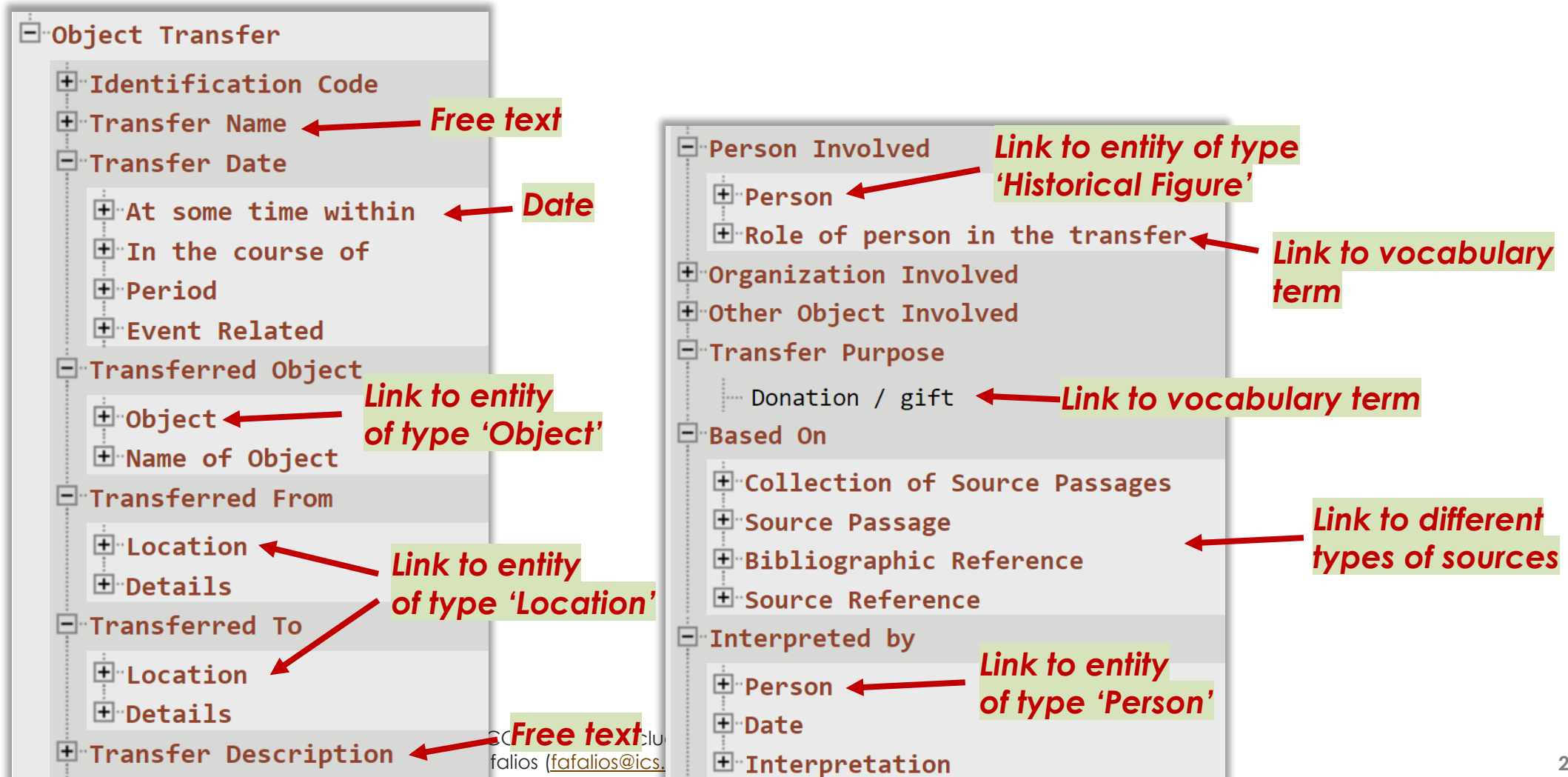
# Synthesis – Data Model

## Entity type: **Object**



# Synthesis – Data Model

## Entity type: **Object Transfer**



# Synthesis – Types of documentation fields

- ❑ Link to another **entity**
- ❑ Link to (**static** or **dynamic**) **vocabulary term**
- ❑ Link to **thesaurus of terms** (managed through **THEMAS**)
- ❑ **Unformatted** free text
- ❑ **Formatted** free text
- ❑ Number
- ❑ Date expression (**date range** in an accepted format) →
- ❑ Location coordinates (**point** or **polygon**)
- ❑ Location ID (**TGN** or **Geonames**)
- ❑ Upload file(s)

<https://www.ics.forth.gr/isl/themas-thesaurus-management-system>

## Examples of accepted time expressions

- 1821 January 2
- 1996 February
- 1945
- decade of 1970
- seventh decade of 20th century
- 20th century
- 1920 - 1950
- 3rd century - 5th century
- decade of 1920 - decade of 1950
- 18th century - decade of 1850
- early 16th century
- mid 20th century
- late 19th century
- 1st half 4th century
- 3rd quarter 1st century
- ca. 1920
- 1500 BCE
- 23rd century BCE
- early 4th century BCE
- 1st half 3rd century BCE
- 1800 - 1500 BCE
- 300 BCE - 300 CE
- 7th century - 5th century BCE
- 3rd century BCE - 1st century CE
- 3rd century - 5th century

# Synthesis – Other functionalities

## □ Table filtering / Search



**RICONTRANS**

VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY  
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(16TH – EARLY 20TH C.)

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**Synthesis**  
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**Objects and Transfers**

**Objects**

Object Transfers

Routes

**Sources**

Archival Sources

Books

Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews

Oral History Sources

Web Sources

**Related Bibliography**

Bibliography

**Passages and Comments**

Source Passages

Collection of Source

+ 🔍 📄 📍 More ▾

🔍 Search ▾

**Objects**

Showing: All

🔄 Filter Table

Showing  entries

| ❑ | Object name<br>(Ricontrans) ▾   | Current Location ▾                                                  | Archive ▾                                                                             | Creator ▾ | Card Status ▾ | Last Modified ▾ | Id ▾       |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------|------------|
| ❑ | Icon of St. John the Forerunner | .../Location/29, Church of Saint George of Politeia, Kastoria       |  | maltezak  | unpublished   | 2020-10-13      | Object/275 |
| ❑ | Icon of St. John the Forerunner | .../Location/391, Museum of the Monastery of Zoodochos Pege, Patmos |  | maltezak  | unpublished   | 2021-01-13      | Object/443 |

Table filtering

Search considering the contents of the records



# Synthesis – Other functionalities

## □ Table filtering / Search



**RICONTRANS**

VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY  
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Cultural Information Management System

**Objects and Transfers**

**Objects**

Object Transfers

Routes

**Sources**

Archival Sources

Books

Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews

Oral History Sources

Web Sources

**Related Bibliography**

Bibliography

**Passages and Comments**

Source Passages

Collection of Source

+ 🔍 📄 📍 More ▾

Search

- My Cards
- Others
- Published
- Unpublished
- Pending for publishing
- All
- Advanced Search**

**Objects**

Showing: All

🔄 Filter Table

**Advanced Search**

|                          | Object name<br>(Ricontrans)     | Current Location                                                    | Archive                                                                               | Creator  | Card Status | Last Modified | Id         |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Icon of St. John the Forerunner | .../Location/29, Church of Saint George of Politeia, Kastoria       |  | maltezak | unpublished | 2020-10-13    | Object/275 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Icon of St. John the Forerunner | .../Location/391, Museum of the Monastery of Zoodochos Pege, Patmos |  | maltezak | unpublished | 2021-01-13    | Object/443 |



# Synthesis – Other functionalities

## ❑ Advanced Search



VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY  
AND PROPAGANDA:  
TRANSFER AND RECEPTION OF  
RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS ART IN THE BALKANS  
AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN  
(16TH – EARLY 20TH C.)

 **Synthesis**  
Cultural Information Management System

ⓘ Pavlos Fafalios

**Objects and Transfers**

**Objects**

Object Transfers

Routes

**Sources**

Archival Sources

Books

Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews

Oral History Sources

**Passages and Comments**

Source Passages

Collection of Source Passages

Researcher Comments

**Related Documentation**

Historical Figures

Collections

Events

Locations

Persons

Organizations

Bibliography

### Objects - Advanced Search

**Searching criteria**

Operator: ☒ AND ☐ OR

| Entity | Select Criteria Field      | Condition | Value            |
|--------|----------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Object | Creation/Production Date x | before    | 18th century ⓘ + |

**Search of Referenced Ontologies** ▼

**Additional Search Criteria** ▼

**Output Fields**

☐ Default output fields ☒ Change output fields

Select Output Fields

Official Object Name/Title x Description x

Search Clear all

# Synthesis – Other functionalities

- ❑ Management of vocabularies (*add, delete, rename terms*)

The screenshot displays the Synthesis Cultural Information Management System interface. The header includes a logo, the title 'KONTRAIS', a subtitle 'VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY AND PROPAGANDA: TRANSFER AND RECEPTION OF RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS ART IN THE BALKANS AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (16TH – EARLY 20TH C.)', and the Synthesis logo with the text 'Cultural Information Management System'. A user profile 'Διαχειριστής Admin' is visible in the top right.

The left sidebar contains navigation links: 'Objects and Transfers' (Objects, Object Transfers, Routes), 'Sources' (Archival Sources, Books, Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews, Oral History Sources, Web Sources), 'Related Bibliography' (Bibliography), and 'Passages and Comments' (Source Passages).

The main content area is titled 'Vocabularies - Administration'. Under the 'Objects' dropdown, the 'Vocabulary of Object Category' is highlighted with a red box and an arrow pointing to the right. This leads to the 'Administration - Vocabulary of Object Category' page.

The 'Administration - Vocabulary of Object Category' page features a 'Filter Table' input field and a 'Showing 10 entries' indicator. Below is a table with a checkbox column and a 'Term' column.

|                          | Term                                                                               |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | objects in church or monastery sacristies                                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | objects in churches or monasteries for ceremonies and rituals                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | objects in museum collections (for display / exhibit purposes)                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | objects in private collections (for display / exhibit purposes)                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | objects of family heirloom                                                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | objects of personal / private devotion                                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | objects in church or monastery museum collections (for display / exhibit purposes) |

# Synthesis – Other functionalities

## Map visualization



### RICONTRANS

VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY  
AND PROPAGANDA:  
TRANSFER AND RECEPTION  
RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS ART IN  
AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN  
(16TH – EARLY 20TH C.)

Objects and Transfers

Objects

- Object Transfers
- Routes

Sources

- Archival Sources
- Books
- Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews
- Oral History Sources
- Web Sources

Related Bibliography

- Bibliography

Passages and Comments

- Source Passages
- Collection of Source Passages



More ▾

Objects

Showing: All

Filter Table

tatarna

| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Object name (Ricontrans) ▾                    | Original Location                                                           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Manuscript of the three Liturgies             | .../Organization/277, Monastery of Virgin Mary (Panagia) Tatarna, Eurytania |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Icon of the Vision of St. Sergius of Radonezh | .../Organization/277, Monastery of Virgin Mary (Panagia) Tatarna, Eurytania |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Icon of Christ Pantocrator                    | .../Organization/277, Monastery of Virgin Mary (Panagia) Tatarna, Eurytania |

Map visualization

isl.ics.forth.gr/Maps\_ricontrans/show\_coords.html?mode=points



Object Name (Ricontrans): Παναγία η Ταταρνιώτισσα

Current Location: Monastery of Virgin Mary (Panagia) Tatarna, Eurytania, Greece

Creation or Production Date: 1st half 17th century

Entity ID: 357

Showing a set of objects in a map

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26



# Synthesis – Other functionalities

## □ Map visualization

**KONTRAS**  
VISUAL CULTURE, PIETY  
AND PROPAGANDA:  
TRANSFER AND RECEPTION OF  
RUSSIAN RELIGIOUS ART IN THE  
AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRAN  
(16TH – EARLY 20TH C.)

**Objects and Transfers**

- Objects
- Object Transfers**
- Routes

**Sources**

- Archival Sources
- Books
- Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews
- Oral History Sources
- Web Sources

**Related Bibliography**

- Bibliography

**Passages and Comments**

- Source Passages
- Collection of Source Passages
- Researcher Comments

**Object Transfers**

Showing: All

Filter Table

|                                     |                                                         |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Icons from Russia to                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Three register icon with                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Icon with Mother of God Smolenskaia                     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Anointing of                                            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Epitaph                                                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Silver casket                                           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Complete chalice                                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Russian gospel in Prophetes Elias Monastery in Roustika |

Map visualization showing object transfers. A red arrow points to a specific transfer point on the map. A pop-up window shows an icon and its transfer details.

Transfer Name: Icon with Mother of God Smolenskaia and saints in Kastoria  
Starting Location: Russia  
Finishing Location: Kastoria

Showing a set of **object transfers** in a map

# Use in RICONTRANS

❑ **~40 users** (5 countries)

❑ Current number of documented entities (as of **January 2025**):

- Objects: 3,784
- Object transfers: 4,087
- Routes: 1,300
- Archival sources: 263
- Books: 79
- Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews: 176
- Oral History Sources: 4
- Web Sources: 197
- Bibliography: 763
- Source Passages: 1,233
- Collection of Source Passages: 8
- Historical Figures: 363
- Historical Events: 55
- Collections: 363
- Locations: 1,141
- Persons: 329
- Organizations: 681
- Digital Objects: 4,276

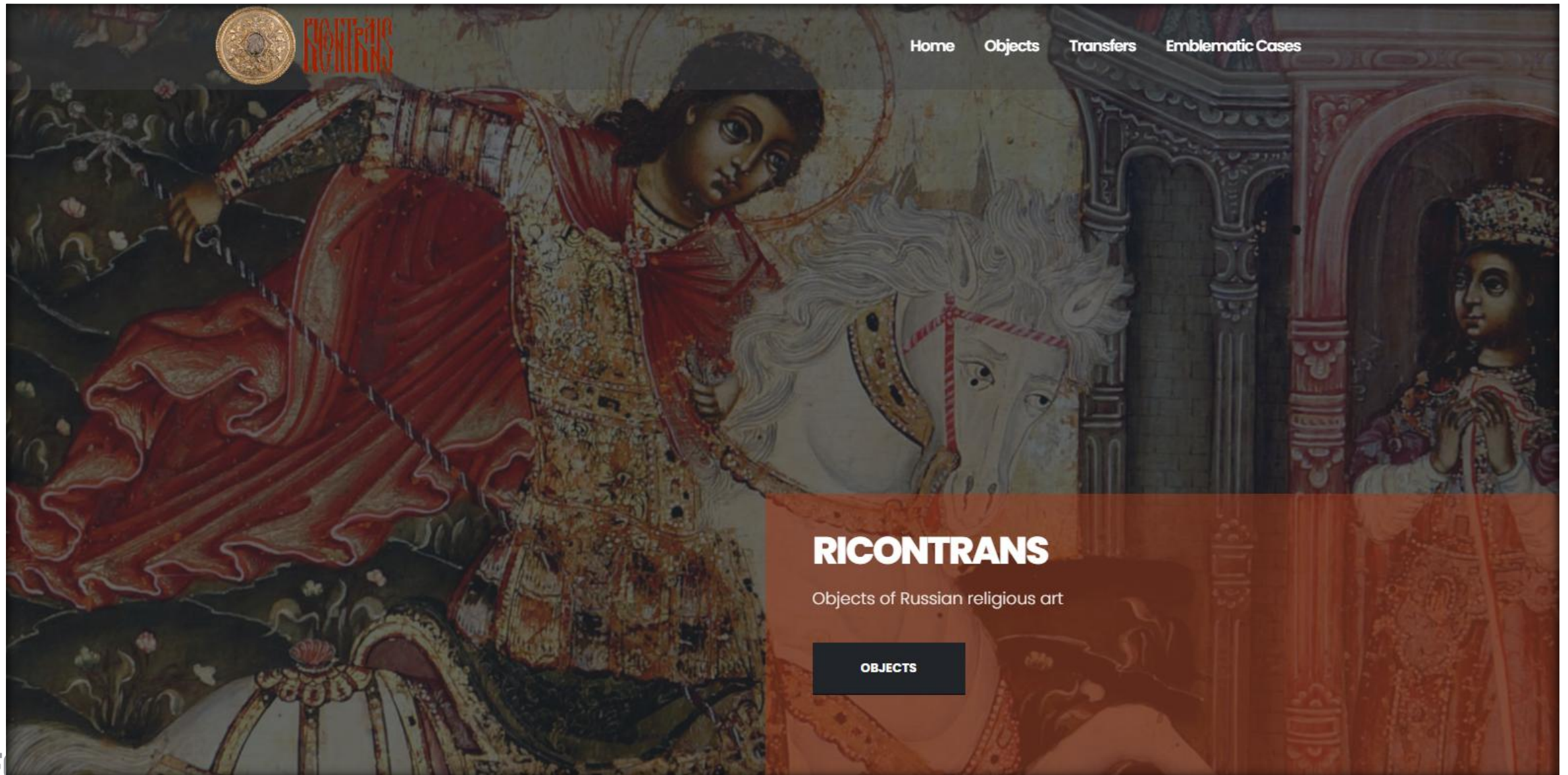
**>19,000 total entities!**

# Data access website (ongoing work)

Prototype: <https://dev.isl.ics.forth.gr/ricontrans-site/>



# Data access website (ongoing work)



# Data access website (ongoing work / example data)

In all pages,  
data is dynamically  
retrieved from  
Synthesis!

Home **Objects** Transfers Emblematic Cases

## Objects

SHOW ALL ON MAP →

Search...

**OBJECT TYPE**

- > All (29)
- > Cross (2)
- > Icon: metal (9)
- > Icon: wood (9)
- > Icon: bone (1)
- > Triptych / Polyptych (metal) (1)
- > Triptych / Polyptych (mixed materials) (1)
- > Book cover (1)

**Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II**

**Object Type:** Cross

**Creation Location:** Moscow

**Current Location:** Benaki Museum

**Creation Date:** 1908-1912

**ID:** 89

**Brass icon with the Crucifixion**

**Object Type:** Cross, Icon: metal

**Creation Location:** Russia

**Current Location:** Benaki Museum

**Creation Date:** 19th century

**ID:** 105

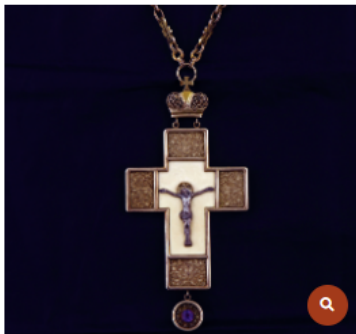
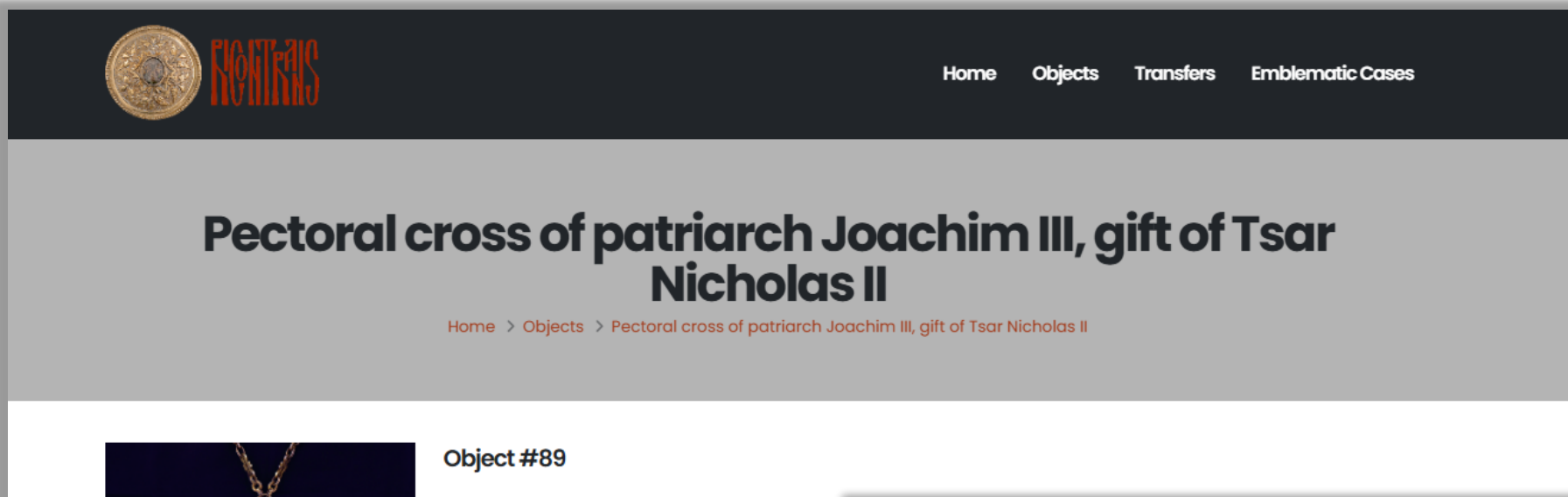
**Two panels from a triptych with the Virgin and Saint John the Baptist**

**Object Type:** Icon: wood

**Creation Location:** The Moscow Kremlin

**Current Location:** Benaki Museum

# Data access website (ongoing work / example data)



## Object #89

|                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Organisation responsible for the object | Benaki Museum                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Collection                              | Neo-hellenic Art Collection                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Object Category                         | objects in museum collection                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Object Name (Ricontrans)                | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II                                                                                                                                |
| Object Name (Official)                  | Cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II                                                                                                                                         |
| Creation/Production Date                | 1908-1912                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Type of Object                          | Cross                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Description                             | The main part of the cross is made of gold and features a central panel with a blue enamel background and a white cross. The cross is suspended from a gold chain with a small crown at the top. |

## More Information

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Transfers    | > |
| Sources      | > |
| Bibliography | > |

## Sources

### Archival Sources

G. Georgevitch to G. Richetts, Gheortcha [Korcé], 10.5.1860, FO 195/606/498-499.

"Application to meet a demand made by the brothers Antonios and Galanes, heirs of Panos Galanes or Megapanos, resedents of Agrinio against the monastery of Tatarna. Athens, November 28, 1850." Greek General State Archives (GR.G.S.A.), Central Service of GR.G.S.A., Archive of the Monasteries, n. 421 file 179.

### Books

Путеводитель по Св. Афонской Горе и указатель ея святынь и прочих достопамятностей. St. Petersburg: Tipografiia N.A. Lebedeva, 1875.

Davidov, Vladimir. Путевые записки, веденные во время пребывания на Юнических островах, в Греции, Малой Азии и Турции в 1835 году. vol II. Saint Petersburg: 1835.



# Data access website (ongoing work / example data)



Home Objects **Transfers** Emblematic Cases

## Transfers

SHOW ALL ON MAP →

10 entries per page

Search:

| ID   | Transfer Name                                                                                | Object(s)                                                                                          | From     | To            | Date               |
|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1859 | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II                            | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III<br>Icon with the severed head of Saint John the Forerunner | Moscow   | Istanbul      | 1908-1912          |
| 1860 | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II                            | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III                                                            | Istanbul | Athens        |                    |
| 1861 | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II                            | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III<br>Icon with the severed head of Saint John the Forerunner | Athens   | Benaki Museum | 1934 April 1       |
| 1863 | Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension | Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension       | Russia   | Taganrog      | early 20th century |
| 1864 | Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension | Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension       | Taganrog | Switzerland   |                    |

# Data access website (ongoing work / example data)



Home Objects Transfers Emblematic Cases

## Transfers

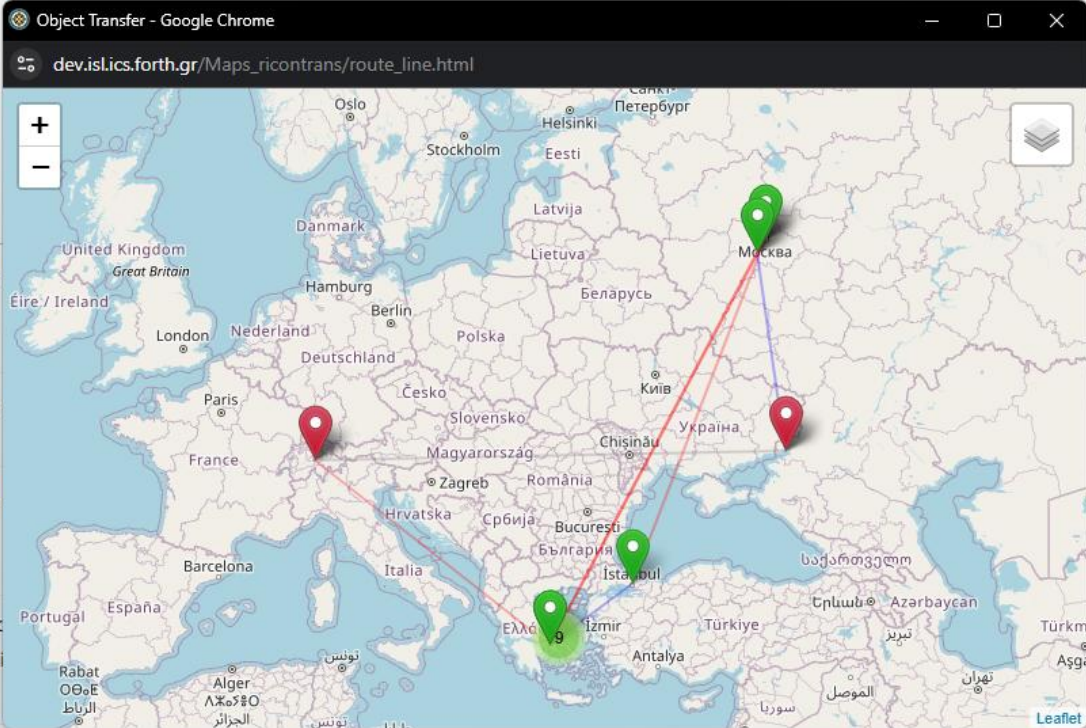
SHOW ALL ON MAP →

10 entries per page

| ID   | Transfer Name                                                                                | Date               |
|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1859 | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, Nicholas II                                         | 1908-1912          |
| 1860 | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, Nicholas II                                         |                    |
| 1861 | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, Nicholas II                                         | 1934 April 1       |
| 1863 | Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension | early 20th century |
| 1864 | Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension |                    |

Object Transfer - Google Chrome

dev.islics.forth.gr/Maps\_ricontrans/route\_line.html



Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension

Taganrog

Switzerland



# Data access website (ongoing work / example data)



HomeObjectsTransfersEmblematic Cases

## Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II

Home > Transfers > Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II

|                |                                                                                                                              |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transfer #1859 |                                                                                                                              |
| Transfer Name  | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II                                                            |
| Object         | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II<br>Icon with the severed head of Saint John the Forerunner |
| From           | Moscow                                                                                                                       |
| To             | Istanbul                                                                                                                     |
| Date           | 1908-1912                                                                                                                    |
| Purpose        | Donation / gift<br>Ideological factors<br>Political factors                                                                  |

Based on

Source References

Bibliographic References

Source Passages

Collection of Source Passages

Source References

Archival Sources

Book Sources

Newspapers and Periodicals/Reviews

Oral History

Web Sources

No information provided

No information provided

No information provided

No information provided

No information provided

No information provided

# Data access website (ongoing work / example data)

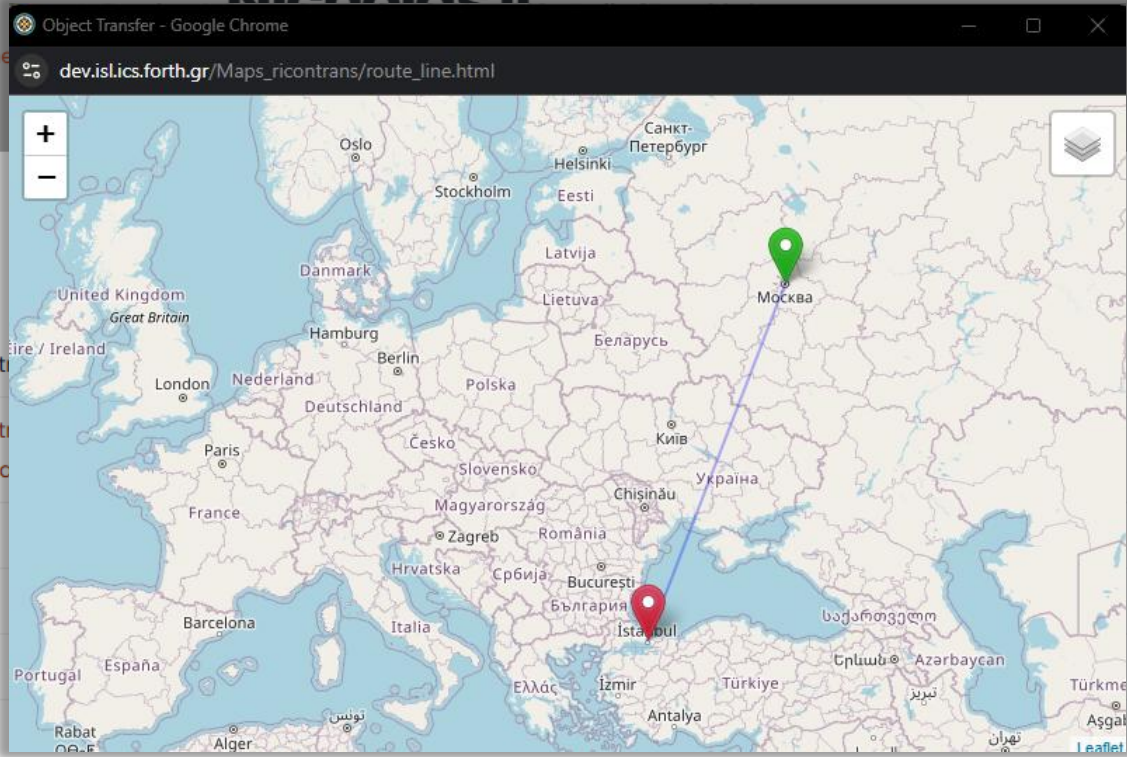


[Home](#)[Objects](#)[Transfers](#)[Emblematic Cases](#)

## Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II

Transfer #1859

|               |                                                                                           |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Transfer Name | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III                                                   |
| Object        | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III<br>Icon with the severed head of Tsar Nicholas II |
| From          | Moscow                                                                                    |
| To            | Istanbul                                                                                  |
| Date          | 1908-1912                                                                                 |
| Purpose       | Donation / gift<br>Ideological factors<br>Political factors                               |



Object Transfer - Google Chrome  
dev.isl.ics.forth.gr/Maps\_ricontrans/route\_line.html

[SHOW ON MAP →](#)

# Data access website (ongoing work / example data)



ROUTES

HomeObjectsTransfersEmblematic Cases

Routes

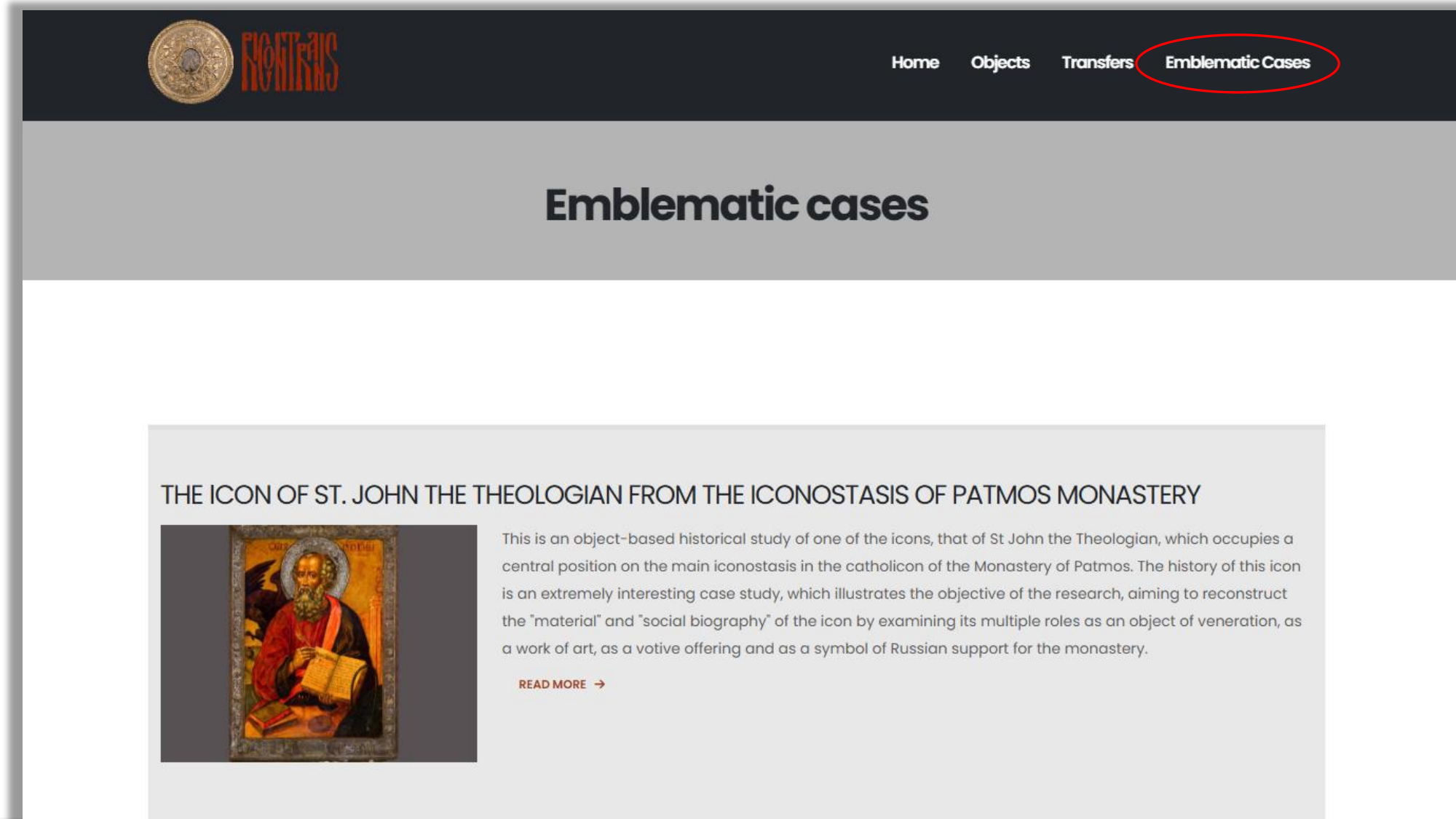
SHOW ALL ON MAP →

10 entries per page

Search:

| ID  | Route Name                                                                                   | Transfers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |             |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 127 | Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III, gift of Tsar Nicholas II                            | <div>Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III (#1859)</div> <div>Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III (#1860)</div> <div>Pectoral cross of patriarch Joachim III (#1861)</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Show on map |
| 128 | Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension | <div>Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension (#1862)</div> <div>Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension (#1863)</div> <div>Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension (#1864)</div> <div>Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension (#1865)</div> <div>Diptych with silver and enamel frame depicting the Dormition of the Virgin and the Ascension (#1866)</div> | Show on map |
| 211 | Brass icon with the Crucifixion                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Show on map |
| 220 | Two panels from a triptych with the Virgin and Saint John the Baptist                        | Two panels from a triptych with the Virgin and Saint John the                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Show on map |

# Data access website (ongoing work / example data)



# Data access website (ongoing work / example data)



Home Objects Transfers Emblematic Cases

## The Icon of St. John the Theologian from the Iconostasis of Patmos Monastery

### A Case of Complex Transcultural Contacts in the Early Modern Orthodox World

This is an object-based historical study of one of the icons, that of St John the Theologian, which occupies a central position on the main iconostasis in the catholicon of the Monastery of Patmos. The history of this icon is an extremely interesting case study, which illustrates the objective of the research, aiming to reconstruct the "material" and "social biography" of the icon by examining its multiple roles as an object of veneration, as a work of art, as a votive offering and as a symbol of Russian support for the monastery.



The Iconostasis of Patmos Monastery.



The Icon of St. John the Theologian from the Iconostasis of Patmos Monastery.



# Thank you!

Pavlos Fafalios

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Centre for Cultural Informatics  
FORTH-ICS



RICONTRANS concluding conference  
Pavlos Fafalios ([fafalios@ics.forth.gr](mailto:fafalios@ics.forth.gr)) | January 2025