

Nederlands Genootschap voor Nieuwgriekse Studies (NGNS)

Dutch Society for Modern Greek Studies

Jaarverslag 2025



Rechtsvorm: vereniging met volledige rechtsbevoegdheid vanaf 12 december 2016 (zie de Statutenwijziging bij notariële akte d.d. 12 december 2016). In de periode van 19 maart 1996 tot 11 december 2016 was het NGNS een vereniging met beperkte rechtsbevoegdheid.

RSIN: 854292251

IBAN: NL22 INGB 0674 6742 00 & **BIC:** INGBNL2A

Inschrijving KvK Amsterdam: 61307831

Bestuur (vanaf 21 april 2023)

Voorzitter: Arthur Bot (staflid opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur, FGw, UvA)

Vicevoorzitter: Shereen el Sherbini (beëdigd tolk/vertaler Nieuwgrieks, journalist, docent klassieke talen)

Penningmeester tot 6 juli 2025: †Désiré de Rooij (classicus, bestuurder),

Penningmeester a.i., vanaf 6 juli 2025: Hero Hokwerda

Secretaris: Leandra Zoulfoukaridis (beëdigd vertaler/tolk Nieuwgrieks, redacteur, bestuurssecretaris)

Beloningsbeleid

Het NGNS kent geen beloningen of bonussen. Er worden geen reiskosten voor vergaderingen vergoed. Alle inkomsten worden besteed aan de doelstelling van de vereniging.

Contactgegevens

Bezoekadres: Spuistraat 134, Amsterdam

Vestigingsadres / Postadres: P.O. Box 1641, 1000 BP Amsterdam

E-mailadres: secretariaat.ngns@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.nieuwgrieksestudies.nl>

Geschiedenis en doelstelling

Het NGNS is opgericht op 19 maart 1996 door het *Byzantijns-Nieuwgrieks Seminarium* van de Universiteit van Amsterdam en het *Instituut voor Nieuwgrieks en Byzantinologie* van de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen als de Nederlandse afdeling van het *Europees Genootschap voor Nieuwgriekse Studies (EENS)*.

De huidige opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur van de Universiteit van Amsterdam (**CROHO-code: 56814**) is de opvolger van het *Byzantijns-Nieuwgrieks Seminarium* van de Universiteit van Amsterdam en van het *Instituut voor Nieuwgrieks en Byzantinologie* van de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, welke instituten in 2002 zijn samengevoegd; daarmee hield het Instituut in Groningen op te bestaan.

Doelstelling

De doelstelling van het Nederlands Genootschap voor Nieuwgriekse Studies (NGNS) is het bevorderen van de Nieuwgriekse Studies in Nederland in de ruimste zin van het woord. In het bijzonder gaat het daarbij om:

1. de bevordering van onderzoek en onderwijs op het gebied van de Nieuwgriekse taal, letterkunde, geschiedenis en cultuur, in de breedste zin van het woord, in Nederland;
2. het stichten en onderhouden van de *Marilena Laskaridis Bijzondere Leerstoel Nieuwgriekse Studies* aan de Faculteit der Geesteswetenschappen van de Universiteit van Amsterdam;
3. het fungeren als landelijke afdeling van het Europees Genootschap voor Nieuwgriekse Studies;

4. 4. het (mede)organiseren van diverse culturele activiteiten op het gebied van de Nieuwgriekse taal, letterkunde, geschiedenis en cultuur, in de breedste zin van het woord, in Nederland.

Beleidsplan / Meerjarenplan 2022-2026

De doelstelling van de vereniging Nederlands Genootschap voor Nieuwgriekse Studies (NGNS) is het bevorderen van de Nieuwgriekse Studies in Nederland in de ruimste zin van het woord. In het bijzonder gaat het daarbij om het bevorderen van onderzoek en onderwijs op het gebied van de Nieuwgriekse taal, letterkunde, geschiedenis en cultuur, in de breedste zin van het woord; het stichten en onderhouden van de *Marilena Laskaridis Bijzondere Leerstoel Nieuwgriekse Studies* aan de Faculteit der Geesteswetenschappen van de Universiteit van Amsterdam; het fungeren als landelijke afdeling van het Europees Genootschap voor Nieuwgriekse Studies (EENS); het (mede)organiseren van diverse culturele activiteiten op het gebied van de Nieuwgriekse taal, letterkunde, geschiedenis en cultuur, in de breedste zin van het woord.

Beleid

- Nauwe samenwerking met een aantal organisaties waaronder de opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur van de UvA, het Europees Genootschap voor Nieuwgriekse Studies, de Ambassade van Griekenland en de Ambassade van de Republiek Cyprus in Nederland en de Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation.
- Ondersteuning, organisatie en coproductie van culturele activiteiten van (non profit) organisaties die de doelstellingen van het NGNS onderschrijven.
- Oprichting van een aantal subgroepen (media-netwerk, docentenkring, vertalerskring, alumnikring).

Een gedetailleerde beschrijving van ons beleid is terug te vinden op de website van het NGNS in het document "Beleidsplan 2022-2026".

Verslag van de gerealiseerde activiteiten

In 2025 kwam het bestuur drie keer bij elkaar.

In de vergaderingen werd goedkeuring en financiële steun verleend aan de volgende activiteiten:

1. De organisatie van een aantal culturele evenementen (zie overzicht **bijlage 1**), waaronder **zeven varialezingen**.
2. De organisatie van een aantal onderwijs- en onderzoeksactiviteiten (zie overzicht in **bijlage 2**): **Internationale KEF- certificaatsexamens Nieuwgrieks 2025**. De opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur van de UvA en het NGNS faciliteren het afnemen van de examens in Nederland in opdracht van KEF te Thessaloniki.
3. Voortzetting van de **samenwerking met de Universiteit Leiden** omtrent de uitbetaling van de **bijzonder hoogleraar prof. dr. M. Boletsi** gedurende het kalenderjaar 2025 (zie overzicht in **bijlage 3**).
4. Versterking van de samenwerking met de Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation. Toekenning **van twee Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellowships** aan Geesteswetenschappers voor het verrichten van onderzoek op het gebied van Nieuwgriekse Studies aan de UvA in het academisch jaar 2025-2026 (zie overzicht in **bijlage 3**).

Bijlage 1: Culturele activiteiten

Evenementen georganiseerd door het NGNS in samenwerking met de opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur van de UvA

VARIALEZINGEN

Varialezing 1: 25 april 2025

Titel: Het grafschrift van Nikos Kazantzakis

Spreker: prof. dr. Bert Groen, emeritus-hoogleraar liturgiewetenschap, Universiteit van Graz

Datum en tijd: 25 april 2025, 15:30-16:30 uur

Locatie: Universiteit van Amsterdam, Spuistraat 134, gebouw PC Hoofthuis, kamer 1.05

Taal: Nederlands

Abstract

Op het graf van Nikos Kazantzakis (1883-1957) op het Martinengo-bastion in Heraklion staat de leus 'Ik hoop niets, ik vrees niets, ik ben vrij' / 'Δεν ελπίζω τίποτα, δε φοβούμαι τίποτα, είμαι λεύτερος'. T-shirts, koffiebekers en dergelijke met deze tekst erop zijn populair. Reeds geruime tijd voor zijn overlijden had de Kretenzische schrijver vastgelegd wat er op zijn graf moest komen te staan. Het motto lijkt 'typisch Kazantzakis' te zijn, origineel en authentiek. Het past inderdaad goed bij zijn levensfilosofie. Ook elders in zijn werk, zoals in de *Askitiki: Salvatores Dei* en in *Toda Raba*, komen deze woorden voor. Het is niettemin zeer de vraag of hij ze zelf bedacht heeft. De lezing onderzoekt welke bronnen Kazantzakis waarschijnlijk hebben geïnspireerd voor zijn beroemde motto. Aan bod komen onder meer Lucianus van Samosata en Blaise Pascal.

Bio

Bert Groen is emeritus-hoogleraar liturgiewetenschap aan de Universiteit van Graz. Daar bekleedde hij ook de UNESCO-leerstoel voor interculturele en interreligieuze dialoog in Zuidoost-Europa. Meer informatie op: <https://www.b-groen.org/>

Varialezing 2: 9 mei 2025

Titel: Adamantios Koraïs, Amsterdam, and the Dutch Roots of Greek Abolitionism

Spreker: Dr. Christopher Jotischky, Marilena Laskaridis Fellow of Modern Greek Studies, University of Amsterdam

Datum en tijd: 9 mei 2025, 15:30-16,30 uur

Locatie: Universiteitsbibliotheek UvA Singel 425, Belle van Zuylenzaal

Taal: Engels

Abstract

In addition to his status as a major theorist of Greek political culture, language, and literature, Adamantios Koraïs was among the first advocates writing in Greek for the abolition of enslavement in both the Ottoman Empire and the mercantilist empires of Western European states. His writings betray a clear moral outrage at the inhumanity of the traffic in human beings; he also conceives of subjection to despotic political regimes metaphorically as a form of enslavement. But where did his strong feelings about enslavement in the contemporary world develop? Undoubtedly, Koraïs was informed by his understanding of the history of enslavement in Ancient Greece and his horror at the ongoing traditions of enslavement he was familiar with from the Ottoman Empire. Nevertheless, his residence in Amsterdam during the period 1771-1777 seems also to have played a decisive role in shaping his feelings about enslavement and race in a European

colonial context. In this lecture I shall present the preliminary findings in my ongoing research project into Korais's role in shaping a Greek abolitionist discourse during the nineteenth century, focusing on how the Dutch context of the 1770s could have shaped his thoughts on the subject.

Bio

Christopher Jotischky is currently Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Fellow in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam, and an Early Career Research Associate at the Institute of Classical Studies, University of London. He completed his PhD in Classics at Brown University in 2024, and is interested chiefly in Greek prose literature and intellectual history during the period 1750-1950. He has published his research in *Classical Receptions Journal* and *Skenè*, and is also active as a translator into English of Modern Greek prose literature, archival material, and historiography, most recently for a major public website about important Greek revolutionary Nikolaos Soliotis, which is due to be launched later this year. Christopher has presented his research to audiences in the UK, US, Greece, and Canada, but this is his first time doing so in the Netherlands.

Varialezing 3: 27 juni 2025

Boekpresentatie: *Hoe ik de toerismejungle overleefde*

Spreker: Ruard Wallis de Vries

Speciale gast: Mike Boddé

Datum en tijd: 27 juni 2025, 15:30-16:30 uur

Locatie: Universiteit van Amsterdam, Spuistraat 134, gebouw PC Hoofthuis, kamer 1.05

Taal: Nederlands

Abstract

Ruard Wallis de Vries spreekt over zijn nieuwste boek "Hoe ik de toerismejungle overleefde". "Probeer het eens in het toerisme. Helemaal geen slechte zet misschien," zegt de doorgewinterde diplomaat tegen de jonge hoopvolle academicus op de ambassade in Athene. Daar denkt Ruard ietsjes anders over: hij gaat er in zijn jeugdige overmoed vanuit dat zijn gloednieuwe universiteitsdiploma de deuren zal openen naar een baan als nieuwscorrespondent in Athene. Zijn snel slinkende banksaldo vertelt hem echter een ander verhaal. Als Ruard in Griekenland wil blijven, dan staat er maar één weg voor hem open: dat vervloekte toerisme. Na veel vijven en zessen wordt hij reisleader voor een kleine Griekse touroperator. Wat volgt is een veelbewogen seizoen vol onbetrouwbare bazen, ontevreden klanten, en veel te kleine – of juist veel te grote – touringcars. Allemaal ingrediënten die garant staan voor een flinke portie 'reislijden'.

Bio

Ruard Wallis de Vries (1967) werkt en woont sinds het begin van de jaren '90 af en aan in Griekenland. Naast regelmatige bijdragen aan reismagazines publiceerde Ruard in de Nederlandse pers over de Griekse economische crisis en de vluchtelingensituatie op de Griekse eilanden. Sinds 2012 organiseert hij filmfestivals waar Griekse korte films en documentaires centraal staan. Hij kocht en renoveerde een handvol charmant vervallen eilandhuizen op Samos en Leros. Over zijn ervaringen als huiseigenaar op de Griekse eilanden publiceerde hij *Griekse Toestanden* (2022).

Varialezing 4: 26 september 2025

Titel: Hellenisme in de Nieuwgriekse wereld: een hobbelig parcours

Spreker: Dr. Pieter Borghart, neograecus en classicus

Datum en tijd: 26 september, 15:30-16:30 uur

Locatie: Universiteit van Amsterdam, Spuistraat 134, gebouw PC Hoofthuis, kamer 1.05

Taal: Nederlands

Abstract

Het moderne Griekenland wordt steevast geassocieerd met de roemruchte beschaving uit de klassieke oudheid, een ‘natuurlijke’ band die de Grieken – als ‘nazaten’ van de antieke Hellenen – ook zelf graag in de verf zetten. In dit variacollege benadert Pieter Borghart de relatie tussen het antieke en het moderne Griekenland evenwel op een meer genuanceerde manier. Aan de hand van concrete historische voorbeelden argumenteert hij dat hellenisme – als een reeks opeenvolgende ‘renaissances’ – beter begrepen wordt als een vorm van bewuste cultuurpolitiek die even oud is als de Nieuwgriekse geschiedenis zelf. Hellenisme als ideologie dus, die door de geschiedenis heen niet alleen moest wedijveren met andere manieren waarop Grieken naar zichzelf keken, maar verrassend genoeg ook zo haar schaduwkanten had.

Bio

Pieter Borghart is neograecus en classicus. In 2005 promoveerde hij met een studie over het naturalisme in de Nieuwgriekse literatuur, tussen 2007 en 2013 doceerde hij Nieuwgriekse letterkunde aan de Universiteit Gent. Naast heel wat (populair-)wetenschappelijke artikelen is hij ook de auteur van een boek over het Europese naturalisme (*In het spoor van Emile Zola*, 2006), van *Inleiding in de Nieuwgriekse literatuur* (2012, 2018) en – meest recent – van *Nieuwgriekse geschiedenis* (2025).

Varialezing 5: 31 oktober 2025

Titel: Sponge Fishing, Cultural Heritage, and the Island of Kalymnos

Spreker: Dr. Joyce Goggin, Associate Professor English Language and Culture, University of Amsterdam

Datum en tijd: 31 oktober 2025, 15:30-16.30 uur

Locatie: Universiteit van Amsterdam, Spuistraat 134, gebouw PC Hoofthuis, kamer 1.05

Taal: Engels

Abstract

In this talk, J. Goggin discusses Aegean sponge fishing and the island of Kalymnos in the 19th and 20th centuries, along with the culture practices it gave rise to, and the enormous costs it exacted in terms of animal life and environmental damage. While sponging was the bedrock of island economies throughout the Aegean and elsewhere around the Mediterranean, it became a mono-industry on Kalymnos where it involved the entire population, beginning in the 1830s. The lives of Kalymnian ship captains, investors, divers, and the women of Kalymnos were directly impacted by the sponge trade, which informed virtually every aspect of daily life on the island, from the long tradition of diving associated with Kalymnos, to domestic economies based on this highly dangerous, often fatal occupation, which in turn gave rise to cycles of permanent debt. At the same time, Kalymnian sponging funded schools and public institutions on the island and inspired cultural production, from the “traditional” dance of the paralyzed sponge diver to novels, short stories, poetry and songs about the tragic lives of divers and the captains who exploited them.

Bio

Joyce Goggin is Associate Professor at the UvA (Dept. of English Language and Culture). She has published several edited books and numerous articles on a wide range of topics including “Sponging and the Island of Kalymnos: Rural, Industrial, Global”, in *Rural Imaginations for a Globalized World* (Brill 2025). She is the editor of *Aegean Sponge Fishing and the Island of Kalymnos: An Ethnography and Industrial History* (Brill 2024), and her most recent work on popular culture will be published in *Taylor Swift and Fandom: Aesthetics, Addiction, Im(media)cy, Performance, Economy*, edited with Maryn Wilkinson, and forthcoming with Palgrave in 2026. Goggin’s work on Edith Wharton and *The House of Mirth* will also be published in 2026 with Boydell and Brewer, in *Women, Money, and Markets*, a collection of essays of which she is also co-editor.

Varialezing 6: 7 november 2025

Boekpresentatie: Vrouwen en materiële cultuur in het 17^e-eeuwse Kreta: Inzichten uit de Venetiaanse notariële archieven

Spreker: Dr. Tatiana Markaki, Program Director Modern Greek Studies, Universiteit van Amsterdam

Datum en tijd: 7 november 2025, 3:30 uur

Location: University of Amsterdam, PCH building, Spuistraat 134, Amsterdam, room 1.05

Taal: Nederlands

Abstract

De lezing behandelt de voornaamste bevindingen uit mijn monografie: *Women and material culture in 17th-century Crete. Insights from the Venetian notarial archives*. (Alexandros Press, Leiden 2025). Het boek onderzoekt de materiële cultuur van vrouwen op Kreta onder Venetiaans bestuur en draagt bij aan ons begrip van de materiële wereld van vrouwen in het vroegmoderne Mediterrane gebied. De grondige analyse van huwelijkscontracten en bijbehorende inventarissen van roerende goederen uit het Staatsarchief van Venetië, biedt interessante inzichten in de bezittingen van bruiden. De gedetailleerde beschrijvingen en de waardering van die goederen onderscheiden de Kretenzische inventarissen van soortgelijke bronnen in Europees onderzoek naar materiële cultuur. De kwantitatieve en kwalitatieve analyse van deze bruidsschatobjecten uit Candia (het huidige Heraklion) en het omliggende platteland onthult patronen in de materiële huishoudcultuur en belicht de verbanden tussen materiële objecten, immateriële cultuur en vrouwelijke identiteiten. Diverse cruciale thema's, waaronder praktijken van toe-eigening en culturele overdracht, consumptiepatronen en duurzaamheid, vrouwelijke waarden en de aanwezigheid van luxe worden besproken. Door zich voornamelijk te concentreren op vrouwen uit de midden- en lagere sociale strata, biedt het archiefmateriaal unieke inzichten in de materiële keuzes van een demografische groep die doorgaans onderbelicht blijft in de historiografie.

Bio:

Tatiana Markaki is universitair docent *Cultural Heritage and Language* bij de afdeling Moderne Vreemde Talen en Culturen van de Faculteit Geesteswetenschappen van de UvA en programmateamleider van de opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur van dezelfde universiteit. Ze is geboren in Heraklion, Kreta, en studeerde geschiedenis en archeologie aan de Universiteit van Athene, piano aan het Nationaal Conservatorium van Athene, en Helleense Studies aan de UvA. In het Staatsarchief van Venetië verrichtte zij onderzoek naar aspecten van de sociaal-economische geschiedenis en de cultuurgeschiedenis van Kreta in de 16e en 17e eeuw. Haar onderzoek richt zich op de materiële cultuur en de vrouwelijke identiteit in de 17e eeuw in de Venetiaanse koloniën in de Griekse wereld.

Varialezing 7: 28 november 2025

Panel discussie: Fragments, Clues, and Surprises in Literary Biographies: Writing Cavafy's Life

Sprekers:

- Prof. Dr. Gregory Jusdanis, Ohio State University
- Dr. Koen Hilberdink, biographer
- Prof. Dr. Maria Boletsi, Marilena Laskaridis Chair, University of Amsterdam

Datum en tijd: 28 november 2025, 17.00 uur

Locatie: SPUI25, Amsterdam

Taal: Engels

Organisatie: Dit evenement wordt gesponsord door het NGNS, de Faculteit der Geesteswetenschappen van de Universiteit van Amsterdam en the National Research School for Literary Studies (OSL).

Description

Literary biographies have long fascinated the public, as they have offered glimpses into the hidden or lesser-known aspects of writers' lives. But how do you write an author's life, especially when it is marked by silences, gaps, and fragmentary records? What are the challenges, thrills, and choices involved in the process of biography-writing?

The springboard for this event is the recent publication of *Alexandrian Sphinx: The Hidden Life of C. P. Cavafy* (Simon & Schuster, 2025) co-authored by Gregory Jusdanis and Peter Jeffreys. The book sheds new light on the most celebrated modern Greek poet, Constantine Cavafy, whose work has secured a central place in world literature. Cavafy (1863–1933), a homosexual diasporic Greek poet based in Alexandria, Egypt, has inspired generations of readers, yet until now his only biography was Robert Liddel's volume from 1974. The publication of this new biography is a major literary event that has already attracted wide and enthusiastic reviews in the press, from the *Wall Street Journal* to the *Guardian*.

At this event, author Gregory Jusdanis will read excerpts from the biography together with a selection of Cavafy's poems. He will then join literary biographer Koen Hilberdink and Maria Boletsi in a conversation on the art of life-writing, reflecting on the challenges and unexpected discoveries that arise when narrating an author's life marked by silences, discontinuities, ambiguities, and fragmentary archives.

Biographical notes

Gregory Jusdanis

Born in Greece, Gregory Jusdanis emigrated to Hamilton, Ontario where he grew up and attended McMaster University. After studies in Germany and the UK, he came to Indiana for postdoctoral work. He has been teaching Modern Greek and Comparative Literature at the Ohio State University since 1987 and is author of six books. He lives in Columbus Ohio with his wife and has three adult children.

Koen Hilberdink

Koen Hilberdink is a biographer. He received his PhD in Maastricht in 2000 for his dissertation "I Am a Stranger. I Stand Apart," a biography of poet and essayist Paul Rodenko. He subsequently published biographies of the queer poet Hans Lodeizen and the Dutch publisher Johan Polak. In 2023, he published "Struggle for the Soul: The Life of P.C. Kuiper (1919–2002) in Psychiatry." In it, he also describes how homosexuality was interpreted from the perspective of psychoanalysis in the Netherlands and America after the Second World War. He is currently working on a biography of the renowned Dutch poet and psychiatrist Rutger Kopland, the pseudonym of Rudi van den Hoofdakker.

Maria Boletsi (moderator/organizer)

Maria Boletsi is Endowed Professor of Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam, where she holds the Marilena Laskaridis Chair, and Associate Professor in Literary Studies at Leiden University. She is author of *Barbarism and Its Discontents* (Stanford University Press 2013) and *Specters of Cavafy* (Michigan University Press 2024), and co-author of *Barbarian: Explorations of a Western Concept in Theory, Literature and the Arts* (Metzler, in 2 vols; 2018/2023).

Bijlage 2: Overige onderwijs- en onderzoeksactiviteiten

Internationale Examens KEF- certificaat examens Nieuwgrieks 2025

Periode: 20-22 mei 2025

Locatie: Amsterdam

Partners: KEF/Centre for the Greek Language, Thessaloniki, Het Griekse Ministerie van Onderwijs

Niveaus: A1, A2, B1, B2, C1, C2

Coördinator in Nederland: D. Moysiadou

De examens worden georganiseerd door KEF (Κέντρο Ελληνικής Γλώσσας: Centrum voor de Griekse Taal) te Thessaloniki. De opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur van de UvA en het NGNS faciliteren het afnemen van de examens in Nederland in opdracht van KEF. De opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur van de UvA fungeert als examencentrum in Nederland.

Evenementen in het kader van de Marilena Laskaridis Leerstoel, Marilena Laskaridis Research Fellowships

I. Call for applications M. Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellowships 2026-2027

Datum: 21 december 2024

Titel: 8th annual CALL FOR APPLICATIONS for the Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellowships in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam for the academic year 2026 -2027.

These annual fellowships, established in 2019, are sponsored by the Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation and are offered for research situated in (but not limited to) the field of Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam. The fellowships are offered on a competitive basis and by application. For the academic year 2026-2027 one fellowship will be offered to an early-career scholar (with a Ph.D. not earlier than 2020) for a period of 5 months, either in the fall or the spring semester. Deadline for applications: 2nd March 2026.

For more information and the call for applications, see [here](#):

II. Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellowships in Modern Greek Studies 2025-2026

The Marilena Laskaridis Fellowships 2025-2026 were awarded to the following two colleagues, who joined the Modern Greek Studies team at the University of Amsterdam in the academic year 2025-2026:

Regina Mantanika:

Project title: *Repertoires of De-industrialization in Southeastern Europe (ReDSE)*

Summary

This project builds on previous collaborative work on the region of Eleusina in Greece, exploring (de)industrialization and collective memory through a community-based, interdisciplinary approach (oral history, digital humanities, visual arts, and public anthropology). The current project seeks to expand previous research by extending to other Greek cities such as Patras and Volos, and potentially to de-industrialized areas in Serbia, establishing a network of cities in Southeastern Europe that share post-industrial trajectories. A central focus of the project draws on the concept of *de-industrial heritage*, which serves as a framework for analyzing specific social and historical realities. While industrialization focuses on the past, de-industrialization emphasizes the political processes shaping the present. De-industrial heritage refers to both the preservation of industrial sites and the cultural memories of industrial communities. In theorizing these empirical insights, the project engages with key analytical frameworks: the notion of *repertoire*, which approaches the

archive as an ongoing, performative conversation, and the concept of *archival trouble*, which examines how aesthetic and narrative reframing of industrial heritage reshape political and historical understandings—highlighting the ways history persists in the everyday.

Biographical note

Regina Mantanika holds a PhD in Social Anthropology and Sociology from the University Paris 7 Diderot – Sorbonne Paris Cité, where she researched the transformations of the migratory landscape in Greece, focusing on border areas and port cities. Her research and teaching interests include migration and space, borders, institutional change, urban exclusion, and the intersections of mobility and settlement. More recently, her work has centered on Elefsina, examining its industrial heritage and de-industrialized present. She has taught at the Hellenic Open University, the University of Vienna, and the University of Macedonia, and the University of Panteion and has published in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes in English, French, and Greek.

Amanda Kubic

Project title: *Choreographing a Modern Greek Nation: Koula Pratsika, ΚΣΟΤ, and their Afterlives*

Summary

This project focuses on the twentieth-century Greek choreographer Koula Pratsika and her National Dance School in Athens: Η Κρατική Σχολή Ορχηστρικής Τέχνης (ΚΣΟΤ). Drawing on original archival work, I study how Koula Pratsika’s modern choreographies, performances at specific archaeological sites in Athens, and innovative dance philosophies shaped developing senses of Greek national identity in the twentieth century. I explore Pratsika and ΚΣΟΤ’s ideological and symbolic relationships to Greece as a modern nation with shifting borders and political regimes and Pratsika’s efforts to build creative woman-centered communities, whose primary purpose was to cultivate the mind and body through dance, music, eurythmics, and philosophy. In her development of Greek dance, Pratsika puts Greek women at the forefront of international conversations about aesthetics, performance, education, and employment in the arts. Yet Pratsika also reaffirms autocratic discourses about Greek cultural continuity and state projects of archaeological monumentalization, preservation, and purification, cultivating a distinctly nationalist ethos via a search for an “essential Greekness” that unites Greece’s people and its artistic practices throughout the centuries. This project also looks to contemporary dancers trained at Pratsika’s school who have since emerged onto the international dance scene and taken Pratsika’s performance philosophies in new directions.

Biographical note

Amanda Kubic completed her PhD in Comparative Literature at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 2025. She holds MAs in Ancient Greek and Classics from The University of Michigan and Washington University in St. Louis, as well as a graduate certificate in Women’s and Gender Studies. Amanda’s dissertation *Animating Antiquity: Classical (Dis)embodiments by Modern Women* maps out an original multimedia network of poetic texts, dances, visual art, and audio-visual installations by twentieth and twenty-first-century Greek and Anglo-American women artists and gender diverse collectives to argue for their performance of “classical (dis)embodiment” via fragmentation, metamorphosis, the phantom/*eidolon*, and the chorus. She has presented work at several conferences in the US and abroad and has published work in the journal *Modernism/modernity* and in the volume *Classical Reception: New Challenges in a Changing World* (Eds. Bakogianni and Gomez). Amanda is the current Graduate Student Representative for the Modern Greek Studies Association.



YEARLY REPORT 2025

**MARILENA LASKARIDIS CHAIR OF
MODERN GREEK STUDIES**

Prof. Dr. Maria Boletsi



1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025

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1. TEACHING & SUPERVISION

A. TEACHING AT THE UVA

- **Spring 2025:** I taught a class in the BA course “**Travel, Nostalgia and Cultures of Resistance in the Mediterranean**”, part of the BA in Modern Greek Language and Culture. Class topic: “The Greek World through Travellers’ Eyes.”
- **Fall 2022:** I taught the Master’s course “**Crisis and Alternative Languages in Literature and Art: Greece, the Mediterranean and Beyond**”

This course was offered as a **specialization course for Modern Greek** within the **MA Literature, Culture and Society**

(see here: <https://www.uva.nl/en/programmes/masters/literature-culture-and-society-literary-studies/study-programme/specialisations/specialisations.html>) and as an **elective** for several Master’s programs in the Humanities. The course was taken by 17 students in 2025 and received excellent evaluations (**Student evaluations:** course score 4.8/5.0; instructor score 4.9/5.0)

- **Fall 2025:** I taught 2 classes in the BA course “**The Mediterranean and Europe: Contacts, Conflicts, Confluences**” part of the minor program “Mediterranean Studies” and the BA in Modern Greek Language and Culture; Class topic: “Cultural Confluences and Nationalist Feuds in the Balkans and the Mediterranean.” (**Student evaluations:** instructor score: 4.6/5).

B. SUPERVISION

PhD projects

In 2025, I supervised a total of 16 PhD candidates across the UvA, Leiden University and University of Oslo.

One of my PhDs at the University of Amsterdam, Vasilis Alexiadis (co-promotor: Dr. Boris Noordenbos), successfully defended his PhD in October 2025.

Title: *Conspiring against the Nation: Orthodox Christianity and Prophetic Discourses in Greece.*

Funding: 3-year PhD fellowship by the Laskaridis Foundation (2021-2024)

PhD supervision in progress at the UvA

1. **Angeliki Mousiou** (with Prof. Dr. Takis Kayialis).
Title: *Biographical constructions of C. P. Cavafy and the Making of his Literary Persona(s).*
2. **Katerina Kallivrousi** (with Dr. Eva Fotiadi and Dr. Kristina Gedgaudaite)
Title: *Greekness and Crisis: Decolonial Perspectives and Alternative Futurities in the Visual Arts, Film and Performance during the Greek Crisis.*
3. **Linda Xheza:** (with dr. Tatiana Markaki)
Topic: *Representation of the Refugee Crisis on the Greek Media.*
4. **Parvez Alam, ASCA** (with Dr. Joost de Bloois and Dr. Yaniv Hagbi)
Title: *Genealogy of Now-Time: An Analysis of Eschatological Representations of the Present*
5. **Emre Güler, ASCA** (with Prof. Dr. Ernst van Alphen and dr. Cimen Gunay Erkol)
Title: *Masculinity Crises in 60s Novels: A Blast from the Past?*
6. **Yiorgos-Evgenios Douliakas, ASCA** (with Dr. Yasco Horsman)
Title: *Mediating Justice: Politics, Media, Theatre and Law in the Golden Dawn Trial in Greece.*

7. **Vagia Kalfa, ASCA** (with Prof. Dr. Elissavet Arseniou)
Title: *Deviant bodies: Politics of affect and dehumanization in contemporary Greek literature.*
8. **Despoina Pavlidou** (with Dr. Tatiana Markaki)
Title: *A comparative study of the political orientations and ideologies of the Caucasus Pontic Greeks and the western Pontic Greeks prior to 1923*
9. **Anthi Argyriou, ASCA** (with Prof. Dr. Esther Peeren)
Title: *Mediterranean Drifts: Mobility and Migration in Speculative Fiction-Based Contemporary Art.*

Master

In 2025 I supervised **2 MA theses** and acted as **2nd reader** to **one MA thesis**:

Research fellows supervision

Research fellows

In 2025 I acted as main contact for two **Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellows** in Modern Greek Studies, recipients of the 6th round and 7th round of the fellowships, respectively:

1. **Dr. Christopher Jotischky** (junior fellowship)
Project title: "Joking with *Katharevousa*: Linguistic Archaism and Humour in Nineteenth-century Greek Prose."
2. **Dr. Regina Mantanika** (senior fellowship)
Project title: "Repertoires of De-industrialization in Southeastern Europe"
For **information** about current and previous fellows see:

<https://aihr.uva.nl/about-aihr/funding/marilena-laskaridis-fellowships/current-and-former-laskaridis-fellows.html>

Upcoming postdoctoral supervision

In February 2026, we received the news that our former Laskaridis fellow, Dr. Spiros Chairetis has been awarded a **Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual Fellowship for a 2-year postdoctoral project at the UvA** under the supervision of the Marilena Laskaridis Chair. Dr. Chairetis will start working on his 2-year postdoctoral fellowship at the UvA in September 2026.

2. RESEARCH

A. PUBLICATIONS

PUBLISHED IN 2025 OR IN PRESS

ACADEMIC

Special journal issues & encyclopaedias (editorship)

- **[encyclopedia section]** Maria Boletsi and Kristina Gedgaudaite (section editors). *Mixed Media and Public Art*. Section of *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Cultural Heritage and Conflict*. Ed. by Ihab Saloul and Britt Baillie. Palgrave, 2025.
- **[special issue]** Maria Boletsi, Florian Lippert, and Dimitris Soudias (eds). *New Normals, New Weirds: Cultures and Politics of (Ab)Normality in Contemporary Europe*. Special issue. *parallax* 31.2 (2025) (in press; forthcoming spring 2026)

Book chapter

- Maria Boletsi. "Grammar and Its Political Affordances: The Resonance of the Middle Voice from the Greek Crisis Decade to 'Post-Crisis' Imaginaries." In *Memory and the Language of Contention*. Ed. by Sophie van den Elzen and Ann Rigney. Leiden: Brill. 248-281, 2025. (peer-reviewed, open access) https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004692978_013

Encyclopedia entry

- Maria Boletsi and Kristina Gedgaudaite. "Introduction to Section Mixed Media and Public Art." In *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Cultural Heritage and Conflict*. Ed. by Ihab Saloul and Britt Baillie. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham, 2025. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-61493-5_291-1

Peer-reviewed articles

- Maria Boletsi and Dimitris Soudias. "The Weird Turn: Spillovers of Weird Fiction into Ecology and Economy." Special issue *New Normals, New Weirds: Cultures and Politics of (Ab)normality in Contemporary Europe*. Edited by Maria Boletsi, Florian Lippert, and Dimitris Soudias. *parallax* 31.2 (2025) (in press; forthcoming spring 2026)
- Maria Boletsi, Florian Lippert, and Dimitris Soudias. "New Normals, New Weirds: Contemporary Cultures and Politics of (Ab)Normality." Special issue *New Normals, New Weirds: Cultures and Politics of (Ab)normality in Contemporary Europe*. Edited by Maria Boletsi, Florian Lippert, and Dimitris Soudias. *parallax* 31.2 (2025) (forthcoming spring 2026).

POPULAR

Online publications

- **[blog essay]** Maria Boletsi. "Cavafy, Poetry, and Haunting." *Greek Studies Now Book-Self*. 25 July 2025. <https://gc.fairead.net/specters-cavafy>

Interviews & podcasts

- **[interview]** "An Agora of Ideas: Seeger Center Director Dimitri Gondicas in Conversation with Maria Boletsi." *Director's Bookshelf*, Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies, Princeton University. 13 February 2025. <https://hellenic.princeton.edu/directors-bookshelf-maria-boletsi>
- **[podcast]** Maria Boletsi & Ilios Willemars. "Nicast Episode 9: "Insular Imagination and Thinking with Concepts." Podcast series of Netherlands Institute for Cultural Analysis (NICA). Hosted by Pepita Hesselberth Joost de Bloois. November 2025. <https://www.nica-institute.com/nicast-episode-9-insular-imagination/>

B. FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

SUBMITTED & ACCEPTED

Book chapters

- **[accepted]** Maria Boletsi. “Το Χαμένο Νησί του Μ. Καραγάτση ως αλλοκοτοπία” [M. Karagatsis’s *The Lost Island* as a Weird Utopia]. *Proceedings of the Scientific Meeting «Η μυθοπλασία του φανταστικού σήμερα: θεωρητικές (επανα)προσεγγίσεις και συγκριτολογικές αναγνώσεις»* [Fiction of the Fantastic Today: Theoretical (Re)Approaches and Comparative Readings]. Ed. by Ioanna Naoum, Alexandra Rasidaki, Álvaro García Marín, Yiannis Markopoulos, Maria Georgoula, and Panayiotis Lygouris. Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (online; forthcoming)
- **[accepted]** Maria Boletsi. “The Weird Humanism of Phoebe Giannisi’s *Chimera*: On the Nomoi of Goats, Humans, and Other Chimeric Beings.” In *Chimeric Ecologies: The Poetry of Phoebe Giannisi*. Ed. by Laura Jansen and Vassilis Lambropoulos. Ann Arbor: The University of Michigan Press (forthcoming). [peer-reviewed]
- **[accepted by editors]** Maria Boletsi, Anumitha John, and Teodora Slijepčević. “Weirding the Weather/Weathering the Weird: Reporting the Weather Otherwise in the Era of Global Weirding.” In *Possible Worlds: Environment, Community, Heterotopia*. Ed. by Luca Baratta and Simona Micali. University College London Press (forthcoming). [peer-reviewed]
- **[accepted]** Maria Boletsi. “Erring on the Side of Judgment? Political Philology and the Unbearable Fallibility of Crisis Narratives.” In *Aesthetics of Crisis*. Ed. Julia Tulke. The Digital Press at the University of North Dakota (forthcoming).

C. INVITED / KEYNOTE TALKS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

- **“From Crisis Ordinarity to a Weird Turn?”** Invited talk and roundtable discussion at seminar *Beyond Crisis? Greece, Europe, and the Global South*. Modern Greek Studies Seminar series of A.G. Leventis Centre for Greek Studies, University of Edinburgh, 3 December 2025.
- **“Beyond Island Utopias in the Mediterranean: Transscalar Narratives of Loss, Connection, and Sustainability.”** Invited presentation & roundtable discussion at workshop *Entangled Pasts, Living Presents: Heritage & the Mediterranean*, Dept. of Social and Cultural Anthropology, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, 5 November 2025.
- **“Historical Narratives of Barbarians and their Contemporary Afterlives, from the End of the Cold War to Post-Truth Politics.”** Keynote lecture at workshop *Philosophy of Barbarism*. Philosophy department, University of Warwick, 7 May 2025.
- **“Specters of Cavafy.”** Talk at event *Cavafy and His Specters*, on the occasion of the publication of *Specters of Cavafy*. Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, Oxford University, 23 May 2025.
- **“[Specters of Cavafy by Maria Boletsi in conversation with Will Stroebel](#).”** Presentation and discussion of my book *Specters of Cavafy*, Modern Greek Program, University of Michigan, 28 May 2025 (virtual). Event recording: <https://vimeo.com/1110112430>
- **“Impossible Maps, Weird Geographies: Lost, Disappearing, and Digital Islands in Real Life, Literature and Virtual Reality.”** *ACLA (American Comparative Literature Association) 2025 Annual Meeting*, seminar “Impossible Islands: Thinking the Fictional, the Real and the Virtual in Times of Ecocide” (virtual), 30 May 2025.
- **“Towards an Ethics of Weird Humanism.”** Keynote lecture at the symposium *Meditations on Malevolence*. Netherlands Research School for Literary Studies (OSL), Utrecht University, 31 January 2025.
- **“Weirding Island Utopias: From Karagatsis’s *The Lost Island* (1942) to Schalansky’s ‘Tuanaki’ (2018).”** *2025 Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Convention*; panel “Reading Pre/Posterously: Modern Greek Literature through Queer, Weird, and Ecocritical Lenses.” New Orleans, USA, 11 January 2025.

D. FELLOWSHIPS & FUNDING ACQUISITION

Awarded

- **MGSA Innovative Initiatives Grant (\$1000**, awarded in December 2025). Grant by the Modern Greek Studies Association for the collaborative project “Beyond Island Utopias: Transscalar Narratives of Loss, Connection, and Sustainability on Tilos island.” Team: Maria Boletsi; Nikolas Kakkoufa (Columbia U), Geli Mademli (U of Amsterdam), Ilios Willemars (Leiden U). Grant for building the project’s website.
- **Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual Fellowship** [awarded February 2026].
Applicant: Dr. Spiros Chairetis; **Supervisor:** Prof. dr. M. Boletsi.
Starting date: 1 September 2026, University of Amsterdam (duration: 24 months)
Project title: “TvFIGURES: Fatness and/in Greek Television Fiction (1989-2024): Representation, Production, and Audience Engagement”

E. ORGANIZATION OF EVENTS

- [**public event**] **Fragments, Clues, and Surprises in Literary Biographies: Writing Cavafy’s Life**. Panel discussion with biographers Gregory Jusdanis and Koen Hilderdink on the occasion of the publication of Cavafy’s new biography, *Alexandrian Sphinx*, by Gregory Jusdanis and Peter Jeffreys. Amsterdam, SPU125, 28 November 2025. <https://www.spui25.nl/programma/fragments-clues-and-surprises-in-literary-biographies-writing-cavafys-life>
- [**masterclass & public lecture**] Co-organization of the masterclass and public lecture **Filming in European Cities: Rethinking Methodology in Film & Visual Studies** by Prof. Dr. Ipek Celik. Netherlands Institute for Cultural Analysis (NICA), 25 September 2025. <https://www.nica-institute.com/event-filming-in-european-cities-rethinking-methodology-in-film-visual-studies-public-lecture-and-masterclass/>
- [**conference seminar**] Co-organization of **ACLA seminar Impossible Islands: Thinking the Fictional, the Real and the Virtual in Times of Ecocide**, ACLA (American Comparative Literature Association) Annual Meeting (virtual), 30 May-1 June 2025. <https://www.acla.org/virtual-conference/session/impossible-islands-thinking-the-fictional-the-real-and-the-virtual-in-times-of-ecocide>
- [**conference panel**] Co-organization (with Karen Emmerich and Nikolas Kakkoufa) of 2025 **MLA Annual Convention panel Reading Pre/Posterously: Modern Greek Literature through Queer, Weird, and Ecocritical Lenses**. New Orleans, USA, 11 January 2025.

F. COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS, NETWORKS & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS (active in 2025)

1. Co-leader of Oxford-Amsterdam network “Greek Studies Now”

This network, initiated in 2020 by myself, Prof. Dimitris Papanikolaou (Oxford), and dr. Kristina Gedgudaite (University of Vienna), creates an institutional bridge between the programs in Modern Greek Studies of Oxford University and the University of Amsterdam.

In 2025, the network’s activities included:

- **A two-day event celebrating 5 years from its foundation**, comprising a **book launch and colloquium** at Oxford University, 23-24 May 2025. <https://gc.fairead.net/greek-studies-now-a-two-day-programme>
- **Publication of several blog essays and book reviews** presenting new work in Modern Greek Studies: <https://gc.fairead.net/blog>

2. Co-leader of ASCA Research group “Crisis, Critique, and Futurity”, with Dr. Eva Fotiadi. The group brings together PhD students, postdoctoral fellows, and some experienced scholars working on topics related to modern Greek culture. See: <https://asca.uva.nl/content/research-groups/crisis/crisis.html>

In 2025, the group held **meetings** once every 2 months and discussed work-in-progress by group members. With a core of ca. 15 members, the group is a dynamic hub for a community of scholars in Modern Greek Studies in the Netherlands and beyond.

3. “The Weird Turn: Towards a Politics of Weird Humanism in Times of Ecocide.”

This project started in 2021, both individually and collaboratively through my collaboration with Dr. Florian Lippert and Dr. Dimitris Soudias within a NIAS theme-group fellowship in 2022 (*The Politics of (De)familiarization: The Common and the Strange in Contemporary Europe*). In January 2025, I submitted an ERC-Consolidator grant application on this project, which was not awarded, and intend to resubmit in 2027. With Dr. Lippert and Dr. Soudias (former Laskaridis fellow), we edited a special journal issue on the topic (in press by the journal *parallax*).

4. “Beyond Island Utopias: Transscalar Narratives of Loss, Connection, and Sustainability on Tilos Island.” Maria Boletsi; with Nikolas Kakkoufa (Columbia U), Geli Mademli (U of Amsterdam), Ilios Willemars (Leiden U).

Project description: This new collaborative interdisciplinary project, for which we recently received an MGSA Innovative Initiatives Grant, seeks to develop innovative ways of narrating Tilos’s layered histories of migration, species extinction, sustainability, and cultural and ecological loss. The project focuses on the Aegean island of Tilos that recently became the Mediterranean’s first and only “energy autonomous” island and has been celebrated as an “eco-utopia”—a model of sustainability, innovation, and ecotourism. While recognizing Tilos’s achievement, the project re-examines the island’s utopian framing, aiming to generate narratives that connect Tilos’s ecological transition to entangled human and nonhuman (hi)stories of biodiversity and extinction, cultural memory, migration, and ecological change. Through academic and creative methods of knowledge production, the project will offer critical understandings of preservation and sustainability, that reckon with loss to highlight interdependence rather than insularity.

Output and activities in 2025: In 2025 we **designed** the project, conducted **fieldwork** on Tilos (June 2025), and produced creative output. We are currently organizing the **workshop “Island Echographies”** to test the methodology of the project, to be held in Leiden in April 2026. We are currently designing the project’s website.

5. *Insular Imaginaries*. Book project with Dr. Ilios Willemars.

Description: *Insular Imaginaries* draws attention to islands as figures and spaces of mediation, negotiation and entanglement. A long-standing Western tradition in island-thinking has taken islands as sedentary, fixed in space and time, and isolated, self-sufficient entities. Challenging this tradition, we propose islands as exemplary sites for rethinking the complexity of intersecting crises and developing alternative future visions of co-existence on a damaged planet. In the project, we stage interdisciplinary conversations between literary, actual, speculative, weird, virtual, digital, spectral, disappeared or disappearing islands that help us read reality, fictionality and virtuality through each other and rethink figurative uses of islands through the materiality of islandic climate catastrophes. My part in this project involves, among others, case studies from Greece.

The project's main output will be a co-authored **book**. In 2025, we wrote 2 chapters of the book.

6. Coordinator of OSL research group "Crisis and Critique: Rethinking Europe and the Global South" (since 2021): see

<https://www.oslit.nl/crisis-and-critique-rethinking-europe-and-the-global-south/>

G. SERVICE TO THE FIELD: EDITORIAL & ADVISORY BOARDS, COMMITTEES, EVALUATION TASKS

Editorial, Advisory and Governing Boards (active in 2025)

- **External member of the Governing Council of Hellenic Open University** (elected; since June 2024)
- **Member of Scientific Council of Netherlands Institute in Athens (NIA)** (since January 2024)
- **Member of International Scientific Committee of C.P. Cavafy Archive**; Onassis Foundation, Athens, Greece (since August 2023)
- **Member of Advisory Board of the Dutch Research Council (NWO), Domain Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), Roundtable Cultural Sciences and Linguistics** (since December 2021)
- **Advisory Board** of book series 'Greek-Modern Intersections,' Michigan University Press (since January 2023)
- **Co-founder & Co-editor** of *Greek Studies Now: A Cultural Analysis Network* website (including Blog & Reviews section) (since 2020)
- **Chair of the Advisory Board** of the Netherlands Research School for Literary Studies (OSL) (since September 2019)
- **Advisory Board** of the *Journal of Greek Media and Culture* (since January 2019)
- **Editorial Board** of book series *Thamyris/Intersecting: Place, Sex and Race*, Brill Publishing (since 2015)

Selection committees and evaluation tasks in 2025

- **Search Committee member** for Stavros Niarchos Foundation Bywater and Sotheby Professorship of Byzantine and Modern Greek Language and Literature, Oxford University. Selection process completed in May 2025.
- **Selection committee** for "Laskaridis visiting research fellowships in Modern Greek studies," Faculty of Humanities, University of Amsterdam (April 2025)
- **Peer-reviewer** of manuscripts for the journals *Memory, Mind and Media* (November 2025) and *Journal of Greek Media and Culture* (December 2025)

PhD committees

In 2025, I served in 2 PhD committees.

5. RELATIONS WITH NGNS & AIKATERINI LASKARIDIS FOUNDATION

NGNS

Throughout 2025, I attended (and in some cases co-organized) activities by the Dutch Society for Modern Greek Studies, particularly the NGNS lecture series. Most events organized in the framework of the Marilena Laskaridis Chair are advertised through the NGNS website and mailing list and are open to NGNS members. The NGNS also kindly co-sponsored the public event *Fragments, Clues, and Surprises in Literary Biographies: Writing Cavafy's Life* that I organized with Prof. Gregory Jusdanis and dr. Koen Hilberdink at academic-cultural podium SPUI25.

I have regular contact with the NGNS board, which manages the finances of the Marilena Laskaridis Chair, and our collaboration remains excellent. I remain very grateful to the NGNS board members for facilitating the Chair's finances and their active and tireless support to the Chair.

Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation

1. Continuation of financial support for the second term of the Marilena Laskaridis Chair of Modern Greek Studies

The Laskaridis Foundation is currently financing the second 5-year term of the Marilena Laskaridis Chair (January 2023 - January 2028) with a total funding of €150.000 euro (for 0.3 fte).

2. Two Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellowships in Modern Greek Studies: 7th Round (2025-2026)

In 2025, the selection process for the 7th round of the *Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellows in Modern Greek Studies* took place at the University of Amsterdam (UvA). Through this fellowship program we have hosted a total of 15 fellows across the first seven rounds. The selected fellows—R. Mantanika (senior fellowship) and A. Kubic (junior fellowship)—conduct(ed) their research at our university in Fall 2025 and Spring 2026, respectively.

In 2026, the Foundation will subsidize the 8th round of visiting fellowships for the 2026–2027 academic year. This round will include one new junior fellowship, as well as support for a senior fellow (Merih Erol), whose fellowship was postponed to Fall 2026.

3. Defense of Laskaridis PhD fellow Vasilis Alexiadis:

On 29 October 2025, Vasilis Alexiadis successfully defended his PhD dissertation, *Conspiring against the Nation: Orthodox Christianity and Prophetic Discourses in Greece*, at the University of Amsterdam (promotors: M. Boletsi and B. Noordenbos). Dr. Alexiadis was the recipient of a three-year PhD fellowship (2021–2024) awarded by the Laskaridis Foundation in support of his doctoral research in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam.

A representative of the Foundation attended the PhD defense and a news item on the event was published on the Foundation's website:

<https://www.laskaridisfoundation.org/nea/ypostirixi-didaktorikis-diatrivis-tou-vasili-alexiadi-yptrofou-tou-idrymatos-aikaterinis-laskaridi/>.

Dr. Alexiadis completed his dissertation in under four years—a record time at our University. We are very grateful for the Foundation's support, which enabled Dr. Alexiadis to carry out his doctoral project, and their presence at the event.

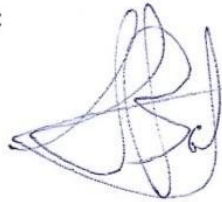
ALV NGNS

10 april 2026

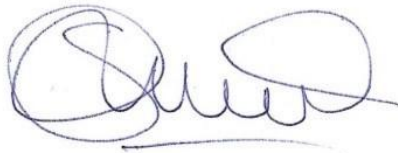
Inhoudelijk jaarverslag 2025

Na goedkeuring door de ALV, vastgesteld door het NGNS bestuur op 10-04-2026

Voorzitter dr. Arthur Bot



Vicevoorzitter drs. Shereen El Sherbini



Secretaris drs. Leandra Zoufoukaridis



Penningmeester a.i. dr. Hero Hokwerda

