

**Nederlands Genootschap voor Nieuwgriekse Studies (NGNS)**

**Dutch Society for Modern Greek Studies**

**Jaarverslag 2021**



**Rechtsvorm:** Vereniging met volledige rechtsbevoegdheid (vanaf 12 december 2016)

**RSIN:** 854292251 (ANBI registratie)

**Rekening nr. IBAN:** NL51ABNA 0608990086

**BIC:** ABNANL2A

**Inschrijving KvK Amsterdam:** 61307831

N.B. bovenstaande bankrekening wordt per 1 april 2022 opgeheven.

Vanaf 01-01-2022 heeft het NGNS een nieuwe rekening in gebruik:

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

### **Bestuur vanaf 2 december 2020 (tot en met december 2024)**

Voorzitter: Tatiana Markaki (hoofd van de opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur, UvA)

Vice-voorzitter: Arthur Bot (staflid opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur, UvA)

Penningmeester: Peter Bander (administrateur)

Secretaris: Leandra Zoulfoukaridis (beëdigd vertaler Grieks, tolk Grieks)

Bestuurslid: Shereen El Sherbini (beëdigd tolk/vertaler Grieks, journalist)

### **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 beide instituten in 2002 zijn samengevoegd; daarmee hield het Instituut in Groningen op te bestaan.

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

- 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.

### **Beleidsplan/Meerjarenplan 2017-2021**

Het NGNS heeft zich in de periode 2017-2021 enerzijds gericht op de stichting en onderhoud van de *Marilena Laskaridis Bijzondere Leerstoel Nieuwgriekse Studies* aan de UvA en anderzijds op de verdere versterking van de positie van de opleiding Nieuwgrieks binnen en buiten de UvA. De opleiding Nieuwgrieks van de UvA is een unicum in de Benelux en daarom de enige formele vertegenwoordiger van Griekenland en Cyprus op het gebied van het tertiair onderwijs en academisch onderzoek.

### **Verslag van de gerealiseerde activiteiten**

In 2021 kwam het bestuur twee keer bij elkaar.

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

1. de organisatie van een aantal culturele evenementen: zeven (7) lezingen (*Varialezingen*) (zie overzicht in **Bijlage 1**);
2. de organisatie van een aantal onderwijs- en onderzoeksactiviteiten (zie overzicht in **Bijlage 2**): vier (4) roundtables/webinars, het CENSUS-project en de M. Laskaridis onderzoeksbeurzen.
3. voortzetting van de samenwerking met de Universiteit Leiden omtrent de uitbetaling van de bijzonder hoogleraar prof. dr. M. Boletsi gedurende het kalenderjaar 2021;
4. versterking van de samenwerking met de Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation. Toekenning van **drie 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 2021-2022.

**Noot:** de meeste van de hierboven genoemde activiteiten moesten online gehouden worden vanwege de Covid-19 restricties (zie overzicht in **Bijlage 3**).

**Verslag van de activiteiten ondernomen in het kader van de Marilena Laskaridis Chair of Modern Greek Studies**

Alle activiteiten ondernomen in 2021 door de bijzonder hoogleraar prof. dr. M. Boletsi hebben bijgedragen aan de versterking van het onderwijsprofiel en het onderzoeksprofiel van de opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur binnen de Faculteit der Geesteswetenschappen van de UvA en daarbuiten (zie overzicht van activiteiten en onderzoeksoutput in het kader van de Marilena Laskaridis Chair in **Bijlage 4**).

Het curatorium van de leerstoel, ingesteld door de Universiteit van Amsterdam, zal het werk, verricht in het jaar 2021 in het kader van de bijzonder leerstoel, begin maart 2022 evalueren.

Staat van baten en lasten	Werkelijk 2021	Begroting 2021	Werkelijk 2020
<b>BATEN</b>			
<b>Directe opbrengsten</b>			
Contributie leden	1.965	2.000	1.925
Inkomsten certificaat examen	0	0	0
Workshops	0	0	0
Overige inkomsten*	0	0	0
<b>Totale directe opbrengsten</b>	<b>1.965</b>	<b>2.000</b>	<b>1.925</b>
<b>Indirecte opbrengsten</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Totale opbrengsten</b>	<b>1.965</b>	<b>2.000</b>	<b>1.925</b>
<b>Bijdragen uit private middelen</b>			
Bijdragen van particulieren incl. vriendenverenigingen	0	0	0
Bijdragen van Bedrijven	0	0	0
Overige bijdragen uit private middelen	0	0	0
<b>Totaal bijdragen uit private middelen</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Bijdragen uit publieke middelen</b>			
Incidentele subsidies overig	0	3.000	0
Meerjarige activiteitsubsidie	0	0	0
<b>Totaal bijdragen uit publieke middelen</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3.000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Totale Subsidies/Bijdragen</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3.000</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Totale Baten</b>	<b>1.965</b>	<b>5.000</b>	<b>1.925</b>
<b>Staat van baten en lasten (vervolg)</b>	<b>Werkelijk 2021</b>	<b>Begroting 2021</b>	<b>Werkelijk 2020</b>
<b>LASTEN</b>			
<b>Beheerlasten</b>			
Beheerlasten	1.239	1.370	1.317
<b>Totale Beheerlasten</b>	<b>1.239</b>	<b>1.370</b>	<b>1.317</b>
<b>Activiteitenlasten gewone bedrijfsvoering</b>			
Activiteitenlasten gewone bedrijfsvoering	675	1.200	670
<b>Totale Activiteitenlasten</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>1.200</b>	<b>670</b>
<b>Totale Lasten gewone Bedrijfsvoering</b>	<b>1.914</b>	<b>2.570</b>	<b>1.987</b>
<b>Resultaat gewone bedrijfsvoering</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>2.430</b>	<b>-62</b>
<b>Activiteitenlasten bijzondere leerstoel</b>			
Activiteitenlasten bijzondere leerstoel materieel	18.947	20.000	19.695
<b>Totale Activiteitenlasten bijz. leerstoel materieel</b>	<b>18.947</b>	<b>20.000</b>	<b>19.695</b>
<b>Totale lasten</b>	<b>20.861</b>	<b>22.570</b>	<b>21.682</b>
<b>Resultaat inclusief buitengewone bedrijfsvoering</b>	<b>-18.896</b>	<b>-17.570</b>	<b>-19.757</b>
Saldo rentebaten/-lasten	0	0	0
Saldo bijzondere baten en lasten	0	0	0
<b>Exploitatieresultaat</b>	<b>-18.896</b>	<b>-17.570</b>	<b>-19.757</b>

## **Toelichting op de jaarrekening 2021**

### **Aanvullende toelichting op afwijkingen tussen begroting en uiteindelijk resultaat.**

#### **Directe opbrengsten**

De directe opbrengsten bedragen € 1.965,- (ledencontributies). Deze zijn bijna gelijk als begroot.

#### **Subsidies/ Bijdragen**

De subsidies bedragen € 0. Deze zijn € 3.000 lager dan verwacht omdat de subsidie van het ministerie van Onderwijs en Cultuur van Cyprus is weggevallen (om dezelfde redenen als in 2020).

#### **Beheerlasten**

De beheerlasten bedragen totaal € 1.239. De totale lasten zijn lager omdat de post “contributie EENS + VVNIA” abusievelijk te hoog in de begroting 2021 was opgenomen. Tevens waren de lasten voor de post ‘Hosting Website’ wat hoger dan de begroting.

#### **Activiteitenlasten gewone bedrijfsvoering**

Activiteitenlasten gewone bedrijfsvoering bedragen totaal € 675.

De totale kosten zijn lager dan begroot omdat veel activiteiten online zijn aangeboden of geannuleerd zijn vanwege de Covid-19 restricties-

#### **Activiteitenlasten buitengewone bedrijfsvoering (kosten bijzondere leerstoel)**

De bijzondere leerstoel is per 1 januari 2018 ingesteld voor de duur van vijf jaar op initiatief en vanwege het NGNS. De totale lasten voor de bijzondere leerstoel ter dekking van de kosten die gemoeid zijn met de beschikbaarheid en uitoefening van de taken van de bijzonder hoogleraar bedragen € 100.000 en zijn in belangrijke mate gefinancierd door de Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation en donaties van het NGNS. Het totale bedrag is ultimo 2017 in een bestemmingsfonds toegevoegd. Elk jaar wordt er een bedrag van circa € 20.000,- onttrokken aan het bestemmingsfonds. Er is een contractuele verplichting met de Laskaridis Foundation en de UvA om met ingang van 1 januari 2018, voor vijf jaar, een bedrag ad circa € 20.000,- per jaar te besteden aan de bijzondere leerstoel.

Met de Universiteit Leiden en de Universiteit van Amsterdam is een overeenkomst tot stand gekomen voor het in stand houden van de bijzondere leerstoel. Er wordt met ingang van 1 januari 2018 voor vijf jaar een bedrag gefactureerd door de Universiteit Leiden aan het NGNS ad € 14.600,- voor de bekostiging van de leerstoel. Het NGNS heeft een bedrag ad circa € 5.400,- per jaar beschikbaar voor de kosten van de bijzondere leerstoel. Alle uitgaven ten behoeve van de bijzondere leerstoel komen ten laste van het betreffende bestemmingsfonds.

In 2020 is een extra bijdrage verleend door de Laskaridis Foundation ten behoeve van het "Oxford project". Dit bedrag ad € 4.000,- is ontvangen per bank in 2020 en toegevoegd aan het bestemmingsfonds. Tevens is in 2020 een innovatiebeurs van de Modern Greek Studies Association (MSGAs) ad € 827,- toegekend aan het “Amsterdam-Oxford netwerk” *Rethinking Modern Greek studies in the 21st century: A Cultural Analysis Network*. Ook dit bedrag is toegevoegd aan het bestemmingsfonds. De posten zijn niet in aparte bestemmingsfondsen opgenomen omdat deze bestemd

zijn voor projecten van de bijzondere leerstoel. Om de academische vrijheid te waarborgen worden alle projecten en bijbehorende kosten door de hoogleraar in overleg met het curatorium besteed en in het evaluatieverslag van de hoogleraar ten behoeve van het curatorium verantwoord.

**Specificatie besteding specifieke projecten:**

De kosten voor het Oxford project (inzake website-ontwikkeling) in 2021 zijn €1.066.

Samen met de overige kosten NGNS is in 2021 € 4.347 ten laste gebracht aan het bestemmingsfonds.

De kosten voor de Universiteit Leiden in 2021 zijn € 14.600.

Totaal is er in 2021 € 18.497 ten laste gebracht aan het bestemmingsfonds.

**Toelichting Resultaat**

Er is in 2021 een positief resultaat voor gewone bedrijfsvoering ad € 51,-.

Er is in 2021 een wat lager negatief resultaat ad € -18.947.

<b>Balans</b>		<b>31-12-21</b>			<b>31-12-20</b>
Na resultaatbestemming					
<b>Activa</b>					
Immateriële vaste activa		0			0
Materiële vaste activa		0			0
Financiële vaste activa		0			0
<b>Totale Vaste Activa</b>		<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>
Vorraden		0			0
Vorderingen		0			0
Effecten		0			0
Liquide middelen		36.246			56.834
<b>Totale Vlottende Activa</b>		<b>36.246</b>			<b>56.834</b>
<b>Totale Activa</b>		<b>36.246</b>			<b>56.834</b>
<b>Passiva</b>					
Algemene reserve		5.110			3.187
Bestemmingsreserve		4.424			6.296
Bestemmingsfonds		26.130			45.077
Overige bestemmingsfondsen		0			0
<b>Totaal Eigen vermogen</b>		<b>35.665</b>			<b>54.560</b>
Totale Voorzieningen		0			0
Totale Langlopende schulden		0			0
Totale Kortlopende schulden		581			2.274
<b>Totale Passiva</b>		<b>36.246</b>			<b>56.834</b>



## **Toelichting Balans**

### **Bestemmingsfonds**

Het bestemmingsfonds is opgesteld ter dekking van de kosten die met de uitoefening van de taken van de bijzonder hoogleraar prof. dr. M. Boletsi gemoeid zijn voor de jaren 2018 tot en met 2022. Elk jaar wordt er een bedrag van circa € 20.000,- onttrokken aan het bestemmingsfonds. Voor 2021 is dit bedrag € 18.947,- exact. Het totale bedrag dat binnen 5 jaar onttrokken zal worden aan het bestemmingsfonds zal het saldo van dit fonds geenszins overschrijden.

Het saldo van het bestemmingsfonds is ultimo 2021 € € 26.130,-.

### **Algemene reserve**

Het bestuur houdt een algemene reserve aan om eventuele tegenvallers te kunnen opvangen.

Het saldo is ultimo 2021 € 5.110,-.

### **Bestemmingsreserve**

De bestemmingsreserve wordt aangehouden voor de opleiding Nieuwgrieks (ter dekking van onderwijs- en onderzoekskosten die niet vergoed worden door de Faculteit Geesteswetenschappen). Het saldo van de bestemmingsreserve is ultimo 2021 € 4.424,-.

Deze is gelijkgesteld aan de specifieke opleidings-bankrekening.

### **Eigen Vermogen**

Er is ultimo 2021 een positief eigen vermogen van € 35.665,-. Het is de verwachting dat ultimo 2022 het eigen vermogen ook positief zal zijn. Het bestuur is van mening dat de continuïteit voor de komende jaren gewaarborgd is.

### **Extra noot op het jaarverslag**

Het kalenderjaar 2021 is vanwege de corona-epidemie weer een uitzonderlijk jaar geweest. Hierdoor hebben de meeste lezingen en evenementen die door het NGNS werden georganiseerd, noodgedwongen online plaatsgevonden. Het genootschap was ook beperkt in haar mogelijkheden activiteiten voor de leden te organiseren. De NGNS-dag die jaarlijks in het voorjaar wordt georganiseerd kon ook dit jaar geen doorgang vinden.

### **Leerstoel Marilena Laskaridis**

Naast de reguliere activiteiten van het NGNS blijft het faciliteren van de M. Laskaridis Leerstoel een belangrijke activiteit. De UvA is de enige universiteit in de Benelux waar de Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur bestudeerd worden. Om de continuïteit van de opleiding te bevorderen en het wetenschappelijk onderzoek van Nieuwgriekse studies aan de UvA te versterken heeft het NGNS in 2018 de instelling van de Marilena Laskaridis Bijzondere Leerstoel mogelijk gemaakt bij de Faculteit Geesteswetenschappen van de Universiteit van Amsterdam.

De eerste overeenkomst tussen het NGNS en de Laskaridis Foundation betrof de jaren 2018 tot en met 2022. De lasten zijn €14.600 (te voldoen aan de Universiteit Leiden), en de kosten €5.400 (te voldoen door het NGNS). Het totaal bedrag ad €20.000 komt ten laste van het betreffende bestemmingsfonds (voorziening). Het bestuur gaat in het nieuwe boekjaar deze post in een “voorziening bijzondere leerstoel” opnemen.

### **Verlenging benoeming bijzonder hoogleraar (conform de overeenkomst d.d. 24-12-2021)**

Het College van Bestuur zal naar verwachting conform het voorstel van de decaan van de Faculteit der Geesteswetenschappen van de UvA en gezien de positieve uitspraak van het curatorium de benoeming van prof. dr. Maria Boletsi tot bijzonder hoogleraar Nieuwgriekse studies aan de Faculteit der Geesteswetenschappen van de Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA) verlengen van 1 januari 2023 tot 1 januari 2028. De omvang van de benoeming zal wijzigen van 0,2 fte naar 0,3 fte.

Om aan de eis van de faculteit te voldoen zal er een bedrag van €30.000 per jaar gedurende vijf jaar beschikbaar gesteld worden ter dekking van de kosten die met de uitoefening van de taken van de bijzondere leerstoel gemoeid zijn, te besteden in overleg met het curatorium.

Inmiddels is er tussen het NGNS en de Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation een overeenkomst gesloten op 24 december 2021 voor de financiering van de bijzondere leerstoel voor een tweede termijn die loopt van 1 januari 2023 tot 1 januari 2028. De Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation zal €149.000 ter beschikking stellen en in 4 termijnen overmaken aan het NGNS. Het NGNS zal €1.000 in 2023 ten laste van de algemene reserve in een “voorziening bijzondere leerstoel” storten. De eerste betaling ad €59.600 van de Laskaridis Foundation wordt in oktober 2022 verwacht en ondergebracht in de voorziening bijzondere leerstoel.

De daaropvolgende drie jaar (2023, 2024, 2025) wordt door de Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation in oktober een bedrag van € 29.800 op de rekening van het NGNS gestort.

Met de Universiteit Leiden en de Universiteit van Amsterdam zal binnenkort een overeenkomst worden gesloten voor het in stand houden van de bijzondere leerstoel. Er wordt met ingang van 1 januari 2023 voor vijf jaar een bedrag gefactureerd door de Universiteit Leiden aan het NGNS ad € 24.000,- voor de bekostiging van de leerstoel. Het NGNS zal een bedrag ad circa € 6.000,- per jaar beschikbaar stellen voor de kosten en bijhorende projecten van de bijzondere leerstoel. Alle uitgaven ten behoeve van de bijzondere leerstoel komen ten laste van de betreffende voorziening bijzondere leerstoel.

In het kader van de bijzondere leerstoel worden door prof. dr. M. Boletsi diverse extra activiteiten georganiseerd. Onder andere, gaat het om twee onderzoeksbeurzen cq Visiting Research Fellowships per academisch jaar en een eenmalige promovendusbeurs voor promotieonderzoek (voor een periode van 3 jaar, sinds oktober 2021). De kosten die hiermee samenhangen, worden volledig gefinancierd door de Laskaridis Foundation en rechtstreeks aan de betreffende personen voldaan. Voor het NGNS brengen deze activiteiten geen kosten met zich mee.

## **Bijlage 1** **Culturele activiteiten (Varialezingen)**

### **1. Varialezingen georganiseerd door het NGNS in samenwerking met de opleiding Nieuwgriekse taal en cultuur van de UvA**

**Varialezing 1 /Bijzonder evenement: 27 maart 2021 (online vanwege Covid-restricties)**

**Title event:** *Ελλάδα 2021: Παρελθόν+Παρόν=Μέλλον*

The Dept. of Modern Greek Studies and the M. Laskaridis Chair of Modern Greek Studies of the University of Amsterdam participate with a panel with brief presentations in the celebratory online event *Ελλάδα 2021: Παρελθόν+Παρόν=Μέλλον* organized in The Netherlands on the occasion of the bicentenary of the Greek Revolution (1821). Organizer: *Het Griekse Huis* in Rotterdam.

Co-organizers: The Greek Embassy in the Netherlands, the Dept. and M. Laskaridis Chair of Modern Greek Studies, UvA, the dance group “Kaneloriza” in Rotterdam, the Amsterdam branch of Ahepa.

**Title panel UvA:** Ολλανδία και Ελλάδα: πολιτιστική διπλωματία στον αόρατο της Ελληνικής Επανάστασης

**Speakers:** **Dr. T. Markaki** (Dept. Chair of Modern Greek Studies), **Prof. Dr. M. Boletsi** (M. Laskaridis Chair, UvA), **Christina Ntaltagianni, MA**, Cultural heritage and education management researcher, Head of Content in *Clio Muse Tours* (on behalf of the Royal Embassy of the Netherlands in Athens).

**Location:** via the digital platform Zoom. Please register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/143334873465>

**Time panel UvA:** 12.30-13.30 (NL time)

**Language:** Greek

#### **Abstract**

The first two speakers, Dr. T. Markaki and Prof. Dr. M. Boletsi, will present five examples of cultural diplomacy projects concerning aspects of the Greek Revolution initiated or implemented by researchers affiliated with the Dept. of Modern Greek Studies and the M. Laskaridis Chair in close collaboration with several Dutch and Greek cultural and educational organizations. These initiatives aim to strengthen the Dutch-Greek cultural relations and are either implemented during the last 30 years or will be undertaken in the near future.

The third speaker, Ms. Christina Ntaltagianni, will discuss the topic: *The Dutch philhellenic movement: The rise and decline* using as example the *Clio Muse* digital tour. She will showcase the rise of the Dutch philhellenic movement, and its beneficial role in the Greek war of independence until its decline in 1829. This project is an initiative of the Royal Embassy of the Netherlands in Athens and it is under the auspices of the Bicentennial Initiative 1821-2021 Committee.

#### **Bio**

**Tatiana Markaki** is Senior Lecturer and Program Director of Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam. She is also Chair of the Dutch Society of Modern Greek Studies (NGNS), Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board (WAR) of the Netherlands Institute in Athens (NIA) and board member of the European Society of Modern Greek Studies (EENS). Her research focuses on aspects of cultural and socioeconomic history of the Greek World (in particular, Crete) under Venetian rule.

**Maria Boletsi** is Professor by special appointment at the University of Amsterdam (Marilena Laskaridis Chair of Modern Greek Studies) and Assistant Professor in Film and Comparative Literature

at Leiden University. She works in the fields of comparative literature, literary and cultural theory, conceptual history, and Modern Greek literature and culture.

**Christina Ntaltagianni** specializes in cultural heritage and education management (BA in *Archaeology & History*, University of Athens, MA in *Monuments Management* from the same University, and a MSc in *Build Environment: Sustainable Heritage*, University College London). She has participated in numerous cultural projects either as a liaison or as P.M in Greece, UK & Malta. Since 2005 she has worked in various organizations including museums and the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Tourism. As the Head of Content in *Clio Muse Tours*, she leads the research planning and creating process of new tours, coordinates customized cultural projects for Clio Muse clients, and the team for the H2020 RePast project.

**Variëlezing 2: 9 april 2021 (online vanwege Covid-restricties)**

**Title:** Universal Liberal Democracy, Global Capitalism and Hellenism at the End of History

**Speaker:** Dr. Despina Lalaki, Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellow in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam (2020-2021)

**Location:** <https://uva-live.zoom.us/j/85042839171>

(Meeting ID: 850 4283 9171)

**Language:** English

This event is also supported by Decolonizing Hellas (dēcolōnize hellás)

**Abstract**

To this day, Hellenism, a term largely used to describe the confluence of ancient Greek culture with Western modernity, conditions our cultural dispositions and political imagination. The paper explores its social history at the second half of the twentieth century at the trajectory of the post war Greek state re-building, cultural internationalism and market networks.

**Bio**

Despina Lalaki is a sociologist who works in the areas of historical and cultural sociology, social theory, American and Modern Greek Studies. For the current academic year, she is a Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellow in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam. Previously she held the M. Alison Frantz Fellowship at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 2019-2020. She has held teaching and research positions at the City University of New York-CUNY, New York University-NYU and the New School University, where she completed her Ph.D. in sociology. She has also studied History of Art and Architecture at SUNY-Binghamton University (M.A.) and Archaeology and Art History at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece (B.A.). Her publications include several articles in collective volumes and peer-reviewed journals while she often writes for non-academic audiences. Currently, she co-edits with Christos Mais a book entitled *The Battle of Ideas. Cultural Cold War and the Making of Liberal Democracy in Greece*, expected to be published in 2021 by Ψηφίδες publisher and she works on her monograph, *Digging for Democracy in Greece. Intra-Civilizational Processes During the American Century*.

**Variëlezing 3: 15 april 2021 (online vanwege Covid-restricties)**

**Title:** Modern Greek Literary Studies Lab: Archives—The Press [EATT] Goals and prospects

**Speaker:** Prof. Dr. Katerina Kostiou, Professor in the Dept. of Philology, University of Patras

**Location:** <https://uva-live.zoom.us/j/89141605288>

**Language:** Greek

**Abstract**

This talk aims to present the newly founded Lab of the Department of Philology of the University of

Patras, focusing on the research and publishing work done, the research activities in progress, as well as its future goals, concerning the systematic study of the small press and the editing of archival documents.

**Bio**

Katerina Kostiou is a Professor of Modern Greek Studies at the Department of Philology of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Studies of the University of Patras. She is also the director of the EATT Lab. For her published work see: <https://upatras.academia.edu/KaterinaKostiou>

**Variëlezing 4: 7 mei 2021 (online vanwege Covid-restricties)**

**Title:** The Undying Song: Writing the Homosexual Body in the long 19th Century and beyond

**Speaker:** Dr. Nikolas P. Kakkoufa, Columbia University; currently Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellow in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam (2020-2021)

**Location:** <https://uva-live.zoom.us/j/88607866042>

**Language:** English

**Abstract**

2021 marks the Bicentennial of the Greek Revolution with a plethora of activities and events that span the globe and explore its different aspects and connections to the Mediterranean, the world, and Greece today. What seems to be missing from most of these celebrations and academic events is an extensive discussion on the body itself. How are bodies produced, constructed, and regulated before, during, and after the Greek revolution? What is the difference between the way bodies – and desires – were inscribed and transcribed in the everyday life, the literary imagination, and the newly founded constitution and penal code? This talk will take Georgios Tertsetis as a starting point to explore the discourse on the homosexual body in the first half of the 19th century while also considering the possibilities of its reception in a present continuous tense.

**Bio**

Nikolas P. Kakkoufa (PhD, King's College London 2015) is a Lecturer in Modern Greek at the Department of Classics, the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Program in Hellenic Studies, and an Affiliate Faculty at the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Columbia University, New York. His courses range from beginners to advanced classes in language and culture and seminars on literature and sexuality.

His ongoing research projects focus on queer theory, on the image of the city in literature, and on the use of literature and translation pedagogy in second language acquisition. He has given presentations and has published papers on language pedagogy and on the work of Vitsenzo

Kornaros, Walt Whitman, Oscar Wilde, Kostis Palamas, C.P. Cavafy, Kostas Karyotakis, Nikolas Calas, Lefteris Poullos, Michalis Ganas, and others. He is currently writing a book tentatively titled 'Word is the flesh': The Body in the Work of Walt Whitman, Oscar Wilde, and C. P. Cavafy. During Spring 2021 he is a Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Amsterdam.

**Variëlezing 5: 28 mei 2021 (online vanwege Covid-restricties)**

**Title:** Memory work in protest movements: The case of the Greek 1960s

**Speaker:** Dr. Emilia Salvanou, Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellow in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam (2020-2021)

**Location:** <https://uva-live.zoom.us/j/86156066567>

**Language:** English

### **Abstract**

Protest movements of the 1960s are usually investigated in relation to their political, cultural and social aspects, with special attention to their generational characteristics. Nevertheless, although these student and youth movements were orientated towards the future, the past served as a distinct field of reference, upon which memory work was painstakingly undertaken. This work was a vital part of the protest. It was necessary, in order to overcome the burden of the mainstream narratives regarding the recent past and to create a receptive space for the agents and the ideas of the protest movements. In this presentation, I will focus on the Greek case, especially in the early 1960s, and explore how memory culture and youth culture became entangled in a way that eventually reshaped the field of political contestation, popularized the claims and shaped the historical culture that prevailed in the decades that followed.

### **Bio**

Emilia Salvanou is a historian of modern and contemporary history. She studied History at the University of Athens (1993), obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Aegean (2006), and completed her post-doctoral thesis at the University of Athens (2012). She has participated in various research projects with national and European funding and has lectured on Greek History (University of Thessaloniki), European History, and Public History (Hellenic Open University). Her latest affiliation was to Utrecht University, as a post-doc fellow in the research program “Remembering Activism: The cultural memory of protest in Europe.” She is the author of two monographs: *The shaping of refugee memory. The past as history and as practice* (in Greek, Athens: Nefeli 2018) and *How we learn about the past: History education, public history and historical culture* (in Greek, Athens: Asini 2021, forthcoming), and has published extensively in journals and edited volumes on topics of contemporary history, migration and refugeehood, memory, public history and historical culture.

### **Variëlezing 6: 29 oktober 2021 (eerste fysieke lezing na lange tijd!)**

**Title:** Bloemlezing van jonge Nederlandse dichters

**Speaker:** drs. Arthur Bot, docent Nieuwgrieks en Byzantinologie, UvA

**Location:** room 1.04, Spuistraat 134, Amsterdam.

**Language:** Dutch

### **Abstract**

Tijdens dit variacollege zal een presentatie worden gegeven van de in Griekenland uitgegeven tweetalige bundel *Αρθρολογία νέων ολλανδών ποιητών / Bloemlezing van jonge Nederlandse dichters*, een deel uit de serie *Jonge Europese dichters*, waarvan inmiddels al meer dan 40 bloemlezingen uit alle landen van Europa het licht hebben gezien.

Bijna alle dertien Nederlandse dichters uit deze bundel vertonen een gemeenschappelijke thematiek: de zoektocht naar een vorm van identiteit, zowel op nationaal als op persoonlijk niveau. De meeste jonge dichters schrijven over hun persoonlijke leefwereld met hun eigen blik op het bestaan en de kosmos. Het zoeken naar een eigen plek in en houding tegenover een wereld die gedomineerd wordt door het schijnbaar onomkeerbare neoliberalisme en het daarmee gerelateerde kapitalistische systeem, de automatisering en het Internet, de sociale media, de emigratiestromen, het (seksueel) misbruik, de klimaatproblematiek, de discriminatie en het racisme. In de gedichten vinden we de eenvoudige spreektaal naast lastig te doorgronden experimentele en hermetische poëzie, soms zelfs een ‘nieuwe’ taal, waar de Nederlandse taalregels niet meer geldig zijn.

Tijdens de lezing zal in het bijzonder worden stilgestaan bij problemen die de vertaalster Irini Papakyriakou en de samensteller/mentor Arthur Bot ondervonden bij het omzetten van deze poëzie naar het Nieuwgrieks.

## **Bio**

Arthur Bot is a translator and researcher / lecturer at the Department of Modern Greek Studies and Byzantinology at the University of Amsterdam, where he teaches modern Greek language and literature and Byzantine history. He also teaches Italian at the Department of European Studies. He has also done some classes on Contemporary Dutch Literature at the Department of Dutch Studies at the University of Amsterdam. He has taught Modern Greek Philology and Byzantine studies at the University of Groningen as well as Latin and Ancient Greek in high schools in the Netherlands. He has written articles and scientific studies on early modern Greek literature. He has published literary translations into Dutch from English, Italian and Greek. Among them is the important anthology of 50 short stories from modern Greek literature, that he published together with Anna Dekker (*Moderne Griekse vertellingen*, Dordrecht 2013). He is vice-president of the Dutch Society for Modern Greek Studies (NGNS).

## **Variëlezing 7: 8 december 2021 (online vanwege Covid-restricties)**

**Title:** The Emotional Politics of Fear: The visual language of anticommunism in post-war Greece

**Speaker:** Dr. Alexander Kazamias, Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellow in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam (2021-2022)

**Date/Time:** Wednesday December 8, 3.30-5.00 pm (CET)

**Location\*:** online (no registration needed). **Zoom link:** <https://uva-live.zoom.us/j/87012490249>

**Language:** English

**\*Please note:** This talk was originally scheduled to take place on campus but has now moved online due to extra Covid-19 restrictions.

## **Abstract**

This talk examines how visual media was used in Greece after the Civil War of 1944-49 to construct a regime of anticommunist fear. It focuses on the sizeable volume of propaganda imagery produced by the victors of the Civil War from the late 1940s to the fall of the Military Dictatorship in 1974, including posters, illustrations, book covers, photographs, stamps, and movies to demonize the left and spread mass terror around it. It argues that this anticommunist imagery patterned itself on older themes of negative othering embedded in Greek popular culture, using medieval and early modern tales of lycanthropy, Orientalism, Islamophobia, chauvinism, and gynophobia. Communists were depicted as monsters, beasts, barbarians, Muslims, Turks, Jews, unfeminine women and, sometimes, as Satan personified. Although anticommunism posited itself as an ideology and an intellectual critique, an analysis of its iconography suggests that it was essentially a power discourse of social stigmatization.

## **Bio**

**Alexander Kazamias** is a Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Amsterdam and Senior Lecturer in Politics at Coventry University. He is the author of *Greece and the Cold War: Diplomacy, Rivalry and Anti-Colonialism after the Civil Conflict*. He has written extensively on modern Greek history, culture and politics, Greek-Turkish relations, and the history and politics of Egypt. Previously, he has been Visiting Research Fellow at the Universities of Princeton and Edinburgh. He has given interviews and contributed press articles to many media outlets, including the *TLS*, *the Guardian*, the *BBC*, *Russia Today*, *Kathimerini*, *EfSyn*, and *Al-Ahram Weekly*. His current research at Amsterdam focuses on the cultural politics of anticommunism in Greece during the Cold War.

## **Bijlage 2: Overige onderwijs- en onderzoeksactiviteiten**

### **1. Internationale Examens (geannuleerd vanwege de Covid-19 restricties)**

#### **KEF-certificaatsexamens Nieuwgrieks 2021**

**Periode:** mei 2021

Examencentrum in Nederland.

**Partners:** KEF/Centre for the Greek Language, Thessaloniki, Greek Ministry of Education.

**Plaats:** Spuistraat 134, Universiteit van Amsterdam

**Coördinator:** D. Moysiadou

N.B. In verband met de Covid-19 restricties op de Universiteit van Amsterdam konden de Certificaatsexamens Nieuwgrieks (KEF-examens) ook in 2021 niet doorgaan.

### **2. Cursussen**

#### **Title: Project Athens**

The Department of Modern Greek Studies of the University of Amsterdam (UvA) offers online in cooperation with UvA Illustere School the course *Project Athens*.

**Period:** 1-30 June 2021

**Description:** The course is an introduction to various aspects of urban history by examining the multilayered history of modern Athens. It offers an insight in less known aspects of Athen's history, archaeology (Byzantine, Postbyzantine and Ottoman cultural heritage) and anthropology.

### **3. Projecten**

#### **Title: The CENSUS Project**

**Period:** February-June 2020; extended into Spring 2021

#### **Description**

With the support of the Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation, the Marilena Laskaridis Endowed Chair of Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam has begun a new collaboration with the **CENSUS of Modern Greek Literature project**, which is led by Prof. Dia Philippides (Prof. Emerita, Classical Studies, Boston College) and Prof. Wim Bakker (Prof. Emeritus, Byzantine and Modern Greek Philology, University of Amsterdam). At the University of Amsterdam, the collaboration is facilitated by Prof. Maria Boletsi (Marilena Laskaridis Chair) and Dr. Tatiana Markaki, Chair of the Dept. of Modern Greek Language and Culture.

The CENSUS is a forthcoming bibliography of modern Greek literature for speakers of English. The CENSUS' collection includes (all discoverable) references both to English-language translations of modern Greek literary works and to studies published in English on authors, works, and topics in modern Greek literature. Though the publication dates of the references that are recorded in the CENSUS extend over the 200+ years from 1813 to today, the actual range of the covered subject matter extends from *Digenis Akritas* to today, that is a span of more than nine centuries. The project aims at publication both in print form (ca. 1,250 pages) and as an online (Open Access) database. Its distinguishing characteristics include: the broad range of its coverage, the unique depth of detail in its descriptions, and the links it provides to other standard reference sources and directly to online resources for immediate reading.

In this collaborative initiative select faculty members and students connected with the Marilena Laskaridis Chair in Amsterdam are participating in the CENSUS project through seminars initiated in Amsterdam and continuing (through transatlantic connections) online. The phase of the collaboration that is supported by the Foundation's grant was initially set to run throughout the spring of 2020, was subsequently extended through the first semester of the academic year 2020-2021, and has now been



further **extended through the Spring semester of the academic year 2020-2021**. The current grant is also supporting research development at the CENSUS' home base in Boston (USA).

The research assistants collaborating with the CENSUS project in Amsterdam are:

– Anthi Argyriou (PhD Candidate at the Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis; Faculty of Humanities, University of Amsterdam).

– Georgios-Evgenios Douliakas (MA Comparative Literature and Cultural Analysis, Leiden University).

– Dr. Charalambos Passalis (philologist-lexicographer, guest lecturer at the Department of Modern Greek Studies of the University of Amsterdam, 2019-2021).

More information can be found on the following websites: [Laskaridis Foundation](#) and *CENSUS of Modern Greek Literature*.

The CENSUS project is now aiming at a first presentation of its results, initially focusing on the section “Authors 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> century”, as part of the celebration of Greece’s Bicentennial year (2021) – with support from the Laskaridis Foundation and as one of the 130 international research projects under the aegis of the collective program “[Πρωτοβουλία 1821-2021](#)” (‘Initiative 1821-2021’). See also on the [www.protovoulia21.gr/](http://www.protovoulia21.gr/) website.

#### 4. Onderzoeksbeurzen

##### a) Marilena [Laskaridis PhD Fellowship in Modern Greek Studies](#)

In February the **Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation** invited applications for a **3-year PhD fellowship in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam**, for a project to be conducted in English under the aegis of the Marilena Laskaridis Chair of Modern Greek Studies.

The call for applications was open to research projects in the humanities or at the intersection of the humanities and the social sciences that engage with aspects of Modern Greek culture. The deadline was on April 15<sup>th</sup> 2021.

The selected candidate is **Vasilis Alexiadis, MA**, who will be conducting research on prophetic discourses of the Greek Orthodox Christian world.

##### b) [Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellowships in Modern Greek Studies 2021-2022](#)

The fellowships were awarded to the following two colleagues, who will join the Modern Greek Studies team at the University of Amsterdam in the academic year 2021-2022:

###### 1. Dr. Alexander Kazamias

**Project title:** Sound National Convictions: Anticommunist discourse and propaganda in post-war Greece, 1944-74

###### 2. Dr. Dimitris Soudias

**Project title:** Towards a cultural economy of uncertainty: creativity and entrepreneurialism in Athens and Berlin

###### Project Abstracts

###### 1. Sound National Convictions: Anticommunist discourse and propaganda in post-war Greece, 1944-74

This project investigates the intellectual history of anticommunism in Greece from the Civil War of the 1940s to the fall of the Military Dictatorship in 1974. Using a variety of textual and visual sources (pamphlets, speeches, government papers, radio broadcasts, schoolbooks, posters, and newsreels) it examines how state anticommunism shaped post-war Greek culture and politics through a combination of public order policies, official propaganda, and covert politicization of the education system. Emphasis is placed on locating post-war Greek history in the context of the Cold War and unveiling the internal sociocultural divisions and emotional regimes of fear generated by

anticommunism, including its suspensory effects on the country's modernization and democratization. The study is set in a comparative perspective, drawing parallels and contrasts with other varieties of anticommunism in Western Europe and North America.

## **2. Towards a cultural economy of uncertainty: creativity and entrepreneurialism in Athens and Berlin**

"You have to be creative. Because you don't know what tomorrow will be like. But I cannot be creative because of the stress," a young Athenian entrepreneur told me. My project picks up on this anecdotal cue to investigate how social entrepreneurs in Athens and Berlin imagine and confront uncertainty and the future, and the role of "creativity" to this regard. Against the backdrop of austerity and COVID-19, the Social Economy sector is seen as central by policy-makers to address and mitigate the impacts of these crises on economy and society (OECD, 2020). Here, social entrepreneurs play an analytically puzzling role: they are profiting from the deregulation of previously state-held responsibilities of social protection by managing social provision. Simultaneously, they are themselves subject to uncertainty and in need of protection. The Laskaridis Fellowship allows me to develop this project to full grant application maturity, in order to scrutinize the ways in which entrepreneurial imaginaries of the future and uncertainty are changing in pandemic times.

### **Bio:**

**Alexander Kazamias** holds a PhD in History from UCL, University of London. He is Senior Lecturer and Course Director in Politics at Coventry University. He is the author of *Greece and the Cold War: Diplomacy, Rivalry and Anti-Colonialism after the Civil Conflict*. He has written extensively on modern Greek history and politics, Greek-Turkish relations, and the history and politics of Egypt. Previously, he has been Visiting Research Fellow at the Universities of Princeton and Edinburgh. He has given interviews and contributed press articles to many media outlets, including the *TLS*, *the Guardian*, the BBC, *Russia Today*, *Kathimerini*, *Ta Nea*, *EfSyn*, *Anti* magazine, and *Al-Ahram Weekly*.

**Dimitris Soudias** is HBA Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the London School of Economics, and incoming Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Amsterdam. In his doctoral dissertation (Philipps-Universität Marburg, 2019), he investigated the formation of political subjectivity against the backdrop of crisis and austerity in Greece. Dimitris' recent publications include *Subjects in crisis: Paradoxes of emancipation and alter-neoliberal critique* (The Sociological Review), *Spatializing Radical Political Imaginaries: Neoliberalism, Crisis, and Transformative Experience in the Syntagma Square Occupation in Greece* (Contention), and *Imagining the Commoning Library: Alter-Neoliberal Pedagogy in Informational Capitalism* (Journal of Digital Social Research).

## **5. Roundtables/Webinars Network Amsterdam-Oxford**

The Amsterdam-Oxford partnership [Rethinking Modern Greek Studies in the 21st century: A Cultural Analysis Network](#) announces an online roundtable and webinar series that will take place in the course of 2020-2021.

### **Roundtable series "Modern Greek Studies and Beyond: Local Cases, Global Debates"**

Under the general title "Modern Greek Studies and Beyond: Local Cases, Global Debates," the roundtable discussions will bring local case studies from Greek culture, society, history, and politics to bear on larger and timely theoretical, political, and cultural debates: debates on ecocriticism, biopolitics and race, the relevance of contemporary (Greek) art, languages of futurity from the European and Global South, and covid-19 as a transversal crisis. By inviting speakers situated (mainly or partly) in Modern Greek studies alongside speakers working in other fields, we will explore how cases from modern and contemporary Greek culture, politics, and history can be relevant for scholars whose work

is not (only) situated in Modern Greek Studies, and ask how Modern Greek studies could be repositioned through an engagement with such global debates. We aim at inclusivity and diversity in speakers and audiences and at stimulating interdisciplinary dialogues that will take scholars outside the comfort zones of their disciplines. In each roundtable, invited speakers from different disciplines and career stages will converse with each other, in order to promote exchanges among scholars who might normally not sit around the same academic table.

Participation in the roundtables is free and open to all.

### **About the network:**

“Rethinking Modern Greek Studies in the 21st century: A Cultural Analysis Network” emerged from a partnership between the departments of Modern Greek at Oxford and Amsterdam but brings together scholars in several universities around the world and aims to progressively widen its reach to include more partners and countries.

Our inaugural conference in Oxford (January 31- February 1, 2020) was the first meeting place for the formation of a dynamic network of scholars that has been growing ever since (a series of blogposts reflecting on the first meeting of the network are available [here](#)). Given the current restrictions that do not allow us to host face-to-face events, we will continue the network’s activities this academic year with this online roundtable series and – if the situation allows it – a 2-day conference in Amsterdam in the spring of 2021. The series will include five to six roundtables spread throughout the current academic year.

### **Roundtable/webinar 4: 21 januari 2021**

**Title:** *Our Intense Biopolitical Present: COVID and Before*

**Date:** Thursday, 21 January 2021, 6 pm (NL time)

**Language:** English

**Speakers:** **Dimitris Plantzos** (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens): “A national bicentenary, a global pandemic, and the new past”

**Nelli Kambouri** (University of Hertfordshire and Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences): “Biopolitics and care in the period of economic and health crises”

**Paul Apostolidis** (London School of Economics & Political Science): “Biopolitics, dangerous work and the dynamics of hegemony”

**Dimitra Kotouza** (University of Lincoln), Revisiting Biopolitics under COVID: “Managing health from epidemic to pandemic”

**Olga Demetriou & Elisabeth Kirtsoglou** (Durham University): “Facile biopolitics and (counter) resistance”

Chaired by **Dimitris Papanikolaou** (Oxford University)

### **About this event:**

In this roundtable we aim to revisit the question of biopolitics – the politics over life – and to assess its contemporary relevance. In 2020 biopolitics has re-emerged as a popular concept, as well as perhaps the best way to understand the COVID-19 global emergency. At the same time, biopolitics was already part of the public debate; in Greece, particularly, it was central to discussions in the last decade of constant crisis and austerity politics.

Through a panel of scholars from different disciplines in the Humanities and Social Sciences, we would like to invite insight on our contemporary biopolitical moment that will also be informed by a larger context of analysis: neoliberal population management and new social agendas; neonationalism and

neofascism; moral panics and new borders; racism, homo/transphobia and gender violence; bio-industry and biocitizenship; archaeopolitics and the new past.

### **Roundtable/webinar 5: 22 maart 2021**

This roundtable/webinar is the first of a series of webinars in which The network Greek Studies Now participates in the celebrations for the bicentennial of the 1821 Greek War of Independence. In this series scholars, artists, filmmakers, and authors are asked to reflect on the meaning of this anniversary, taking the contemporary experience of Greece and Greekness as their starting point.

**Title:** *Dream Nation; 200 years on*

**Date:** Monday, 22 March 2021, 6 pm (NL time)

**Language:** English

**Main speaker:** **Stathis Gourgouris** (Columbia University)

#### **About this event:**

What is the role of the nation in today's social and political landscape? What aspirations of social cohesion, equality, longevity and prosperity are expressed through the nation as both a symbolic structure and an ongoing sociopolitical project? To what extent are these aspirations disrupted and undermined, always in the name of the nation? What projects of violence, erasure and disavowal lie behind the national fantasy? How do they still haunt the national everyday? How does the nation still matter and could it also matter differently?

In the week celebrating the 200 years since the Greek War of Independence, we want to return to these questions in the frame of our *Local Cases, Global Debates* series. Indeed, Greece has been a prime example of a modern nation-building process, involved in the dynamics of enlightenment, ethnicity, (crypto)colonialism, orientalism, capital extractionism and the North-South dialectic. Modern Greek studies, as a field, has been framed time and again as a response to such questions.

*Rethinking Modern Greek Studies* proposes to re-visit a classic text of the field: Stathis Gourgouris's *Dream Nation: Enlightenment, Colonization and the Institution of Modern Greece*, published in the 1990s, in a period of heightened nationalist feeling esp. in the Balkans. We invite Stathis Gourgouris to join us for an open discussion on the legacies and the contemporary relevance of his 1996 influential monograph. Joined by colleagues in the field, we want to reflect both on the national/postnational legacies of Hellas, but also on the changes in Modern Greek Studies since the first publication of *Dream Nation*.

We are, of course, mindful of the moment this discussion is being held, in all the political complexity as well as the celebratory overtones currently experienced in Greece, and we aim to take this critically into account.

*Dream Nation: 200 years on*, will be followed by *What Greece?* an open-mic event on April 21, and *"We have never been racist": Rethinking Race and Ethnicity in Greece*, on 17 May: these webinars comprise our network's tripartite contribution to debates around the bicentennial of the 1821 Greek War of Independence by engaging with scholars, artists, filmmakers, and authors in different formats. On the occasion of this webinar, we will also be launching the new dedicated website of our network under the title "Greek Studies Now"

### **Roundtable/webinar 6: 21 april 2021**

This roundtable/webinar is the second in a series of webinars in which The network Greek Studies Now participates in the celebrations for the bicentennial of the 1821 Greek War of Independence.

**Title:** What Greece?

In the second meeting of the series on the 21st April 2021 the network Greek Studies Now proposes the digital equivalent of an open-mic. A group of cultural creators – literary authors, filmmakers, comic-book writers – submitted a short video reflecting on the word, concept, idea and geopolitical, imaginary that the word “Greece” conjures for them today, in the current sociopolitical and cultural conjuncture. The videos are fragments, extracts from work in progress, provocative ideas. The contributors were asked to think not of the question “what is Greece”, but to consider the very title “What Greece...” as a puzzling, often absurd, and certainly open-ended fragment in itself. Reintroducing it in their own narratives in different ways, from “what kind of Greece” or “what Greece means to you” to “what the hell, Greece...”, the responses mix the national and the personal, the rational and the absurd, the familiar and the weird, the playful and the austere. The first part of this event includes the presentation of the videos collected, offering a heterogenous collage of literary, visual, aural, and multi-media reflections. The second part will be a live conversation between the event-organizers and the contributing artists, taking the many threads the artists open up in their contributions further.

Video contributions will be in English or in Greek with English translation/subtitles. The roundtable discussion will be in English.

#### **Roundtable/webinar 7: 24 mei 2021**

This roundtable/webinar is the third in a series of webinars in which The network Greek Studies Now participates in the celebrations for the bicentennial of the 1821 Greek War of Independence.

**Title:** “We have never been racist”: Rethinking race & ethnicity in modern Greece.

**Date:** Monday, 24 May 2021, 6:00 pm (CET/NL time)

**The event will be livestreamed via Youtube.** You can watch and participate here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jWARLgqhOPM>

#### **About this event**

In the third event dedicated to the anniversary of the modern Greek state, we want to draw attention to the important question of race.

Until quite recently, to talk about race in the context of Greek studies (and of Greece) was treated as awkward, something incommensurate with the narratives of what is commonly viewed as an ethnically homogeneous country that has never been a colonial power.

Yet, in light of recent public debates and with the reverberations of the Black Lives Matter protests reaching Greece as the country was preparing to celebrate its bicentenary, there is now a new urgent call to reconsider topical and longstanding legacies of race, racialization and racism at different levels.

As a growing civil society movement has repeatedly stressed, processes of racialisation run deep in the structure of the Greek everyday. Race and (racial understandings of) ethnicity play a crucial role in defining Greek citizenship; they frame official and lay understandings of Greek history and have inadvertently influenced the very formation of the Greek state; they are painfully experienced by those who find themselves “outside” the matrix of recognition of who (and which bodies) could count as Greek; they are spectacularly (and officially) rehearsed in the biopolitics and necropolitics of “managing” the refugee crisis; but they are also part and parcel of longstanding class, educational, geographical and symbolic taxonomies with a long history in the Greek state. In this context, the phrase “we have never been racist”, often repeated in Greece to this day, ceases to sound like an innocuous observation and denotes the opening of a difficult debate.

In this roundtable we want, among others, to broach questions such as:

What categories of (racial) exclusion and inclusion has the notion of Greekness been premised on in the

Greek national imaginary?

What has been Greece's (historical, financial, ethical) relationship to the European colonial project?

How did it impact the formation of the Greek nation?

How useful is the category of race for understanding today's political, cultural and social landscape of Greece?

What are the particular histories of whiteness with which Greeks have been identified? What is their role today?

How has "whiteness" shaped Greece's Europeaness and European hellenisms?"

**Speakers:**

Sadia Abbas (Rutgers University)

Johanna Hanink (Brown University)

Omaira Gill (journalist)

Nikos Deji Odubitan (Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality & Diversity, Greece)

In the first part of this event, we will have brief presentations by the four main speakers. In the second part, we will open the floor for a live conversation with invited interlocutors from academic and activist communities as well as with the audience.

### **Bijlage 3: Overzicht van activiteiten die vanwege Covid-19 restricties zijn ontregeld (uitgesteld of geannuleerd)**

1. NGNS Dag 2021 (geannuleerd)
2. ALV 2021 heeft op 24 februari 2021 online plaatsgevonden
3. KEI-Certificaatsexamens 2021 (geannuleerd)
4. Studiereis naar Athene in het kader van de UvA cursus *Project Athens* (geannuleerd)

## **Bijlage 4: Activiteiten ondernomen door bijzonder hoogleraar prof. dr. M. Boletsi in het kader van de Marilena Laskaridis Chair Modern Greek Studies, UvA (1 januari 2020 -31 december 2021)**

### **Note on special circumstances in 2021**

*Covid-19:* Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, and the ensuing restrictions in the University of Amsterdam and in the Netherlands, several events planned for 2021 by, or in the framework of, the Chair and the department of Modern Greek were either cancelled or transferred to 2022 (for the latter, see section “H. Plans in 2022”), while other activities were held online.

## **1. TEACHING & SUPERVISION**

### **A. TEACHING**

- Master’s course “Crisis and Alternative Languages in Literature and Art: Greece, the Mediterranean and Beyond” (6 EC)

**Start of ‘Modern Greek’ specialization track** in MA program “Literature, Culture and Society”

- Guest-lectures in three BA and MA courses

### **B. SUPERVISION**

- 6 PhD projects
- 1 Bachelor & 1 Master thesis
- 4 (Post-doc) Laskaridis Research Fellows

## **2. RESEARCH**

### **A. PUBLICATIONS in 2021**

- 1 Edited volume & Book chapters (peer-reviewed)
- 2 Articles in magazines & blogs
- 2 Interviews (in print and on tv)

### **B. FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS in 2022**

ALREADY WRITTEN & ACCEPTED

- 1 Book chapter
- 1 Monograph
- 1 Special Journal Issue
- 1 Co-authored book
- Section editor of The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Heritage and Conflict.

### **C. TALKS & PRESENTATIONS in 2021**

**NB:** Some lectures and guest seminars during the reporting period were cancelled or transferred to 2022 due to covid-19, and are thus not mentioned in the list below.

### **LECTURES**

- 6 Invited Lectures and conference presentations
- 1 Public lecture for broader audiences

### **D. FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS**

- NIAS theme-group fellowship (granted for the acad. year 2022)  
Theme group project: “The Politics of (De)familiarization: The Common and the Strange in Contemporary Europe.”
- 4 Grant applications submitted in 2021 (in progress)

### **E. ORGANIZATION OF EVENTS**

- **Online roundtable series “Modern Greek Studies and Beyond: Local Cases, Global Debates,”** organized by M. Boletsi, D. Papanikolaou and K. Gedgaudaite as part of the



events program of our “Greek Studies Now” network and Oxford-Amsterdam partnership and with the support of TORCH (Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities).

- **7 roundtable events.** The online roundtable series has been highly popular, with each event attracting between 1000-3300 views on YouTube, and will be continued in 2022. All were broadcasted live on YouTube and are available on the TORCH YouTube Channel and on our network’s website:

“Our Intense Biopolitical Present: Covid and Before” (11 January 2021)

“Art and Its Histories in Contemporary Greece” (11 February 2021)

“Dream Nation: 200 Years On” (22 March 2021)

“What Greece...?” (21 April 2021)

“We have never been racist: Rethinking Race and Ethnicity in Contemporary Greece” (24 May 2021)

“The politics of public memory: HIV/AIDS activism in Greece” (7 June 2021)

“Thirty Years later: Rethinking Albanian-Greek Identity” (9 December 2021)

- Organizer of panel “**Perspectives on Futurity: Europe and the Global South**”; panel representing the OSL research group “Crisis and Critique: Rethinking Europe and the Global South”.

- Co-organizer **online international workshop** “**From Crisis to Critique: Languages of Resistance, Transformation, and Futurity in Mediterranean Crisis-Scapes**”

- **Lecture Series in Modern Greek Studies** organized by the NGNS, the Marilena Laskaridis Chair, the dept. of Modern Greek Language and Culture and the Humanities Faculty at the UvA (in collaboration with Dr. T. Markaki).

#### ***F. COLLABORATIONS, NETWORKS & INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS***

- **Oxford-Amsterdam Partnership: “Greek Studies Now: A Cultural Analysis Network”**

The project is mainly funded and supported by the **TORCH international partnerships scheme grant (Oxford)** & the **Laskaridis Foundation**.

The network is awarded the “**MGSA Innovative Initiatives Award**”.

With this award, the **website** for the network was developed: **[greekstudiesnow.org](https://greekstudiesnow.org)**

**<https://gc.fairead.net/events>**

- **OSL RESEARCH GROUP: “Crisis and Critique: Rethinking Europe and the Global South”.** For information, see:

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

- **ASCA Research group “Crisis, Critique, and Futurity.** see:

**<https://asca.uva.nl/content/research-groups/crisis/crisis.html>**

- **CENSUS Project at the UvA**

With the support of the Laskaridis Foundation, the Marilena Laskaridis Chair begun a collaboration with the **CENSUS of Modern Greek Literature project**, led by **Prof. Dia Philippides** (Prof. Emerita, Boston College) and **Prof. Wim Bakker** (Prof. Emeritus, Byzantine and Modern Greek, University of Amsterdam) in 2020.

continued throughout 2021. See:

**<http://www.censusofmoderngreekliterature.org/news-and-events.html>**

- **International collaborative research project “Green Civilization(s)” vs. “Eco barbarism(s)?”**

- **International collaborative research project on the history of barbarism**

#### ***G. SERVICE TO THE FIELD: EDITORIAL / ADVISORY BOARDS, COMMITTEES, EVALUATION TASKS***

- Chair of the Advisory Board of the **Netherlands Research School for Literary Studies (OSL)**

- Advisory Board of the **Dutch Research Council (NWO) Domain Social Sciences and Humanities (SHH)**

- Editorial Board of *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*

- Advisory Board of the *Journal of Greek Media and Culture*
- Editorial Board of the book series *Thamyris/Intersecting: Place, Sex and Race*, Brill Publishing

#### **Peer-reviewing & Evaluation Tasks**

- Peer-reviewer for *Current Writing: Text and Reception in Southern Africa* journal
- Assessor of research proposals (for postdoc fellowships) from “Research Centre for the Humanities (RCH)”, Greece
- Assessor for Oxford University.

#### **Member of 6 Selection committees and 4 PhD committees**

### **H. PLANS IN 2022: SCHEDULED EVENTS & RESEARCH-RELATED PLANS (selection)**

#### **Organization of events scheduled in 2020**

##### *1. NGNS Lecture Series in Modern Greek Studies*

Several lectures are planned for 2022 (some moved from 2021 due to covid-19) by international guest speakers, including:

- **Dr. Charalambos Passalis**, lecturer in Modern Greek language, UvA (February 2022)
- **Dr. Dimitris Soudias**, Marilena Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellow 2021-2022, UvA (May 2022)
- **Prof. Gonda van Steen**, Koraes Chair of Modern Greek and Byzantine History, Language and Literature & Director of Centre for Hellenic Studies, King’s College London (fall 2021, cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions).
- **Dr. Maria Oikonomou**, Associate Professor, Dept. of German Language and Literature, Aristotle U, Thessaloniki (date t.b.a.).

##### *2. Ravenstein Winter School of the Netherlands Research School for Literary Studies (OSL):*

co-organizer of the 2022 Winter School edition on the topic: “Literature, (Neo)liberalism, and Public Culture”, UvA), January 19-21, 2022.

##### *3. “Greek Studies Now” Conference at the UvA*

The 2nd conference of the Amsterdam-Oxford cultural analysis network “Greek Studies Now,” which had been postponed due to COVID-19, will be held at the U. Amsterdam in 2022 (14-16 June).

##### *4. International Conference “1821-2021: Revisiting the Greek War of Independence: Intellectual Landscape and Global Resonances” at the UvA*

This conference, organized in collaboration with the Laskaridis Foundation and sponsored by the Foundation on the occasion of the bicentenary of the Greek Revolution will take place on **May 20, 2022** (postponed from 2021 due to Covid-19).

##### *5. Online roundtable series “Modern Greek Studies and Beyond: Local Cases, Global Debates”*

This roundtable series of our Amsterdam-Oxford network will continue in 2022.

### **3. PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP & SOCIAL IMPACT (selection)**

- **NGNS lecture series** on Modern Greek in 2021 for a broad audience with an interest in Modern Greek Culture and History.
- The **Greek Studies Now** network I established with D. Papanikolaou and K. Gedgaudaite (see 2F) has already had substantial impact in the field (and beyond) and has attracted a broad public.

The online roundtable series “Modern Greek Studies and Beyond: Local Cases, Global Debates”, launched in 2020, have reached a large audience (60 to 150 attendees per event, and 1000-3300 views on YouTube per event). These events brought together scholars, civil-society actors, journalists, artists, activists, and other stakeholders on urgent social issues.

#### *Interviews*

- **PRINT:** “The Future of Modern Greek Studies.” Interviewed by George Vailakis. *Greek Business File* (magazine). May-June 2021.
- **National TV:** Interviewed by George Syriopoulos for the Greek National TV (ERT 1) program “Συμβαίνει στην Ευρώπη” [It happens in Europe]. 6 March 2021.

#### **4. PROJECTS WITH NGNS & AIKATERINI LASKARIDIS FOUNDATION**

##### **NGNS**

- Assistance in activities organized by the Dutch Society for Modern Greek Studies. Several events organized by, or in the framework of, the Marilena Laskaridis Chair, are advertised through the NGNS website and mailing list and are accessible to NGNS members.
- Regular contact with the NGNS board, particularly its current president, Dr. T. Markaki.

##### ***Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation***

- Regular contact on several matters, including the set-up of the following projects within the framework of the Chair, that are supported, sponsored and/or co-organized by the Foundation:

##### ***1. Supervision of two Laskaridis Visiting Research Fellowships in Modern Greek Studies: Third Round (2021-2022)***

The two fellows of 2021-2022 are:

- Dr. Alexander Kazamias (fall semester 2021), project title: “Sound National Convictions: Anticommunist discourse and propaganda in post-war Greece, 1944-74”
- Dr. Dimitris Soudias (spring semester 2022), project title: “Towards a cultural economy of uncertainty: creativity and entrepreneurialism in Athens and Berlin”

##### ***2. Call for applications for the fourth round of visiting fellowships (academic year 2022-2023).***

##### ***3. Supervision Laskaridis PhD Fellow in Modern Greek Studies at the University of Amsterdam***

The fellowship was awarded in spring 2021 through a competitive selection process.

Selected fellow: Vasilis Alexiadis

Project title: “Conspiring against the nation: Orthodox Christianity and prophetic discourses in Greece” (start: October 2021).

Institute: Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis, Faculty of Humanities

##### ***4. Organisation of International Symposium “1821-2021: Revisiting the Greek War of Independence: Intellectual Landscape and Global Resonances”***

The Laskaridis Foundation and M.L. Chair & Department of Modern Greek at the UvA are planning an international symposium in Amsterdam on **May 20, 2022**, on the occasion of the bicentenary of the Greek Revolution. The symposium will host invited speakers from the international community whose research explores the War of Independence from different – Greek, Ottoman, and international – perspectives.

##### ***5. CENSUS program at the University of Amsterdam***

In early 2020, the Laskaridis Foundation took over the financing of the CENSUS program, a bibliography of Modern Greek literature for speakers/readers of English.

With the financial support of the Foundation, the Marilena Laskaridis Chair began a collaboration with the CENSUS project led by Prof. Dia Philippides and Prof.

Wim Bakker. The Amsterdam-based team formed by the M.L. Chair has been working on the project (manual data entry) throughout 2020 and 2021.

The possibility of a continuation of this collaboration in 2022 with the Foundation’s support is being discussed.

##### ***6. Financial support for a second 5-year term of the Marilena Laskaridis Chair of Modern Greek Studies***

Following the recommendation of the curatorium and of the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, the Laskaridis Foundation will finance (in collaboration with the NGNS) a second 5-year term of the Marilena Laskaridis Chair at the UvA (0,3 FTE).