



Christos Vasilakos is an Assistant Professor and Head of the Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Science (RSGIS) Research Group (<https://rsgis.aegean.gr/>) at the Department of Geography, University of the Aegean. He is an Environmental Scientist with a Ph.D. in Fire Risk Assessment and more than 25 years of experience in geoinformatics, remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS), artificial intelligence, and their applications to environmental monitoring and natural-hazard management.

His research career began in the late 1990s with GIS and remote sensing applications in forest-fire and environmental assessment. From 1999 to 2000, he worked as a GIS specialist with the Forest Research Institute of the National Agricultural Research Foundation. In 2000, he joined the National Observatory of Athens as an external researcher within the THEMA project, focusing on airborne remote sensing and environmental applications, with part of his research conducted at the German Aerospace Center (DLR) in Germany. Since 2002, he has been affiliated with the University of the Aegean, participating in numerous research projects funded by the European Union, Greece, and private-sector organizations.

His research focuses primarily on the integration of Remote Sensing, GIS, Artificial Intelligence, and Geoinformatics for environmental and natural-hazard applications, with particular emphasis on wildfire risk assessment and management. His work has progressively incorporated advanced technologies including machine learning and deep learning, satellite Earth observation, UAV-based remote sensing, LiDAR, photogrammetry, 3D geospatial modelling, cloud computing, and web-based geospatial systems. He has contributed to the development of geospatial decision-support and information systems for wildfire prevention and management and has applied these technologies to environmental monitoring, disaster assessment, agriculture, ecosystem analysis, and high-resolution 3D mapping.

He has participated in more than 20 research and development projects, including European initiatives addressing wildfire management, environmental monitoring, cloud-based geospatial computing, UAV and LiDAR technologies, and resilience to natural hazards. His research has also supported operational applications, including burned-area mapping and post-disaster assessment following major wildfire and earthquake events in Greece.

In 2024, he was awarded an MSc in Precision Farming, jointly offered by the Hellenic Open University and the University of Patras. Since 2014, he has taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Remote Sensing, GIS, Photogrammetry, and Geoinformatics at the University of the Aegean and has supervised numerous undergraduate and postgraduate theses.

He is the author and co-author of more than 60 scientific publications and book chapters and has served as a reviewer, editor, and evaluator for international scientific journals, research proposals, and European and Greek research projects. His overall research objective is to integrate emerging geospatial technologies and artificial intelligence with Earth observation and field data to develop evidence-based approaches for environmental assessment, risk management, and informed decision-making.