

# The Hellenic Observatory Newsletter 2003

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## Welcome...

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Hellenic Observatory. We aim to keep our friends, associates and contacts informed of our activities concerning Greece and Cyprus.

The Hellenic Observatory is in a unique position and we are keen to realise its full potential. The establishment of the Eleftherios Venizelos Chair on Contemporary Greek Studies in 1996 represented a major initiative in the academic field. It was the first chair of its kind outside Greece and one funded by a generous endowment of major Greek banks, firms and public institutions. The first holder was Professor Loukas Tsoukalis of the University of Athens (1998-2001). I took up the post of Director just last year (May 2002) and together with my colleagues we have endeavoured to raise its profile and to expand its range of activities. This newsletter is one means of letting you know what we're up to.

We've achieved quite a lot in the recent re-launch. We estimate that some 1,400 guests have attended our public events. We have created three new academic posts and a new PhD scholarship. In June this year we held a new PhD Symposium that attracted some 120 participants. Our teaching has expanded, whilst high quality research has been pursued.

We have an exciting programme of activities planned for 2003-4, able to appeal to a broad spectrum of academics and the public. These include a retrospective on the Greek EU Presidency, a commemoration of the Lambrakis affair, and a conference on pension reform. Full information about these will be placed on our webpages, which can be visited at <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/hellenicObservatory/>.

You can also write or email us requesting that we include your name, postal and email address to the Hellenic Observatory's mailing list. We very much hope that you will be able to join us in some or all of these events. And, we hope that you will give us your support by spreading the news of our work on Greece and Cyprus.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Featherstone

Eleftherios Venizelos Professor & Director of the HO



Prof. Kevin Featherstone

## The Future of European Security After Iraq

A major event was held on March 4 2003, with over 700 guests coming to the Peacock Theatre to hear a debate on the future of the European Union's security policy after the Iraqi war. The topicality of the issue was high, given that war with Iraq was imminent. Yannis Papantoniou, Minister of National Defence in Athens and representative of the Greek EU Presidency, led a series of talks in which he was joined by NATO's Deputy Secretary General, Alessandro Minuto Rizzo, and leading UK defence analyst, Paul Beaver. The text of Mr. Papantoniou's presentation has been placed on the Hellenic Observatory's webpages.

Later the same day, a panel of distinguished experts offered their views on how to develop the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). The panel comprised: Prof. Sir Lawrence Freedman (Department of War Studies, King's College London); Prof. Paul Taylor (LSE); Roger Boyes (The Times); and, Quentin Peel (The Financial Times). The panel was chaired by Prof. Arghyrios Fatouros (University of Athens). Some 120 guests participated in the high quality discussion.

Both events marked a new joint initiative by the Institute for Defence Analysis (IAA, Athens) and the Hellenic Observatory. Future collaboration is expected to develop the focus on Greece and regional security.

## Greece in the Euro-Zone

The Fifth Annual Lecture of the Hellenic Observatory was given by Professor George Alogoskoufis on June 2, 2003. The title of his lecture was 'Surviving EMU: prospects for the Greek economy', the full text of which can be found on our website.

Prof. Alogoskoufis is himself an alumnus of the LSE, having obtained an MSc and a PhD in economics from the School. He subsequently became a Fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) and Reader in Economics at Birkbeck College. Prof. Alogoskoufis has written widely on macro-economics, and monetary policy in particular. He is now Professor of Economics at the University of Athens.

Prof. Alogoskoufis spoke, not only as a major academic authority, but also as the chief economic policy spokesman of Nea Dimokratia, the main opposition party in Greece. A well-informed discussion was followed by an official dinner.

## Topical Seminars

This last academic year the Hellenic Observatory held 15 weekly seminars. The seminars were normally held on Tuesday evenings in J116, Cowdray House. They proved very popular with average audiences of around 25-30, including many guests from outside the School.

The seminars covered a broad range of issues, with speakers drawn from across the social sciences. The series attracted some high quality speakers and provoked lively discussions. The full list of seminars, appearing in chronological order, is:

- **Dr Stelios Stavridis**, University of Reading and Honorary Fellow, Hellenic Observatory, **The Cyprus problem and the European Union. The role of the Cypriot Vouli**
- **Dr Peter Bratsis**, CUNY and Research Fellow, Hellenic Observatory, **Political Corruption: lessons from ancient Greece, medieval England and Mary Douglas**
- **Dr Claude Nicolet**, Specialist on Civil Society and Regional Security in the Balkans, Zurich, **Avoiding a 'Cyprus of the Balkans': What FYR of Macedonia today should learn from the Cyprus of the 1960s**
- **Dr Peter Bratsis**, CUNY and Research Fellow, The Hellenic Observatory, **Everything you ever wanted to know about national identity, but were afraid to ask the Greek-Americans**
- **Dr Spyros Economides**, Department of International Relations & Hellenic Observatory, **The Changing Dilemmas of Greek Security**
- **Takis Michas**, Eleftherotypia, Athens, **Unholy Alliance: Greece and Milošević's Serbia**
- **Dr Thomas Diez**, University of Birmingham, **Cyprus and the European Union: Before and After Copenhagen**
- **Silvana Mojsovska**, Institute of Economics, University "Sts Cyril and Methodius", **FYR of Macedonia's Economic Arrangements with International Institutions: Gains and Losses**
- **Yannis Stavrakakis**, University of Nottingham, **Religion and Politics in Contemporary Greece**
- **Dr Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos**, Research Fellow, Hellenic Observatory, **Democratization and administrative reform in Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain: Is there a distinct ideal-type of South European bureaucracies?**
- **Prof Kevin Featherstone**, Director of the Hellenic Observatory, and **Dr. Kirsty Hughes**, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Policy Studies, **The Greek EU Presidency and the Convention on the Future of Europe**
- **Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos**, Secretary General, Economic and Social Committee of Greece (OKE), **Issues on Greek Migration Trends and Policy Considerations**
- **Dr. Dimitris Papadimitriou**, Research Fellow, Hellenic Observatory, **The Modernisation Experiment: The Greek Socialists in Power 1996-2003**
- **Dr Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos**, Research Fellow, Hellenic Observatory, **Formal Weakness and Informal Strength: Civil Society in Contemporary Greece**
- **Dr Louis Klarevas**, Research Fellow, Hellenic Observatory, **Greece between Old and New Europe: Strategic Challenges in a Changing European and International Security Environment**

## Who's Who 2002-2003



Hellenic Observatory Staff. From left, D. Papadimitriou, K. Featherstone and D. Sotiropoulos

- **Prof. Kevin Featherstone**  
Eleftherios Venizelos Professor & Director of the HO
- **Ms Katerina Loukopoulou**  
HO Secretary, Responsible for the Administration of the Unit.
- **Dr Dimitris Papadimitriou**  
Research Fellow on Greece and the EU: (2002-2003)
- **Dr Dimitris Triantaphyllou**,  
Defence Analysis Research Fellow (2003-2004)
- **Dr Peter Bratsis**  
Research Fellow: (Autumn 2003)
- **Dr Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos**  
Research Fellow: (Spring 2003)
- **Dr. Louis Klarevas**  
Research Fellow (Spring 2003)
- **Dr. Elias Mossialos**  
HO Deputy Director (Co-Director of the LSE Health & Social Care)
- **Dr. Spiros Economides**  
Associate: (Dept of IR, LSE)
- **Dr. Christos Paraskevopoulos**,  
Associate: (European Institute)

## The Greek EU Presidency

Mr. Christos Protopappas, Minister of Press and Information in Athens, gave a public lecture for the Hellenic Observatory on March 7<sup>th</sup> 2003. The theme of his lecture was the prospects for the Greek EU Council Presidency. More than a 100 people attended the Lecture. His lecture was followed by a lively discussion with the audience and a reception afterwards.

The Greek Minister of Press and Information Mr. Christos Protopappas delivering a Public Lecture.



## CALL FOR E-PAPERS

From 2002-2003 the Hellenic Observatory has launched a new series of e-Papers aiming to attract contributions by scholars who wish to publish original research on any aspect of contemporary Greece.

Proposals (up to 500 words) for e-Papers (not exceeding 10,000 words) can be submitted to *The Secretary*. All papers will be reviewed by the Observatory's staff before publication.

# A MAJOR NEW FORUM FOR RESEARCH STUDENTS

This year saw the launch of a new series of events for PhD students researching on modern Greece. The Observatory initiated 'The 1<sup>st</sup> LSE Symposium on Modern Greece', which was held at the School on June 21, 2003. Financial support was provided by the European Commission.

The purpose was to bring together PhD students in the social sciences who are working on Greece or Cyprus. The Symposium was designed to provide a platform for them to present part of their research and to hear senior academics in their field talk of future research challenges.



From the plenary session of the Symposium

In the event, some 120 visitors attended the Symposium. Most were current PhD students in the UK and students from various other countries joined them. The student presentations were made across ten specialist panels. Their papers were discussed afterwards, with specialist comments given by established academics in the relevant field. The panels were entitled:

1. **Aspects of Greek History**  
Chair: Prof. Christina Koulouri, University of Thrace
2. **Economics and Economic Policy in Greece**  
Chair: Prof. Panos Tsakloglou, Athens University of Economics and Business
3. **Greece and the EU**  
Chair: Prof. Kevin Featherstone, LSE
4. **Ideational and Strategic Aspects of Greek International Relations**  
Chairs: Dr. Spyros Economides, LSE and Dr. Louis Klarevas, LSE
5. **Identity Politics in Greece**  
Chairs: Dr. Katerina Dalacoura, LSE and Dr. Spyros Sofos, Kingston University

6. **Popular Culture, Ideology and the Media**  
Chair: Prof. Nikos Demertzis, University of Athens
7. **Political Development and Change**  
Chairs: Prof. Michalis Tsinisizelis, University of Athens and Dr. Dimitris Papadimitriou, LSE
8. **Beyond Traditional Politics**  
Chairs: Prof. Costas Douzinas, Birkbeck College, Univ of London and Dr. Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos, Univ of Athens & LSE
9. **Organised Interests and Public Policy**  
Chair: Dr. Stella Ladi, University of Exeter
10. **Facing the Challenge of Multiculturalism**  
Chair: Dr. Jane Cowan, University of Sussex

Plenary lectures were given in the Old Theatre by a number of keynote speakers:

1. **New Challenges for the Study of Greece and the European Union**  
Dr. Achilleas Mitsos (European Commission)
2. **New Challenges for the Study of Modern Greek History**  
Prof. Christina Koulouri (University of Thrace)
3. **New Challenges for the Study of Multiculturalism: a social anthropological perspective**  
Dr. Jane Cowan (University of Sussex)
4. **New Research Challenges in Political Economy: the redistributive role of the state**  
Prof. Panos Tsakloglou (Athens University of Economics and Business)
5. **New Challenges for the Study of Greek Politics**  
Dr. Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos (LSE & University of Athens)
6. **New Challenges for the Study of Greek Political Sociology and Political Communication**  
Prof. Nikos Demertzis (University of Athens)

The plenary sessions were chaired by Prof. Michalis Tsinisizelis (University of Athens) and Prof. Costas Douzinas (Birkbeck). Prof. Kevin Featherstone gave the welcoming address and made the closing remarks.

Both the plenary and the panel discussions proved to be well-focussed and informed. 'Frankly, the feedback from the event has been overwhelming', said the Observatory's Director, Kevin Featherstone. 'Both the research students and the academics were very positive of the value of this venture and many are very keen that we repeat it in the future', he added.

To sustain this new momentum, a new email list has been created to facilitate ongoing dialogue between the researchers. Moreover, all papers and Plenary Lectures presented during the Symposium have been posted as PDF documents on the Hellenic Observatory's dedicated web page:

[www.lse.ac.uk/collections/hellenicObservatory/events/symposiumPapersOnline03.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/hellenicObservatory/events/symposiumPapersOnline03.htm)

## RESEARCH NETWORK

The Hellenic Observatory has created a new dedicated email list: HELLENICRESEARCH-L@listserv.lse.ac.uk Through this Listserv all researchers working on Modern Greece can engage in easy and regular communication with each other. You can subscribe to our e-mailing list by sending an e-mail to [listserv@listserv.lse.ac.uk](mailto:listserv@listserv.lse.ac.uk) with the following message in the body of the email: SUB hellenicresearch-l <full\_name> (e.g. SUB hellenicresearch-l John Smith). Once subscribed you will be able to email to the list (HELLENICRESEARCH-L@listserv.lse.ac.uk) as well as receive updated information on research, conferences, job opportunities.

## The Hellenic Observatory Expands

One of the top priorities of Professor Kevin Featherstone as he took up the post of Director of the Hellenic Observatory in May 2002 has been to expand its staff numbers and resources. "The Observatory can do so much more with a little extra investment" has been his mantra. "We are uniquely placed to promote public debate, produce high quality independent research, and to train some of tomorrow's leaders", he continued.

One of the first appointments to be made was Dr Dimitris Papadimitriou as Research Fellow working on Greece and EMU. Dr Papadimitriou commented "I have spent twelve wonderful months here at the Observatory. Kevin has introduced a terrific work ethic into the place which combines both an extremely friendly atmosphere and a vigorous academic environment. For all those interested in the study of contemporary Greece, this is *the* place to be".

Professor Featherstone's new drive has attracted increasing confidence and support. The Observatory's own Advisory Board created a new post of 'Research Fellow', which allows senior academics from outside the UK to come to the Observatory and focus on major research projects. Working at the LSE and using its unrivalled Library has proved very worthwhile to the two appointees to date, Dr Peter Bratsis of the City University of New York and Dr Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos of the University of Athens. Dr Sotiropoulos commented 'at the Hellenic Observatory I have found infrastructural support, professional criticism of my work and a very collegial atmosphere'.

Furthermore, the Institute for Defence Analysis (IAA) in Athens has joined with the Observatory to create a new post of Research Fellow on Greece and European Security. This will be an annual appointment, open to all ranks. The first appointee, Dr. Louis Klarevas, arrived in January 2003 to work on European responses to global security challenges under the Greek EU Presidency.

He commented that, "LSE is an idea factory. I have never been more stimulated to conduct research as I have been during my tenure at the

Hellenic Observatory. Without a doubt my fellowship at the Hellenic Observatory has been my most rewarding professional experience to date."

In 2003-4, the fellowship will be held by Dr. Dimitris Triantaphyllou, formerly Senior Research Fellow at the European Union Institute for Security Studies in Paris.

In 2004, it is expected that the Observatory will be able to create a further post: Lecturer in the Political Economy of Greece and South-East Europe. The funding for this post will be drawn from a consortium of public and private sector enterprises in Greece, across different economic sectors. The purpose of the post is to allow the Observatory to better reflect the changing economic position of Greece within the region, both in its teaching and in its research. A continuing dialogue is to be maintained between the Observatory and the new donors.

"It has been a major effort for us, but we're making very good progress", comments Prof. Featherstone. "I have been very fortunate in having the backing of the School – from Tony Giddens downwards – to realise these plans. The Development Office has put in an enormous amount of time on our behalf".

## Upcoming Events

### RESEARCH SEMINARS

**- "The Competitiveness of the Greek Economy in the Enlarged European Union"**

Speaker: **Ross E Catterall**, APU  
Date: Tues 4/11/2003, 6:30pm

**- "Were the eagle and the phoenix birds of a feather? The US and the Greek coup of 21<sup>st</sup> April 1967"**

Speaker: **Louis Klarevas** CUNY  
Date: Tues 18/11/2003, 6:30pm

**- Rethinking belated modernization: Greek culture in transition**

Speaker: **Dimitris Tziovas**, University of Birmingham  
Date: Tues 25/11/2003, 6:30pm

**- Greece and the Balkans: Quo Vadis?**

Speaker: **Dimitrios Triantaphyllou**, Research Fellow, Hellenic Observatory  
Date: Tues 9/12/2003, 6:30pm

### PUBLIC LECTURES & CONFERENCES

**• London Hellenic Society Lecture by Mr Georgios Papandreou**

The Greek Foreign Minister will be speaking on the recent Greek EU Council Presidency and other topical international issues.

Date: To be announced soon

**• Conference: Romania and EU enlargement: The Challenge of Domestic Reform**

This is an one-day event funded by the British Academy and jointly organised by the Hellenic Observatory and the Centre for European Studies at Queens University Belfast. Distinguished academics, Romanian and EU policy makers will discuss Romania's progress towards achieving EU membership.

Date: 31 October 2003

**• Conference: "The 2003 Greek EU Council Presidency: Between Disintegration and Consensus Building"**

This is one-day event is jointly organised by the Hellenic Observatory and the University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES). The event will bring together a number of academics and policy makers from Greece, the UK and Brussels to assess the performance of the Greek Presidency. Date: 14 November 2003

**• Film & Discussion: "Z" by Costas Gavras**

The event commemorates the 30th anniversary of the students' uprising against the colonels in Greece. Oscar-winning director, Costas Gavras, will speak about his film "Z" and its political context. Date: 17 November 2003

**• Conference: "Pension Reform in Europe: shared problems, sharing solutions?"**

This is a prestigious one-day event sponsored by the Onassis Foundation. Internationally renowned academics and senior national and EU policy makers will debate the challenges posed by Europe's ageing populations. National reform strategies and future prospects for the European welfare state will also be discussed.

Date: 5 December 2003

For more details, please contact the Hellenic Observatory's Secretariat or check the HO's regularly updated website and add it to your favourites. [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/hellenicObservatory](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/hellenicObservatory)