

GOODWILL, BENEVOLENCE AND HARMONY AROUND THE BLACK SEA*

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Cuvinte-cheie: *bunăvoință, armonie, poleis, Marea Neagră, cultură politică.*

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Rezumat: *Articolul discută conceptele de bunăvoință și armonie în orașele grecești de la Marea Neagră, așa cum sunt atestate de izvoarele epigrafice și literare pentru epoca elenistică și cea romană. Aceste noțiuni apar, cu diferite acoperiri și sensuri diferite, în contextele funcționării instituțiilor poliade, ale euergetismului, ale vieții religioase și ale celei private. Articolul urmărește să scoată în evidență utilizările acestor concepte și perspectivele pe care le oferă pentru cultura politică a epocii lor.*

Abstract: *The paper focuses on the concepts of goodwill, benevolence and harmony in the Greek cities around the Black Sea, as evidenced by epigraphical and (where available) literary sources of the Hellenistic and Roman periods. These notions occur, with different ranges and different significances, in the various contexts of the functioning of polis institutions, of euergetism, of religious life and of private concerns. The paper attempts to highlight the overlapping uses of these concepts and the insights they offer for the political culture of their time.*

Greek inscriptions destined for public viewing are on the whole dominated by serenity, kindness and positive formulations¹. Even when relating distinctly unpleasant facts, bloody wars, piratical incursions, famine and disease, the inscriptions, focused as they are on the good deeds of the benefactor, the general or the king, offer but a skewed picture of the events and can be viewed as 'deliberate under-reporting'². Against this background, I have attempted to

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¹ HAENSCH 2014.

² WOOLF 2015, p. 736.

examine, in the inscriptions of the cities around the Black Sea, two of the most benign and propitious terms, *eunoia* and *homonoia*.

1. *Eunoia*

Eunoia, goodwill or benevolence, is a highly elastic and volatile term. It originated in personal morality and interpersonal relations³ and ended up by becoming a highly charged political term, with various connotations, depending on context, ranging from benefaction to devotion to submission and even to extortion. The latter is illustrated by Demosthenes' reference to the fundraising policies of Athenian generals during Philip of Macedon's campaigns in Thrace and the Chersonese⁴.

By being taken over into the political sphere, the use of *eunoia* established a close relationship between ethics and politics, equating social privileges and personal virtues⁵. This has obvious political implications. On the one hand, the virtuous politician, according to Plutarch (*Praec.* 820b-e), should shrink from honours, except for those which represent an expression of gratitude and goodwill, and not just repayment for favours received. On the other, once a person is liked and trusted, their actions tend to be much easier accepted and valued as merits; Isocrates ascribes to *eunoia* an overwhelming strength that can even surpass truth⁶. This works on two levels, between those which are roughly equals in standing and power, as for instance two poleis, and between those who are not, as in the relation of cities to kings and rulers.

The term *eunoia* became a part of the language of public praise in democratic Athens in literary texts before it found entrance into epigraphic ones. While there was in itself nothing intrinsically civic or even democratic about this term, by the 4th century it had been firmly established as a cardinal virtue and had embarked upon a long career in decrees all over the Greek world⁷. Much hinges on the recipient of the praise: While for a foreigner benevolence towards a city is voluntary, for her own citizens duty is implied, so the meaning of *eunoia* shifted close to 'loyalty' or 'patriotism', underlining the increasing importance of civic reliability⁸. The terms of praise in Athenian decrees tended to multiply in the course of the 4th century BC, from one to two, three or even more⁹, but among them *eunoia*, in this meaning of continued community service, active loyalty, tended to become one of the most highly valued civic virtues in the troubled political life of Athens¹⁰.

³ See for instance Arist. *EN* 8.2.1155b27-1156a3, 9.5; cf. WHITING 2006, 281-284.

⁴ Dem. *Chers.* 25: λαμβάνουσι δ' οἱ μὲν ἔχοντες μίαν ἢ δύο ναῦς ἐλάττονα, οἱ δὲ μείζω δύναμιν πλείονα. καὶ διδῶσιν οἱ διδόντες οὔτε τὰ μικρὰ οὔτε τὰ πολλὰ ἀντ' οὐδενός (οὐ γὰρ οὕτω μαίνονται, ἀλλ' ὠνούμενοι μὴ ἀδικεῖσθαι τοὺς παρ' αὐτῶν ἐκπλέοντας ἐμπόρους, μὴ συλᾶσθαι, παραπέμπεσθαι τὰ πλοῖα τὰ αὐτῶν, τὰ τοιαῦτα: φασὶ δ' εὐνοίας διδόναι, καὶ τοῦτο τοῦνομ' ἔχει τὰ λήμματα ταῦτα.

⁵ WEST 2007.

⁶ *Antid.* 280. Cf. ROMILLY 1958; ALEXIOU 2008, p. 365-366.

⁷ WHITEHEAD 1993, p. 52-54.

⁸ WHITEHEAD 1993, p. 53; COOK 2009, p. 37-40.

⁹ VELIGIANNI-TERZI 1997, p. 177.

¹⁰ COOK 2009.

On the other hand, the goodwill of a community or polis towards its benefactors became a stepping-stone on the way that led to the euergetical discourse. Already in Athenian decrees of the 5th and 4th centuries BC, the use of the concepts *eunous* and *eunoia* in the realm of external relations equates them to *euergesia*¹¹. Diodorus claims that Alexander 'ordered the return of the exiles not only in order to gain fame (*doxa*), but also because he wished to have in each polis many people who would entertain good will (*eunoia*) toward him and so allow him to check revolutions and *staseis* among the Greeks'¹². From here on, throughout the Hellenistic period and on under Roman rule, in the relations between rulers and cities the term became part of the process of rewriting power into benefaction, so that power could take on the trappings of good deeds¹³. No matter how conventional and stereotypical the euergetical language sounds like, the terms employed are not devoid of specific meaning, visible especially in the case of a flexible term like *eunoia*¹⁴.

In the inscriptions of Black Sea cities, the occurrences of *eunoia* fall roughly into two groups: *eunoia* concerning their own citizens or foreigners; and *eunoia* connected to kings and rulers.

Eunoia in connection with private persons

The most numerous occurrences are offered by the grants of *proxenia*¹⁵, particularly frequent in the Hellenistic period (45 in total). They come from Byzantion¹⁶, Dionysopolis¹⁷, Odessos¹⁸, Mesambria¹⁹, Callatis²⁰, Tomis²¹, Istros²², Olbia²³ and Chersonesus²⁴.

The inscriptions cover the period from the early 3rd century BC to the 3rd century AD; however, the bulk of the evidence belongs to the Hellenistic period, since *proxenia* decrees disappeared with the onset of Roman rule. Notable exceptions to this are the cities north of the Black Sea, Olbia and Chersonesus, which remained until late outside formal Roman rule and where some features of

¹¹ VELIGIANNI-TERZI 1997, p. 260-262.

¹² 18, 8, 2: Ἀλέξανδρος γὰρ βραχεῖ χρόνῳ πρότερον τῆς τελευτῆς ἔκρινε κατάγειν ἅπαντας τοὺς ἐν ταῖς Ἑλληνίσιν πόλεσι φυγάδας, ἅμα μὲν δόξης ἕνεκεν, ἅμα δὲ βουλόμενος ἔχειν ἐν ἑκάστη πόλει πολλοὺς ἰδίους ταῖς εὐνοίαις πρὸς τοὺς νεωτερισμοὺς καὶ τὰς ἀποστάσεις τῶν Ἑλλήνων; CARNEY & OGDEN 2010, p. 136.

¹³ MA 2000, p. 199.

¹⁴ MA 2000, p. 192-194.

¹⁵ For *proxenia* around the Black Sea see now COJOCARU 2016.

¹⁶ I.Byzantion 2 (mid-2nd c. BC); I.Byzantion 3 = IOSPE I² 79 (mid-1st c. AD).

¹⁷ IGBulg I² 13^{ter} (3rd-2nd c. BC); SEG 60, 761 (late 2nd-early 1st c. BC).

¹⁸ IGBulg I² 38, 41, 43, 43^{bis} (late 3rd-late 1st c. BC).

¹⁹ IGBulg I² 308^{bis}, 308^{novies}, 312, 315, 316 (3rd-late 1st c. BC).

²⁰ ISM III 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 29 (early 3rd-late 1st c. BC).

²¹ ISM II 5 (early 1st c. BC).

²² ISM I 32, 47, 48 (2nd-1st c. BC).

²³ IO 24 (= SEG 31, 710), 26, 28, 38, 39 (3rd-2nd c. BC); IOSPE I² 27, 30 (mid-3rd c. BC); SEG 28, 656 (including IOSPE I² 48, late 1st c. BC – early 1st c. AD); SEG 34, 766 (IOSPE I² 263 – IO 47+179+53, ca. AD 200). The inscription of Dragomirna ISM I 65 (first half 3rd c. BC) in all likelihood also belongs here: cf. COJOCARU 2010.

²⁴ IOSPE I² 345 (cf. SEG 42, 692; mid-3rd c. BC), 351, 364, 365 (SEG 5, .737), SEG 28, 632 (including IOSPE I² 701), SEG 56, 875 (2nd c. AD).

polis life, elsewhere regarded as archaic, such as the granting of *proxenia* decrees, continued well into the Principate, sometimes into the 3rd century AD.

In these documents, *eunoia* is invariably referred to as the good will of the *proxenos* towards the city honouring him. In just one case is the *eunoia* of the honouring city towards the honorand invoked, but this is in the final provisions of the text concerning the publication of the decree in the *proxenos'* home city of Olbia²⁵. This matches the situation in the Athenian decrees of the Classical period, where there is also just one single decree mentioning the *eunoia* of the Athenian demos towards someone.²⁶ The goodwill in this relationship is thus the goodwill of the *proxenos* towards the city honouring him, presented as the main incentive for his actions, and not a result of his actions. The same is the case in two decrees, both mentioning the collective *eunoia* of the Istrians: the decree of Apollonia honouring Hegesagoras son of Monimos in the first half of the 2nd c. BC²⁷, and a Milesian decree for Istros, perhaps as early as the end of the 4th c. BC.²⁸

Remarkable in this context is a series of inscriptions from Chersonesus²⁹ honouring people from Heraclea Pontica, where the goodwill between Chersonesus and Heraclea is described in terms borrowed from family relations: either the Heracleans' *eunoia* towards Chersonesus is like the benevolence of good parents towards beloved sons³⁰, or else the relation between the two is described as 'friendly and brother-like'³¹; elsewhere, the Heracleans are called εὐσεβέστατοι πατέρες³². This is justified by Chersonesus being a daughter-city of Heraclea, but never previously had the relations between the cities been thus described. Both inscriptions belong to the first half of the 2nd century AD, a time when Roman rule or influence had moulded the relations between the cities in a shape convenient to its interests; here, Heracleian benevolence took the shape of intercession with Roman authorities on behalf of Chersonesus. Thus, the use of *eunoia* in these texts, although formally *proxenia* decrees, belongs altogether in the following category.

Almost as numerous as the *proxenia* decrees are the mentions of *eunoia* in inscriptions erected by cities (also tribes or associations within cities) for their own citizens and benefactors (41). Here too, it is invariably the *eunoia* of the honoured person towards those who granted him the honours that the inscriptions mention. However, since *eunoia* in these cases has primarily the

²⁵ I.Byzantion 3 = IOSPE I² 79, *proxenia* for Orontes of Olbia, mid-1st c. AD, l. 35-37: ἵνα καὶ ἁ πατρὶς αὐτοῦ τὰς Βυζαντίων εὐνοίας πρὸς τὸν ἄνδρα καὶ τειμᾶς αἴσθηται. See for him COJOCARU 2009; AVRAM 2012b, p. 186.

²⁶ IG II² 264 (dated before 336-335 BC): VELIGIANNI-TERZI 1997, p. 80, A127.

²⁷ IGBulg I² 388bis = ISM I 64, l. 7-8: Ἰστριανοὶ συγγενεῖς καὶ φίλοι καὶ εὐνοοὶ ὑπάρχοντες τοῦ δήμου.

²⁸ ISM I 62, l. 5-7: ἔν τε] τοῖς πρότερο[ν χρόνοις] διετέλουν εὐ[νου]ς ὑ[πάρχοντες κοινῆ] τε τῷ δήμ[ω]ι τῶν Μιλησίων καὶ ἰδίαι ---.

²⁹ Three decrees granting *proxenia* and *politeia* to citizens of Heraclea: IOSPE I² 357, 359 (SEG 48, 999a; 52, 737 (1)) and SUROV 1960; collective praise of the Heracleans: IOSPE I² 362. Cf. DANA 2012, p. 253.

³⁰ IOSPE I² 357 (late 1st- early 2nd century AD), l. 7: οἷα πατέρων ἀγαθῶν πρὸς υἱοὺς φιλοστόργους [εἰχ]εν <ε>⁹ῦνοϊαν.

³¹ IOSPE I² 359; v. SEG 48, 999a; 52, 737 (1) (129-130 AD), l. 7: φιλ]ικᾶι κα<ι> ἰ>σαδέλωφι εὐνοῖαι.

³² IOSPE I² 362 (reign of Antoninus Pius).

meaning of loyalty (towards one's own city), it is worth noting that, while in most of the Black Sea cities that have yielded such documents in relevant numbers³³, the mentions of *eunoia* in decrees for strangers and in decrees for citizens are roughly comparable in numbers (Odessos: four *proxeniai*, no honorary inscriptions; Mesambria: five *proxeniai*, one honorary inscription³⁴; Callatis: ten *proxeniai*, four honorary inscriptions³⁵; Olbia: ten *proxeniai*, 14 honorary inscriptions³⁶; Chersonesus: nine *proxeniai*, three honorary inscriptions)³⁷, there is a marked imbalance in the case of the city of Istros. There are fifteen mentions of *eunoia* in decrees for Istrians and just three in decrees for foreigners. Most of these texts³⁸ (barring two)³⁹ are dated to the Hellenistic period, and as there is no lack of *proxenia* decrees from Istros, this imbalance points to a distinct need of this city, greater than in the case of the others, to have her citizens value the virtues of loyalty and community service.

Eunoia in connection with rulers

Outside the inscriptions concerning individuals, the second category of texts mentioning *eunoia* includes inscriptions (mostly honorary) concerning kings, rulers and Rome. The rulers involved include Burebista king of the Getae⁴⁰, several Bosporan rulers of the Roman period (Dynamis, Polemon I, Aspurgos, Sauromates II) and, most often, Mithradates Eupator. The texts related to the Bosporan kings come from their own subject cities and from Chersonesus and all of them name the *eunoia* of the persons honoured towards the king or queen of the Bosphorus⁴¹, which in these cases signifies a statement of faith and allegiance. The same is the case of three inscriptions mentioning the goodwill of the cities Istros⁴² and Odessos⁴³ and of a magistrate of Phanagoreia⁴⁴ towards the ruling emperor or emperors of Rome.

³³ Just isolated occurrences in: I.Sinope 103 (1st- 2nd c. AD); I.Heraclea 2 (AD 130 or shortly after); CIRB 49 Pantikapaion (2nd c. AD); SEG 49, 1051 (ca. 300-275 BC).

³⁴ IGBulg V 5095 (late 4th- early 3rd c. BC).

³⁵ ISM III 108 (late 2nd- early 1st c. BC); ISM III 28 (second half 1st c. BC); ISM III 41 (late 1st c. BC); ISM III 44 (AD 12-15).

³⁶ IOSPE I² 32 (cf. SEG 29, 717), 38, 39, 40, 45b, 46, 51, 57, 64, 187; IO 28/29+123+IOSPE I², 240 = SEG 39, 702; SEG 34, 758; IO 25, 42 (3rd c. BC – early 3rd c. AD).

³⁷ IOSPE I² 371, 381, 425 (2nd- 3rd c. AD).

³⁸ ISM I 1, 3, 4+16, 8, 11, 12, 19, 21, 33, 55, 58, 59, 61; SEG 52, 724 (3rd c. BC – early 1st c. AD).

³⁹ ISM I 178-179, 193 (2nd c. AD)

⁴⁰ IGBulg I² 13 (honorary decree for Akornion) I. 27-28: τὴν εὐνοίαν τοῦ β[α][σιλέ]ως πρὸς τὴν τῆς πόλεως σωτηρ[ί]αν; I. 36-37: τοὺς ὑπὲρ τοῦ βα[σι]λέως χρηματισμοὺς διέθετο τὴν εὐνο[ί]αν τὴν Ῥωμαίων πα[ρ]αγόμενος τῷ βασιλεῖ.

⁴¹ Chersonesus: IOSPE I² 354+SEG 42, 698 (heavily completed honorary inscription for an ambassador of queen Dynamis, 17/16 BC) I. 9: εὐνοῦν ἐ[αυτὸν παρέσχετο κτλ. SEG 42, 697 (incl. IOSPE I², 704) Chersonesus (letter of Polemon I, 14-9 BC?) I. 4-8: [οἱ ἀπὸ τοῦ Βοσ]πόρου συνιόντες εἰς τὴν ὑμετέραν πόλιν πρέσβεις (?) ἐπαγγέλλονται τὴν πρὸς ἡμᾶς εὐνοίαν (*vel sim.*) — —. SEG 46, 940 Gorgippia (letter of Aspurgos for Pantaleon and Theangelos, AD 16) I. 5-6: ἔδο[ξ]αν ἐν πολ[ι]τοῖς μὲν πράγμασιν εὐνοηκέναι μοι. SEG 55, 862 Pantikapaion (funerary inscription for a general of king Sauromates II, late 2nd c. AD) I. 43-44: τὴν δὲ παρὰ [βασι]λέως εὐνοίαν καταλογιζόμενος.

⁴² ISM I 68 (*horothesia*) I. 55: τὴν εἰς τὸν Σεβασ[τ]ὸν ἡμῶν ἐπιδειξάμενοι εὐνοίαν.

⁴³ IGBulg I² 70 Odessos (reign of Antoninus Pius) (badly damaged): I. 7: τὴν εὐνοίαν.

The inscriptions of the time of Mithradates Eupator are all honorary decrees for representatives of the king of Pontus issued by cities which were, in one way or the other, part of Mithradates' Black Sea realm. They are: a decree of Phanagoreia granting privileges for the mercenaries of Mithradates stationed in the city⁴⁵; a decree of Istros honouring Diogenes son of Diogenes, στρατηγὸν <καὶ ἐπὶ [τῆ]ς πόλ[ε]ως of Mithradates⁴⁶; a decree of Olbia for a ship's captain from Amisos bearing royal assistance for the garrison of Armenians in the city⁴⁷; a *proxenia* decree of Chersonesus for a *strategos* of the king⁴⁸; finally the famous decree of Chersonesus for Diophantos of Sinope⁴⁹. In all of these cases, the honours are couched in the usual formula of honorary decrees for foreigners and the *eunoia* is always the goodwill of the honorand, freely granted to the respective city, although it is, given the political circumstances, obvious that the cities regarded these people as protectors and treated them as such. The same goes for the decree of Chersonesus granting προξ[ε]νίας πολειτείας to the Roman procurator T. Aurelius Calpurnianus Apollonides (AD 174), which also uses the term *eunoia* in the usual way, as the goodwill of the honorand towards the city⁵⁰.

Most clearly establishing relations of protection and power is the use of the term in the decree of Dionysopolis for her citizen Akornion son of Dionysius, who was employed by Burebista king of the Getae as his ambassador to Pompey the Great⁵¹. The term *eunoia* is used twice: once to indicate the king's goodwill towards the salvation of the city, then again to show the goodwill of the Romans towards the king.

2. *Homonoia*

This term has a much more specific meaning and range than *eunoia*. *Homonoia* has long been a governing ideal of the Greek city, as much as, or perhaps more than, *eirene*, peace, and was, as so many ideals, hard to obtain in practice. *Homonoia* describes a community free from rebellion (*stasis*) and strife (*eris*), in harmony with itself.⁵² But precisely because the normal, peaceful internal divisions in the political life of a Greek city so often tended to tip over into outright civil war, *homonoia* was conceived not just as the absence of dissent or

⁴⁴ CIRB 1000, AD 179, l. 6-8: διὰ τὴν ὑπερβ[άλ]λουσαν εὔνοιαν πρὸς τοὺς κυρίου βασιλεῖς.

⁴⁵ SEG 41, 625, l. 5-6: ἐν τοῖς λοιποῖς πᾶσι φιλικῶς καὶ εὐνόως ἐσχηκέναι πρὸς τὴν ἑαυτῶν πόλιν.

⁴⁶ ISM I 45 + SEG 47, 1125, l. 43-44: [ἀρετῆς ἔνεκεν καὶ] εὐνοί[ας τῆς εἰς τ]ὸν δῆμον.

⁴⁷ IOSPE I² 35, l. 15: καὶ ἔσφωσε τοὺς πλέοντας εὐνο]υς ὑπάρχων.

⁴⁸ IOSPE I² 349 + SEG 52, 735; NEPKh II 110, l. 6: ἀποσταλε]ῖς ὑπὸ βα[σιλέος Μιθραδάτα Εὐ]πάτορος εἰς [τὰν πόλιν ἀμῶν ἐν πᾶσιν] εὐνοῦν ἐ[αυτὸν πα]ρέχεται; cf. AVRAM 2002; cf. SEG 52, 735; cf. also SAPRYKIN 1997, p. 269-270; BIFFI 2010, p. 59-60; MÜLLER 2010, p. 95.

⁴⁹ IOSPE I² 352, l. 45-46: Χερσονασίταις εὐνοῦν ἑαυτὸν καὶ φιλότιμον παρέχεται, l. 50-51: ὁ δᾶμος στεφανοῖ Διόφαντον Ἀσκληπιοδώρου Σινωπέα ἀρετᾶς ἔνεκα καὶ εὐνοί[ας τᾶς εἰς αὐτόν].

⁵⁰ SEG 45, 985 = AE 1996, 1359, l. 21-2: αἰώνι[α] καρύγματα ἐσσούμενα τᾶς φ]ανερα[ῖ]ς ἐς ἀμὲ εὐνοίας; cf. HAENSCH 2005.

⁵¹ IGBulg I² 13, l. 27-8: τὴν εὐνοιαν τοῦ β[α][σιλέ]ως πρὸς τὴν τῆς πόλεως σωτηρ[ί]αν; l. 36-7: τοὺς ὑπὲρ τοῦ βα[σι]λέως χρηματισμοὺς διέθετο τὴν εὐνο[ι]αν τὴν Ῥωμαίων πα[ρ]αγόμενος τῷ βασιλεῖ.

⁵² BIANCO 2013.

downright violence, but as perfect agreement, total unanimity, among decision-makers as well as throughout the citizenry⁵³, and the aim of the statesman, according to Plutarch, was to produce such harmony within the body politic⁵⁴.

How endemic internal strife⁵⁵ was in the Greek world is clearly illustrated by the numbers⁵⁶. The *Inventory of Archaic and Classical Poleis* counts 279 outbreaks of *stasis* in 122 poleis⁵⁷. Nor did later times bring more internal peace. The Hellenistic period, with its new balance of forces, its change in the status of cities, brought rather more than less internal dissent with it, and, although Roman rule scotched armed conflicts between cities, the incidence of tensions between them remained as high as ever, taking on the more benign form of rivalry for titles, rank and prestige and for the more palpable advantages these brought with them⁵⁸. Also, the correspondence between Pliny and Emperor Trajan alludes repeatedly to the possibility of riots and sedition in the cities of Pontus et Bithynia, nor is evidence for factionalism and strife elsewhere lacking⁵⁹. Consequently, the issue of *homonoia*, within cities and among cities, remained a constant preoccupation and became a watchword of the second sophistic⁶⁰: to name just two examples, Plutarch's ideal statesman, virtuous and well-educated, was supposed to put his accomplishments to the service of the common good, of which one of the highest aims is *homonoia*, and Dio Chrysostomos devoted the better part of three of his speeches (*or.* 38-41) to *homonoia* and its benefits⁶¹.

In the Black Sea area however, *staseis* are barely mentioned. There appears to be a great difference between cities like Heraclea Pontica and Byzantion on the one hand, the only ones of whose internal evolution we are at all well informed, and the rest of the Black Sea cities on the other, of which we know very little in this respect. At Heraclea, the survival of the local history of Memnon and the interest incited by the access to power and the tyranny of Klearchos have yielded information that shows the city changing, over a span of 300 years, from aristocracy to democracy to oligarchy (very restrictive in the beginning, then enlarged), to democracy, to oligarchy again, to tyranny and then back to democracy⁶². At Byzantion, changes from oligarchy to (moderate) democracy, then to an oligarchy sponsored by Sparta, then back to democracy are closely connected to the ups and downs of the general Greek history of the 5th and

⁵³ HANSEN 2004, p. 128; CARTLEDGE 2005, p. 19; CARTLEDGE 2009, p. 24.

⁵⁴ Plut. *Mor.* 824 bc; cf. CARTLEDGE 2009, p. 129.

⁵⁵ For various explanations of *stasis* in the Greek world see FUNKE 1980; STE CROIX 1981, p. 278-326; LINTOTT 1982; GEHRKE 1985, p. 309-353; FISHER 2000, p. 84-90; HANSEN 2004; AUSTIN 2008, p. 528-535. See also WEES 2007.

⁵⁶ GEHRKE 1985, p. 255-257; CARTLEDGE 2009, p. 22.

⁵⁷ HANSEN 2004, p. 142 and Index 19. GEHRKE's inventory (1985, 11-199) comprises 283 instances of *stasis* in seventy-eight different poleis, and BERGER 1992 adds seventy-two further examples in sixteen poleis of *Graecia Magna*.

⁵⁸ See for this HELLER 2006.

⁵⁹ BEKKER-NIELSEN 2008, p. 165-175.

⁶⁰ WEISS 2004.

⁶¹ SHEPPARD 1984-1986, p. 241-251.

⁶² BURSTEIN 1976; LINTOTT 1982, p. 267-268; GEHRKE 1985, p. 70-72; SAPRYKIN 1997, p. 21-56; BITTNER 1998, p. 19-55; GALLOTTA 2012.

4th century BC⁶³. But apart from these two cities, there is hardly any information concerning the inner evolution of the Black Sea poleis; there is also no information on measures meant to prevent internal tensions, such as disarming the citizens, laws on regulating access to political power or legislation concerned with limiting economic exploitation or oppression of the poor⁶⁴. One of the reasons for this dearth of information on the other Black sea cities is the scarcity of literary sources in general on this area: the works of local writers have rarely survived to any useful extent and authors from outside the Black Sea area had but scant interest in this peripheric region of the Greek world.

There is a handful of scattered incidents and notices relating to events in various Black Sea cities over a considerable period of time. It is likely that the arrival and integration of new waves of settlers (*epoikoi*)⁶⁵ in the Black Sea cities created tensions, but explicit knowledge of such there is only for Apollonia⁶⁶, Byzantion⁶⁷ and Mesambria⁶⁸. No doubt to be placed somewhere in the Archaic period are the brief references of Aristotle to the constitutional changes at Apollonia, Istros and Heraclea: at Apollonia, the oligarchs were ousted following a case of peculation⁶⁹, at Istros, the oligarchy was replaced with a democratic regime, while at Heraclea the government passed from a smaller number to six hundred⁷⁰. At Sinope, around 436 BC, the tyrant Timesileos was ousted by Athenian intervention and a Democratic regime instituted⁷¹. Among the provisions of the civic oath of Chersonesus, some refer to the pledged support for the citizens' consensus⁷², others to the defence of the city from external dangers, to the preservation of the extant democratic regime⁷³ and to the abstention from illegal regulation of conflicts. These have been seen as indications that an inner crisis, perhaps even involving the secession of parts of the territory of Chersonesus, was overcome and sealed by this oath⁷⁴.

There are then a few vague references to *tarachai*, a term which occurs in Hellenistic texts with the meaning of political confusion, tumult, even civil war⁷⁵. Two of them come from Istros: one is a very fragmentary honorary decree of the

⁶³ GEHRKE 1985, p. 34-37.

⁶⁴ WEES 2007, p. 35-39.

⁶⁵ AVRAM 2012a.

⁶⁶ Arist. *Pol.* 5.1303a: καὶ Ἀπολλωνιάται οἱ ἐν τῷ Εὐξείνῳ πόντῳ ἐποίκους ἐπαγαγόμενοι ἐστασίασαν.

⁶⁷ Arist. *Pol.* 5.1303a: καὶ Βυζαντιοὶς οἱ ἔποικοι ἐπιβουλεύοντες φωραθέντες ἐξέπεσον διὰ μάχης.

⁶⁸ Her. 4.93, 6.33; Ps.- Skymnos 741-742; cf. HIND 1998; ROBU 2014, p. 311-317.

⁶⁹ Arist. *Pol.* 5.1306a: ὅτε μὲν οὖν ἐπιχειροῦσί τι κινεῖν, ὅτε δὲ κλέπτουσι τὰ κοινά, ὅθεν πρὸς αὐτοὺς στασιάζουσιν ἢ οὗτοι ἢ οἱ πρὸς τούτους μαχόμενοι κλέπτοντας, ὅπερ ἐν Ἀπολλωνία συνέβη τῇ ἐν τῷ Πόντῳ.

⁷⁰ Arist. *Pol.* 5.1305b: ἐν Ἴστρῳ δ' εἰς δῆμον ἀπετελεύτησεν, ἐν Ἡρακλείᾳ δ' ἐξέλαττόνων εἰς ἐξακοσίους ἦλθεν.

⁷¹ Plut. *Per.* 20.1; GEHRKE 1985, p. 150; SURIKOV 2001.

⁷² IOSPE I² 401 (late 4th – early 3rd century BC), l. 5-7: ὁμονοησῶ ὑπὲρ σωτηρίας καὶ ἐλευθερίας πόλεος καὶ πολιτῶν.

⁷³ IOSPE I² 401, l. 13-4: οὐδὲ καταλυσῶ τὴν δαμοκρατίαν.

⁷⁴ STOLBA 2005; GALLO 2012. For a different opinion see MAKAROV 2014.

⁷⁵ See for this D. M. Pippidi, *ad* ISM I 18; BRUN 2009, p. 246 and n. 24.

3rd-2nd century BC⁷⁶ the other the ample decree honouring Agathokles son of Antiphilos⁷⁷ (ca. 200 BC), the man who repeatedly helped to avert danger from the city, either by leading troops into battle against the Thracians of Zoltes and various other enemies, or else, more often, by diplomatic means and by buying the assailants off. The same word was used in a fragmentary honorary decree for the benefactor Satyros of the Roman period of Chersonesus⁷⁸. Finally, much later under Roman rule, the only indications of civic tensions are episodic instances such as were brought to the attention of Roman authorities, or involved them: at Istros, the provincial governor Ovinus Tertullus had to intervene in a delimitation conflict between a certain Messia Pudentilla and the inhabitants of a village called Buteridava⁷⁹; at Chersonesus, the affair of the prostitution tax created some tension between the city and the Roman garrison⁸⁰.

This is a meager reap out of the entirety of the Black Sea cities over eight or nine centuries. Mentions of *homonoia* are even scarcer. I have already mentioned the citizens' consensus in the civic oath of Chersonesus. Whether the temple of Homonoia mentioned by Apollonios of Rhodes (l. 717-719) as extant in the small island of Thynia in the territory of Heraclea actually attests the existence of the cult, is undetermined⁸¹. At Callatis there stood in the late Hellenistic period a sanctuary of Homonoia. It is attested only epigraphically: on two occasions it served as a place of exposure for public documents. The earliest of these is the *foedus* concluded between Rome and Callatis at a much discussed date, probably in the second half of the 2nd century BC⁸². The later one is an honorary decree granted by an association of *thoinatai* to the notable benefactor Ariston son of Ariston (the elder) towards the very end of the 1st century BC⁸³, whose activities are known from a number of other inscriptions. The sanctuary seems to have replaced the Samothrakion as the place of exposure for official documents; the latter had served as such from the early 3rd to the 2nd c. BC⁸⁴. The cult of Homonoia⁸⁵ as a personification of harmony and agreement within a city, between rich and poor, democrats and oligarchs, between various subdivisions of the body politic or colleges of officeholders, is a typical political cult. The earliest unequivocal testimonies date to the last third of the 4th century BC⁸⁶, it reached its peak in the 3rd- 2nd century BC and attests to the repeated crises which shook the Greek poleis in the Classical as well as the Hellenistic period and also under

⁷⁶ ISM I 18, l. 12-13: συναγωγ[ιωντων δε των πολιτων] τα μεν δια τας παραχα[ς — — —.

⁷⁷ ISM I 15, l. 8-10: της τε [πολεως] ουσης εν τα[ρ]αχηι και πειρατευ[ον]των Θραικων ουκ [ολι]γων την τ[ε]χ[ω]ραν και την [πολ]ι[ν].

⁷⁸ IOSPE I² 355, l. 19: τας εμφυλι[?]ου παραχα[ς].

⁷⁹ ISM I 359-360, AD 198-202.

⁸⁰ IOSPE I 404; cf. BE 2006, 302.

⁸¹ See the discussion in THÉRIAULT 1996, p. 28-34.

⁸² ISM III 1 = CIL I², fasc. 3.2676; CIL I² 2, fasc. 4.2676; AVRAM 1999.

⁸³ ISM III 41.

⁸⁴ ISM III 4, 7, 19. See for places of exposure at Callatis A. Avram, ISM III, p. 146; in the Western Pontic cities, RUSCU 2015.

⁸⁵ For the particular nature, diffusion and iconography of the cult see: ÉTIENNE & PIÉRART 1975; WEST 1977; GIANGIULIO 1982; GRAF 1985, p. 164-165; THÉRIAULT 1996; MESSERSCHMIDT 2003, p. 53-60.

⁸⁶ See for this THÉRIAULT 1996.

Roman rule⁸⁷. The presence of such a temple at Callatis indicates some civic convulsion for which we have otherwise no information, sometime prior to the late 2nd century BC at the latest, and which was healed by the consecration of this temple⁸⁸.

At Olbia, a long and fragmentarily preserved decree honouring Kallinikos son of Euxenos⁸⁹ may include the only explicit reference to *stasis* anywhere around the Black Sea. Among the achievements of the honorand, l. 6-7 mentions that he brought to harmony those in the city who had been at variance with each other ([τοὺς διαφορομένους οἱ τοὺς στασιάζοντας] ἐν τῇ πόλει εἰς ὁμό[νοια καταστήσαι). He accomplished this by abolishing certain taxes (*ta tele*) and by introducing the minting of small bronze coin denominations. The first editors⁹⁰ connected this with the campaign of Alexander's *strategos* of Thrace Zopyrion against Olbia, which would make the text, dated thus to the last quarter of the 4th century BC, one of the earliest naming the concept of *homonoia* within the context of dissensions inside a civic community. However, neither the date nor the connection to Zopyrion are assured and a somewhat later date, in the first half of the 3rd century BC, has been suggested⁹¹.

Again from Olbia comes the well-known decree in honour of Theokles son of Satyros (late 2nd – early 3rd century AD)⁹², notable office-holder and benefactor of the city, to whom no less than 19 cities in the area of the Black Sea and the Straits presented wreaths and honours for his good deeds and his help to strangers. Among many other things, he is described as having 'also held the highest office four times, as it was necessary for such men to hold office even more often', and then, in l. 27-8, as *πάσαν ὁμόνοιαν πολιτευόμενος*. The verb *politeuomai*, combined with *homonoia*, does not occur very often. I have found fourteen such instances⁹³,

⁸⁷ MOULAKIS 1973, esp. p. 109; THÉRIAULT 1996.

⁸⁸ Cf. THÉRIAULT 1996, p. 52-54.

⁸⁹ IOSPE I² 25+31 = SEG 32, 794.

⁹⁰ VINOGRADOV & KARYŠKOVSKIJ 1997.

⁹¹ MÜLLER 2010, p. 55 (cf. BÉ 1984, 276: 'tous ces événements sociaux peuvent se produire sans que l'occasion en ait été fournie par une guerre').

⁹² IOSPE I², 40. Cf. HEINEN 2009; DANA 2012, p. 263-265.

⁹³ SEG 60, 1075 Aphrodisias (ca. 188-167 BC): πάντες ... ἐν ὁμονοία πολιτεύονται; SEG 57, 1663 Melanippion (shortly after 188 BC) (cf. ADAK 2007): ... δι' ἃ καὶ συνβέ/βηκεν ἐλευθέρους ἡμᾶς ὄντας ἐν εἰρήνῃ / μεθ' ὁμονοίας πολιτεύεσθαι κυριεύ[οντας] / τῶν ἰδίων; I.Smyrna 573 (shortly after 243 BC) l. 65: καὶ πολιτεύσομαι μεθ' ὁμονοίας ἀστασιάστως κατὰ τοὺς Σμυρναίων νόμους καὶ τὰ ψηφίσματα τοῦ δή[μου]; I.Iasos 4 (honorary decree for Antiochos III and Laodike III, 195-190 BC) l. 56-58: ὅ τε θεὸς ὁ ἀρχηγέτης τοῦ γένους τῶν βασιλέων συνεγεμαρτύρηκεν τῷ βασιλεῖ παρακαλῶν μεθ' ὁμονοίας πολιτεύεσθαι; SEGREG 1952, no. 61 (ca. 230-220 BC) l. 11-13: οἱ πᾶ[σαν σπουδ]ὰν ἐποίησαντο τοῦ διαλυθέντα[ς <τοὺς πολέτας>] [τὰ ποθ' αὐτο]ὺς μεθ' ὁμονοίας πολιτεύεσθαι; Syll³, 398 Cos (278 BC) l. 25-28: ἐπεύχεσθαι τῷ τε δάμοι τῷ Κώϊων γίνεσθαι τὰ ἀγαθὰ καὶ μεθ' ὁμονοίας πολιτεύεν ἐν δημοκρατία; I.Priene¹ 531 = I.Priene² 108 (honorary decree of Iasos for a judge of Priene, 2nd c. BC) l. 10-11: ἵνα συλλυθέντες οἱ ἀντίδικοι τὰ πρὸς αὐτοὺς μεθ' ὁμονοίας πολιτεύονται; I.Priene¹ 54 = I.Priene² 109 (honorary decree of Iasos for a judge of Priene, 2nd c. BC) l. 9-10: ἵνα συλλυθέντες οἱ ἀντίδικοι τὰ πρὸς αὐ[τ]ο[ὺς] [τοὺς μεθ' ὁμον]οίας [πολιτεύονται]; IG XII 6.1 95 (honorary decree of Samos for judges of Myndos, ca. 280 BC) l. 15-18: τὰς δὲ διέλυσαν προαιρούμενοι τοὺς διαφορομένους τῶν πολιτῶν διαλυθέντας ἐν ὁμονοίᾳ πολιτεύεσθαι ἀπαλλαγέντας τῶν πρὸς ἀλλήλους ἐγκλημάτων; I.Iasos 67 (honorary decree of Calymna for

in which the most usual formula is μεθ' ὁμονοίας πολιτεύεσθαι or ἐν ὁμονοίᾳ πολιτεύεσθαι. These documents are *sympolitia* agreements, honorary decrees for Hellenistic kings or for foreign judges, and most often they refer to the *homonoia* established (or expected to be established) after some conflictual situation or external intervention. Theokles however is immediately afterwards in the decree described as „behaving like a brother towards the younger people, like a son towards the elder, like a father towards the children, adorned with every virtue ...”⁹⁴. The reference to his taking part in government with all *homonoia* simply belongs in this context, where the civic community is presented like one large loving family⁹⁵.

The last item concerning *homonoia* around the Black Sea are its representations on coins, which occur in several of the cities (in some of them, like Anchialos⁹⁶, coins may also show a temple). However, these representations do not spring from anything specific to these cities. Most of the Black Sea shores lie outside the area of the *homonoia*-coins minted mainly in western Asia Minor and important harbours or road junctions of Bithynia, southern Asia Minor, inland Anatolia and Thrace, which documented relations between two or more cities and *koina*⁹⁷. Just Byzantion and Perinthos, as well as the inland Trajanic foundation of Bizye⁹⁸, offer such coins, connecting them either with each other or else with important centres of the province of Asia and Bithynia. The reasons for establishing *homonoia* between these cities may go back to some former conflict⁹⁹, but in the main they pertain to the commercial links between various shores of the Propontis¹⁰⁰, especially in the 3rd century AD, due to the increased importance of the military road connecting the Balkans with Asia Minor over the Hellespont area¹⁰¹. Apart from these however, the representations of *homonoia* on Black Sea

judges and the People of Iasos, ca. 270-260 BC): οἱ παραγενόμενοι [πᾶσ]αν σπουδᾶν ἐποίησαντο {υ} τοῦ διαλυθέντ<α>ς τοὺς [πολ]ίτας τὰ πὸτ' αὐτοὺς πολιτεύεσθαι μετ' ὁμονοίας; PORCIANI 2001; SEG 30, 1119 (decree of Nacone concerning the reconciliation of rival factions, ca. 254-241 BC?) l. 5-6: συμφέρει δὲ καὶ ἐς τὸν λοιπὸν χρόνον ὁμον[ο]ῦντας πολιτεύεσθαι; OGIS 222 Clazomenae (decree of the Ionian league, 282-268 BC) l. 16-18: ἐλεύθεραι οὖσαι καὶ δημο[κρατούμεναι μεθ' ὁμονοίας πολι]τεύονται κατὰ τοὺς πατρί[ο]υς νόμους.

⁹⁴ L. 28-30: τοῖς δὲ παισὶν ὡς πατήρ, πάση ἀρετῇ κεκοσμημένος.

⁹⁵ HEINEN 2009; NIJF 2014.

⁹⁶ Maximinus Thrax: STRACK 1912, p. 591; Gordian: STRACK 1912, p. 679 (pl. 8.28); cf. PRICE & TRELL 1977, p. 247 no. 71.

⁹⁷ PERA 1984; KLOSE 1987; THÉRIAULT 1996, p. 71-99; FRANKE & NOLLÉ 1997.

⁹⁸ Byzantion: with Bizye (under Philippus); with Nicaea (under Trebonianus Gallus / Macrianus): FRANKE & NOLLÉ 1997, p. 20-22 no. 125-139; Bizye: with Byzantion (under Philippus): FRANKE & NOLLÉ 1997, p. 19-20 no. 124; Perinthos: with Ephesus, Cyzicus, Nicomedia, Smyrna (under Gordian III): FRANKE & NOLLÉ 1997, p. 172-173 no. 1718-1725. Perinth also had a *homonoia*-link to Cyzicus under Severus Alexander: the governor M. Ulpius Senecio Saturninus acted as guarantor (*prostates*) of the *homonoia* of the two cities: IGRRP I 797 = I.Perinthos 21, also with Apamea I.Perinthos 55.

⁹⁹ See for this SHEPPARD 1984-1986, p. 230-237.

¹⁰⁰ See for this SCHÖNERT-GEISS 1965, I 22-23, 60-61; SCHÖNERT-GEISS 1972, 21-23; ROBERT 1989, p. 283-296; THÉRIAULT 1996, p. 92-93, 96-97; KIRBIHLER 2006.

¹⁰¹ KLOSE 1987, p. 55-57.

coins¹⁰² belong to a wide range of such monetary images which, under the Principate, illustrated concord in its various aspects concerning the entirety of the Roman empire: harmony within the Imperial house, the *concordia militum*, good understanding between the army and the cities (in the case of garrisons), between and within the cities¹⁰³.

Thus, there are few mentions of strife or discord around the Black Sea, but even fewer of harmony or reconciliation. This is not far from the situation in the cities around the Aegean, who were nothing less than free of internal tensions, but where references to harmony and reconciliation are altogether rare, not least because often reconciliations were temporary, fickle, occasionally insincere¹⁰⁴. In the Black Sea area, there are additional reasons for supposing that indeed *staseis* were less frequent than elsewhere. On the one hand, the position of these cities on the fringes of the Greek world and the proximity of Barbaric neighbours who were often hostile, especially during the later Hellenistic period, may have fostered a greater cohesion of the body politic, especially in the cities on the northern and western sea shore, which were more directly exposed. On the other, *stasis* was often fueled by external politics and spilled over into external politics¹⁰⁵. The few cases known to us from the Black Sea area – Byzantion, Heraclea, Sinope – confirm this, as seen above. The Black Sea cities were isolated in this respect also. Prior to the coming of Rome, they were rarely part of any political construct larger than themselves. Alliances between cities, as far as they are documented, appear to have had little permanence, they were usually concluded in order to achieve a specific aim – to defend against a common enemy, to gang up against a neighbour – and were afterwards allowed to dissolve. Powers from outside the Black Sea area – Athens, the Hellenistic kingdoms – were rarely directly involved in Black Sea affairs and the only great power centered on the Black Sea, the realm of Mithradates Eupator, had its attention, over most of the duration of its existence, diverted away from the concerns of the Black Sea proper. Athens' presence in the Black Sea at the acme of its power may indeed have triggered changes of regime in several places – certainly at Sinope, perhaps the dynastic change in the Bosporan Kingdom, conceivably the advent of democratic regimes in other cities –, but this involvement remained episodic. As such, there was little opportunity for external entanglements enhancing the potential of internal dissent in these cities to the point of open revolt.

It appears, then, that *staseis* in the cities around the Black Sea were indeed a more seldom occurrence than in most parts of the Greek world. Otherwise, one would have to assume that these cities were no strangers to internal discord, just disinclined to pursue and document reconciliation and civic harmony.

¹⁰² Perinthis: SCHÖNERT-GEISS 1965, I 58-59.

¹⁰³ WEISS 2004, p. 183.

¹⁰⁴ GEHRKE 1985, p. 261-266.

¹⁰⁵ GEHRKE 1985, p. 288: 'Vermengung von Außenpolitik und Stasis'; most emphatic RUSCHENBUSCH 1978 (for which see LINTOTT 1982, p. 272-273; FUNKE 1980).

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