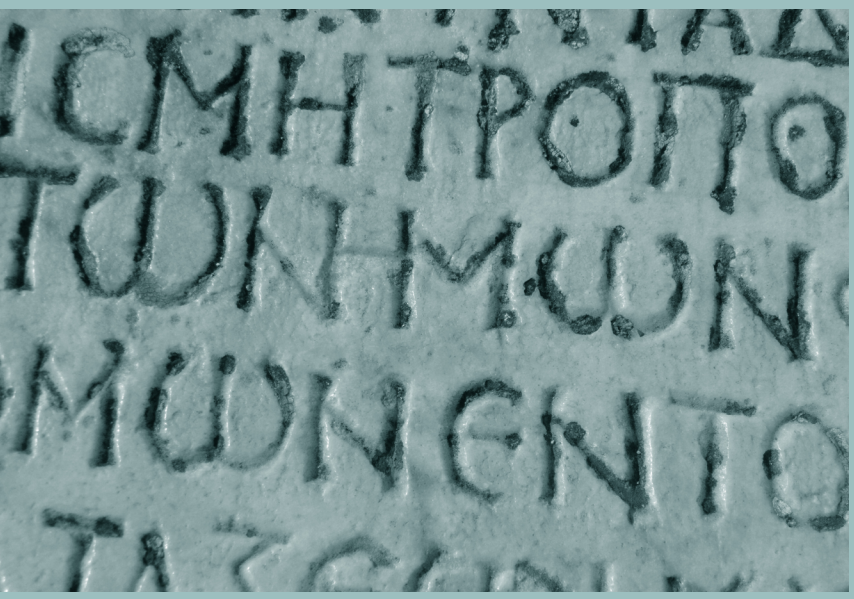
HELLENIC OBSERVATORY NEWSLETTER

2021 - 2022









LSE THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

HELLENIC OBSERVATORY
European Institute

EDITORIAL

The year 2022 represents a transitional year for the Hellenic Observatory. Like everyone else, we look forward to returning to something close to normality, after the restrictions of the COVID pandemic. This should enable us to host more public events on campus.

This summer, we will be sad to see the departure of our current manager, Sofia Vyzantiadou, for another post at LSE. We are very grateful for all her great work on our behalf. We welcome Maria Komninou as her successor. We also look forward to Areti Chatzistergou returning to us, after her maternity leave. We are pleased to have James Batterson covering for Areti in the meantime.

On a more personal note, I will be stepping down from the Eleftherios Venizelos Chair this September and we look forward to the appointment of my successor. They can bring fresh thinking to the work and planning of the Observatory. In the meantime, I will be pleased to continue as the HO Director – carrying out those tasks I have enjoyed the most.

This Newsletter outlines that the Observatory is in good shape. The Observatory's research publications continue to be downloaded in impressive numbers from around the world. Significant numbers of these, this last year, have come from China, Nigeria and Ukraine – not areas we might have expected. Our GreeSE paper series has recently published its 174th research paper. Our online public events also attracted many attendees from around the world. It is no exaggeration to say that when an international audience seeks high quality expertise on contemporary Greece and Cyprus, a strong point of reference is the Observatory at the LSE.

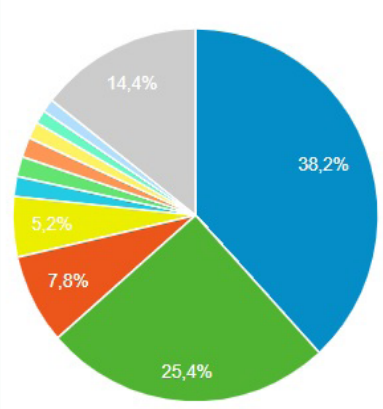
The last academic year saw the 25th anniversary of the Observatory's establishment. We were delighted to upload personal videos recorded by some of those most closely involved in the creation of the Observatory and its work over the years. We have also created a webpage recalling many of the key events of our last 25 years. Full details are reported in this Newsletter.

As always, I'm very grateful for the considerable support and contribution of my immediate colleagues. The Observatory is a small, but very effective and collegial team.

So, as we undergo some changes, we do so with confidence in what we have achieved to date and we look forward to delivering much more in the future. There are challenging issues and exciting events to contemplate.

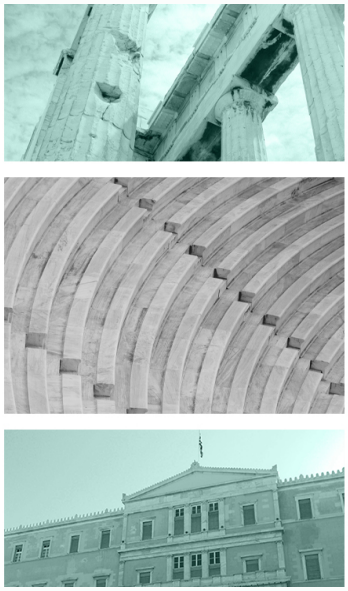
Kevin Featherstone
Hellenic Observatory Director

Hellenic Observatory Website
Visits by country (2021-22)



1.	Greece	6.	France
2.	United Kingdom	7.	Netherlands
3.	United States	8.	India
4.	Cyprus	9.	Indonesia
5.	Germany	10.	Italy

HELLENIC OBSERVATORY 25th ANNIVERSARY







The Hellenic Observatory, located in the LSE's European Institute, celebrated its 25th Anniversary in 2021-22. In the mid-1990s, a campaign was launched to establish a chair on Greece that was neither concerned with the ancient or classical past, nor the arts and humanities – the 'Eleftherios Venizelos Chair in Contemporary Greek Studies'. 25 Years later the Hellenic Observatory is now one of the largest 'Departmental Research Units' (DRUs) in the School. We can be very proud of this achievement and can justifiably claim to be the premier international location for the study, teaching and research of contemporary Greek politics, economy and society.

To celebrate, we launched a 25th Anniversary webpage and a special publication showcasing the Observatory's history, activities and some of its highest moments.



HO Shorts

We have asked friends of the Observatory to share their thoughts and memories in an attempt to highlight different aspects of our history and work. A video was released each month. Minouche Shafik, the Director of LSE, George Papandreou, who dedicated the Eleftherios Venizelos Chair in Contemporary Greek Studies in 1996 and Vassili G. Apostolopoulos, President of the LSE Hellenic Alumni Association, are some of the people who wished us happy birthday! Click to watch them below!



Kevin Featherstone



Spyros Economides



Nicos Mouzelis



Loukas Tsoukalis



Baroness Minouche Shafik



George Papandreou



Vassili G. Apostolopoulos



Ismini Demades



Eleni Louri Dendrinou



Effie Achtsioglou



Katerina Glyniadaki



Panos Tsakloglou

HELLENIC OBSERVATORY EVENTS 2021-22

Book Launches

Greece and the Euro: from crisis to recovery

George Alogoskoufis, Helen Louri Dendrinou, Lucas Papademos, Sir Christopher Pissarides

30 September 2021





In 2018, when the eight-year adjustment program for Greece was coming to an end, former Greek Prime Minister, Alexis Tsipras announced, in Ithaca no less, that the 'Odyssey' is over. Only two years later, COVID-19 hit the Greek economy, raising questions about the prospects of sustainable recovery from yet another crisis. The e-book Greece and the Euro: from crisis to recovery, edited by George Alogoskoufis (AUEB) and Kevin Featherstone (LSE), takes on this challenge with contributions from Greece's most eminent analysts of economy and politics. The event discussed key findings of this volume, in a panel of eminent scholars and policy-makers. Helen Louri (AUEB), Lucas Papademos (Bank of Greece), and Sir Christopher Pissarides (LSE) discussed with the editors their contributions and analyses, revolving around the structural causes for Greece's crises in the past three decades, the prerequisites for sustainable recovery, the interdependencies and reform requirements for the European Monetary Union, but also the successes of Greece's current economic policies.

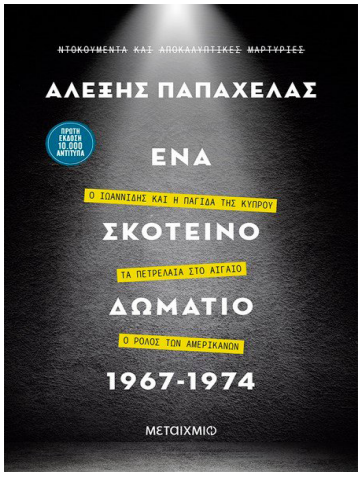


Greece and Cyprus in a Dark Room, 1967-74

Alexis Papahelas

25 November 2021





What kept the junta in power? What options did Greece have after Turkey invaded Cyprus? And what was the relationship between the US-administration and the Greek military dictatorship? Alexis Papahelas (Kathimerini) tackled these and many other questions in the launch of his new book Greece and Cyprus in the Dark Room, 1967-74. Based on archival research, interviews with high-ranking stakeholders, and the analysis of audio tapes over a period of more than 25 years, this book signifies a sequel to his previous book *The Rape of Greek Democracy - The American Factor,* which covers CIA involvement in Greece up to 1967. In a discussion with Kevin Featherstone (LSE), the launch of his new book scrutinized the departure of the King of Greece and the Junta's solidification, the ascent of Georgios Papadopoulos from colonel to dictatorial leader, his relations with the Greek business establishment, and Papadopoulos' eventual toppling by co-conspirator Dimitrios Ioannidis, amongst other issues. Though Papahelas has been able to uncover many secrets of the fascist dictatorship, he argues that there will forever be 'dark corners' in the Junta's history - even if the last cables will be declassified.

Greece from Junta to Crisis: modernization, transition, diversity

Dimitris Tziovas, Thalia Dragonas, Stathis Kalyvas

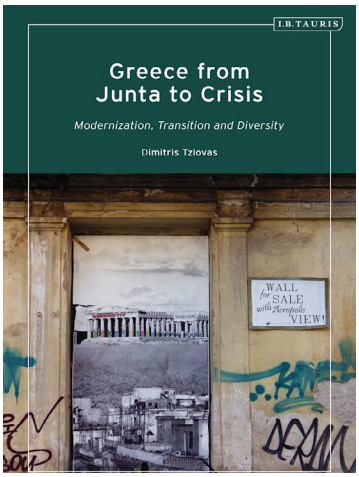
7 February 2022







This event introduced the new book by Dimitris Tziovas (University of Birmingham), titled Greece from Junta to Crisis: modernization, transition, diversity. By problematising the notion of modernization, the author analysed socio-cultural trends in the years between the fall of the junta and the economic crisis, highlighting the growing diversity and cultural ambivalence of Greek society. In a discussion with Thalia Dragonas (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) and Stathis Kalyvas (University of Oxford) launch of this book examined cultural trends in Greece over the last fifty years. Aiming for a more nuanced understanding of recent history, a fresh perspective on current problems was offered. This event was chaired by Professor Kevin Featherstone (LSE).



Panel Discussions

The Geopolitics of Greece: continuities and discontinuities

Konstantina Botsiou, Erik Goldstein, and George Prevelakis
28 October 2021



In light of the 200-year anniversary of the Hellenic Republic, Konstantina Botsiou (University of the Peloponnese), Erik Goldstein (Boston University), and George Prevelakis (Sorbonne University) discussed the role of Geopolitics for understanding Greek foreign policy between 1821 and 2021 in a public event chaired by Spyros Economides (LSE). Konstantina Botsiou explained how Greece's positive relations with both France and Great Britain can be traced to the Naval character of the Hellenic state since the revolution. Erik Goldstein picked up on the battle of Navarino and argued it signifies the first humanitarian intervention in modern history. The Q&A that followed revolved around questions including Greek-Balkan relations, the increasing importance of China and Israel, and how technological innovations change the ways in which the Great Powers mapped their geostrategic interests around Greece and beyond.

Part of the 21 in 21 activities, celebrating the 2021 bicentenary of the outbreak of the Greek War of Independence in 21 Greek-British encounters.

Battling Against Fake News in Britain and Greece: can the mainstream media win?

Tony Barber, Nikos Konstandaras, David Patrikarakos, Eleni Varvitsioti
9 November 2021



The digital age has shifted what 'news' entails, challenging both the authority of mainstream media and their monopoly of 'truth'. Can mainstream media take authority back? And what is their role for countering fake news? In this LSE panel-discussion, co-hosted by John Kittmer (Anglo-Hellenic League), four high-profile journalists; Tony Barber (Financial Times), Nikos Konstandaras (Kathimerini), David Patrikarakos and Eleni Varvitsioti (Financial Times) provided their takes on Greece, Britain, and beyond. The discussion started by focusing on what fake news actually entails, how serious of a problem it is, and what mainstream news can do about it. What followed was a lively Q&A, carefully moderated by John Kittmer, on truth and epistemology, polarization, emotion, and the importance to 'follow the money'. This event was chaired by Professor Kevin Featherstone (LSE).

This event was co-organised with the Anglo- Hellenic League.

Religion and Human Rights in Greece

Effie Fokas, Yannis Ktistakis

31 January 2022




This event brought together Dr Effie Fokas (ELIAMEP), a scholar, and Dr Yannis Ktistakis (European Court of Human Rights), a practitioner, both engaged in the study and implementation of religion-related human rights in Greece. At this event, chaired by Professor Kevin Featherstone (LSE), the speakers discussed several important issues such as religious education in state schools, the legal status of religious minorities and exemption from Sharia Law, and the critical role played by the ECtHR in such areas.

Weathering the Pandemic: the emerging financial landscape in Southeast Europe

Anthony Bartzokas, Fokion Karavias, Francis Malige, Debora Revoltella, Boris Vujcic

30 March 2022







In this event, a panel of experts from the region, Dr Anthony Bartzokas (University of Athens, LSE), Mr Fokion Karavias (Eurobank), Mr Francis Malige (EBRD), Dr Debora Revoltella (EIB) and Professor Boris Vujcic (Croatian National Bank), discussed key challenges for finance stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic; proposals by various institutions for future action and the role of technology, investors, and banks in shaping the future of the financial sector in Southeast Europe. This event was chaired by Dr Vassilis Monastiriotis (LSE).

This event was co-hosted with LSEE - Research on South Eastern Europe.

Athens Lecture Series

The Hellenic Observatory in collaboration with the National Bank of Greece and with the support of the LSE Hellenic Alumni Association hosted the Athens Lectures series for a third consecutive year. The purpose of this series is to provoke vibrant discussion and debate about a range of key topics and subjects within the social sciences. The agenda is kept deliberately broad and the lectures are intended to be accessible to a general audience.

The Brexit Deterrent? How Britain's Exit has Shaped Public Support for the EU

Sara Hobolt, Sofia Vasilopoulou
21 October 2021




While researchers have paid considerable attention to how Brexit has been understood and critiqued within the UK, relatively little is known about how it has influenced public opinion in the remaining EU member states. After a welcome address by Professor Gikas Hardouvelis (National Bank of Greece), Sara Hobolt (LSE) presented the key findings of her large-scale study to this regard, in a vivid conversation with Sofia Vasilopoulou (University of York) and Kevin Featherstone (LSE). The discussions that followed Hobolt's presentation evolved around questions of sovereignty, institutional trust, the ways in which COVID may have influenced her study findings, and the peculiarities of Greece's public support for the EU.

Minimum Wages: lessons from international experience

Alan Manning, Antigone Lyberaki, Manolis Galenianos
7 December 2021





In this final Athens Lecture, Professors Alan Manning (LSE), Manolis Galenianos (Royal Holloway) and Antigone Lyberaki (Panteion University) discussed the impact of minimum wage over the past decades. Professor Manning's presentation focused on the experiences of OECD countries, particularly the UK. Specifically, he examined the impacts of minimum wage on employment, wage inequality, and poverty. Professor Galenianos picked up on these findings and used them to investigate minimum wage policy in Greece pre, during and post crisis, in an effort to think through potential future policies. Professor Lyberaki further scrutinized the Greek example, by problematizing the fact that one quarter of the country's GDP consists of the informal economy. In this vein, she also questioned the impact of minimum wage in a country that has the lowest unemployment rate in the EU. The presentations were followed by a vivid discussion and a Q&A session chaired by Dr Vassilis Monastiriotis.

Research Seminar Series

Our Research Seminars series has always been a venue through which we were able to address topical issues concerning the Greek and Cyprus economy, politics and society, showcasing current high quality research and connecting with the Greek and Cypriot diaspora in London. In recent years, we have also been able to also host presentations on research funded directly by the Hellenic Observatory, through our Research Calls Programmes. This academic year we welcomed a strong line-up of academics and policy makers and hosted the following seminars:

Youth and Politics in Protracted Conflicts

Huseyin Cakal, Oded Adomi Leshem, Neophytos Loizides, Charis Psaltis
5 October 2021



What are the hopes and expectations of the youth and Internally Displaced Persons about the Cyprus issue? And how do young people compare to older generations? These and other questions were at the heart of an international research project funded by the Hellenic Observatory's A.G. Leventis Research Innovation Programme on Cyprus. Huseyin Cakal (Keele University), Oded Adomi Leshem (Hebrew University), Neophytos Loizides (University of Kent) and Charis Psaltis (University of Cyprus) discussed the major results and implications of their work in this research seminar chaired by Philipp Katsinas (LSE). A lively Q&A revolved around questions of generational differences, political party preferences and popular understandings of BBF.

Public Trust and Citizen Engagement in Greece: learning from the past?

Stefanos Loukopoulos, Vasiliki Georgiadou, Lamprini Rori
2 November 2021



What is the future for public trust and citizen engagement in Greek politics? What lessons can be drawn from the recent past? What is the scope for reform? Is new technology a friend or a foe and might it create a new politics? This discussion considered these questions from both an analytical and practitioner perspective. Stefanos Loukopoulos (Vouliwatch), Vasiliki Georgiadou (Panteion University) and Lamprini Rori (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) discussed the role of 'Vouliwatch' as an NGO and its impact in Greece, alongside an academic assessment of the systemic issues raised.

Entrepreneurialising Solidarity? A Pragmatic Sociology of the Social and Solidarity Economy in Greece

Dimitris Soudias
16 November 2021



What are the political, epistemological, and ethical consequences of fusing market rationalities with non-market rationalities? In this research seminar chaired by Dr Vassilis Monastiriotis, Dimitris Soudias (LSE) tackled this question by focusing on the social and solidarity economy sector in Greece. Building on interviews with relevant stakeholders, he shows how hybrid-economic practices partly reproduce, rather undermine, the very neoliberal rationalities the social and solidarity economy seeks to challenge in the first place. Specifically, Dimitris Soudias showed how these practices economise, entrepreneurialise and communitarianise solidarity.

Cyprus and Stability in Eastern Mediterranean

Ambassador Alexandros N. Zenon, Emmanuel Karagiannis
30 November 2021





The discovery of hydrocarbon resources off the coast of Cyprus has been a blessing, but it also comes at a cost. What are the strategic geopolitical interests around Cyprus? What is at stake regarding the pre-existing conflicts in the region? And which regional alliances and power dynamics are emanating from these challenges? Ambassador Alexandros N. Zenon (High Commissioner of Cyprus to the UK) and Dr Emmanuel Karagiannis (KCL) discussed these and other issues in an HO research seminar chaired by Professor Kevin Featherstone (LSE). Amongst others, the discussion and Q&A touched upon the roles of China and Russia in the Middle East and North Africa, and on whether the discovery of hydrocarbons could be a game-changer for resolving the Cyprus problem.

Intelligent Modelling of e-Government Initiatives in Greece

Fay Makantasi, Diomidis Spinellis, George Xirogiannis
15 February 2022



Could e-Government initiatives overcome some of the endemic problems of public administration in Greece? What were their limits? How could we monitor their impact? Was Greece keeping up with e-Government initiatives elsewhere? Professor Diomidis Spinellis (AUEB), Dr Fay Makantasi (diaNEOsis) and Dr George Xirogiannis (SEV - Hellenic Federation and Enterprises) presented the findings of their research project on e-Government initiatives in Greece, funded by the Hellenic Observatory Research Call Programme. This research seminar was chaired by Professor Kevin Featherstone (LSE).

Crisis Management within Government: Papandreou and Tsipras compared

Kevin Featherstone, Dimitris Papadimitriou
18 January 2022



In this research seminar Professor Kevin Featherstone (LSE) and Professor Dimitris Papadimitriou (University of Manchester) analysed the crisis management of the Greek governments led by George Papandreou and Alexis Tsipras. The leadership styles of the two prime ministers were compared as well as the shifts in the enduring features of how governments are run. The speakers argued that Papandreou's term was characterised by inertia and fragmentation of the governmental problem-solving capacity, while Tsipras' era saw further retrenchment and fragmentation. Dr Spyros Economides (LSE) chaired the event.

Deciphering the Formulation of Greek Economic Diplomacy Towards the Western Balkans

Nikolaos Tzifakis, Ritsa Panagiotou

1 March 2022





Dr Nikolaos Tzifakis (University of the Peloponnese) and Dr Ritsa Panagiotou (KEPE - Centre of Planning and Economic Research) analysed the key findings of their research project on Greek Economic Diplomacy in the Western Balkans, funded by the Hellenic Observatory Research Call Programme. In this research seminar chaired by Dr Vassilis Monasiriotis, the speakers mapped out the multi-layered dimensions of Greek economic relations with the Western Balkans, highlighted problems and challenges that emerged over the years, and identified key actors and stakeholders.



Visit the events page on our website for more information or the podcast page for videos & podcasts of the events.

Visit the research seminars page on our website to find out more about our Research Seminars Series.



RESEARCH
Staff Research

Kevin Featherstone



Kevin Featherstone's research focusses on comparative European politics and politics in Greece. He is currently co-authoring (with D. Papadimitriou) a new monograph for Oxford University Press entitled 'Governing under duress: Greek Prime Ministers and the Euro-Crisis'. In addition, he is finishing two journal articles: 'The Changing Discourses of EU enlargement: a longitudinal analysis of national parliamentary debates' (with S. Economides and T. Hunter) and 'Do Crises Centralise Decision-Making? The core executive in the Greek economic crisis' (with D. Papadimitriou).

Spyros Economides



Spyros Economides continues to research and write on the Europeanisation of foreign policy. He has just completed a chapter entitled, 'The Role of the Member States: the Europeanization of Foreign Policy' which will be published in the latest edition of International Relations and the European Union (Oxford University Press, 2022) edited Christopher Hill, Michael H. Smith, and Sophie Vanhoonacker. In addition, along with Kevin Featherstone and Tom Hunter, he has co-authored, 'The Changing Discourses of EU Enlargement: a longitudinal analysis of national parliamentary debates', which is currently being revised for publication. Lastly, Economides continues to work on a longer project in the field of European Security and Defence which is provisionally entitled, 'Rethinking Europe's Security Culture' which examines the EU's strategic actorness and choices in the post-1990 era.

Vassilis Monastiriotis



Vassilis Monastiriotis' current research is mainly in two areas. On the one hand, analysis of regional growth and policy at the European level, linked to growth accelerations, cross-regional convergence and the effects of public policy interventions (with emphasis on Smart Specialisation Strategies). On the other hand, analysis of occupational shifts in the labour market, linked to the COVID pandemic and wider trends related to automation; and wage disparities / incidence of low-pay associated to these.

HELLENIC OBSERVATORY RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

Hellenic Observatory Research Calls Programme on Greece

The Hellenic Observatory Research Calls Programme supports high-quality academic and policy-related research within the social sciences on Greece and Cyprus, with generous donations from the A.C. Laskaridis Charitable Foundation (ACLCF) and Dr Vassili G. Apostolopoulos. The Programme continues for the 5th year and so far, thirteen projects have been funded, of which six have been completed, creating significant outputs and offering concrete policy suggestions: Economic Growth in Greece: barriers and prospects; Low Intensity Violence in Crisis-ridden Greece: evidence from the radical right and the radical left; Immigrant and Refugee Segregation Dynamics (InSert); Evaluating the Impact of Labour Market Reforms in Greece during 2010-2018; Deciphering the Formulation of Greek Economic Diplomacy Towards the Western Balkans; and, Intelligent Modeling of e-Government Initiatives in Greece.

Every year the Call has a different thematic focus, with the 2022 one focusing on mobilisations in response to the 'migration crisis', vaccine hesitancy, and the effects of the pandemic on vulnerable populations. The successful projects will be announced in September. Until then, you can find more information on the 2021 Projects below:

The Paradoxes and Mixed Record of Culture Wars in Contemporary Greece

Sokratis Koniordos, University of the Peloponnese & Dimitri A. Sotiropoulos, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens

In contrast to culture wars in other societies, associated with social movements and the formation of identities from within the social sphere, in contemporary Greece such conflicts have started after initiatives taken by state authorities. Moreover, participants in Greek culture wars have been not so much identity groups, but political and administrative institutions, including ministries, the courts and official church authorities. In addition, culture wars in Greece have been interwoven with on-going, front stage political party conflict rather than long-term, simmering social tensions. In the context of such paradoxes, four different wars – considered as case studies – have broken out, namely conflicts over:

(a) the Greek national identity in opposition to the European one;
(b) the challenges posed to that identity by migrants and refugees;
(c) traditional family vs. modern forms of gender identity and partnership;
(d) personal freedom from compulsory vaccination (including Covid-19 vaccines).

This research project will map and explore multiple aspects of these four culture wars through the study of opinion surveys, official documents (parliamentary minutes, court decisions), as well as the conduct of 4 focus groups.

Cultural Divides and Affective Polarisation

Roula Nezi, University of Surrey & George Karyotis, University of Glasgow

The project aims to situate developments in Greek public opinion in a comparative perspective and examine how cultural issue cleavages have realigned around new partisan identities. In doing so, the goal is to examine the extent to which social polarisation on issues that measure the logic of a "culture war" narrative prevail over those that measure "economic" issues and interests. The researchers propose that a way to evaluate the extent of political and societal polarisation and its effects, is by examining how individuals identify themselves on a dimension from "liberalism" to "conservatism", and then exploring how this continuum relates to group identities and polarisation over time. Having established evidence for polarisation between liberal and conservative identities, the researchers will ask what factors are responsible for producing and sustaining these changes, and finally, how they manifest in contemporary partisan identities.

A Greek Green Deal: fighting energy poverty and building energy democracy

Yannis Maniatis, University of Piraeus & Emmanuel Karagiannis, King's College London

The European Union is shifting towards a climate-neutral economy by 2050 with relevant interventions. Greece's total energy dependence is 74 percent, while the EU average is 54 percent. Respectively, the country is 100 percent dependent on hydrocarbons, which constitute 65 percent of the final national energy consumption. The national economy spends every year on oil and gas imports around €5.5 billion. More specifically, 60 percent of national oil consumption comes from transport and 30 percent from domestic consumption for heating purposes (the fourth highest level among to the members of the International Energy Organisation).

The strengthening of renewable energy sources, electrification, de-lignification, and island electricity interconnections are part of the national energy strategy which has been formed by incorporating the principles of the European Energy Union. Yet, Greece has experienced a long financial crisis that has affected its transition to a sustainable model of energy use and production. When an ineffective social protection system coincides with high unemployment rates, a national energy strategy should include measures to tackle and combat energy poverty.

This study aims at providing a new approach to Greece's energy industry. It is guided by the following objectives:

(a) to examine the Greek contribution to the prevention of the climate crisis in the framework of the European Green Deal;

(b) to describe the promise of energy democracy and the problem of energy poverty in Greece;

(c) to analyse and compare different energy communities in the country.

Intergenerational Mobility in Education in Greece

Nikolaos Vettas, Athens University of Economics and Business & IOBE

Education plays a central role in social mobility. The Greek education system is believed to have for decades functioned as a mechanism of, mainly upward, intergenerational social mobility. Greece exhibits a relatively high rate of intergenerational mobility in education compared to its European peers, defined as the percentage of individuals having achieved a higher level of education than their parents. Despite its relatively good performance, the transmission of social advantage or disadvantage and social inequality persist, as in most countries around the world. Reasons inter alia include the unequal prospects offered by the plethora of tertiary education options in Greece as well as the lengthening of mean academic trajectories. Furthermore, even though access to university studies is free-of-charge, the fact that it is exams-based implies that students with unequal performances may have unequal life prospects.

This research project aims to shed light on:

(a) the role of socioeconomic status and other important factors on the cognitive performance and future plans of Greek high-school students,

(b) intertemporal trends taking into account the recent economic crisis, and

(c) possible differences with other EU/OECD countries on the effect of socioeconomic and other drivers on intergenerational educational mobility.

Visit the Hellenic Observatory Research Calls Programme webpage on our website to find out more.



A.G. Leventis Research Innovation Programme on Cyprus

Launched in 2019 with the generous support of the A.G. Leventis Foundation, this research initiative has a clear focus on Cyprus and complements the Research Calls Programme. It supports innovative research on issues of contemporary academic and policy-relevant significance, while fostering collaboration with LSE-based academics. So far, the research projects have focused on a range of cutting-edge topics, providing important policy suggestions for addressing societal issues, including: the views of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot youth on the resolution of the Cyprus Problem; the role of youth activism in the fight against climate change; the socio-legal challenges faced by foreign domestic workers; policy measures to ensure the education of refugee children in Cyprus; and addressing precariousness in Cyprus.

Our new projects have shifted their focus on decolonising archaeology and on the anti-vaccination movement in Cyprus. Meet them here:

De-Colonizing Archaeology-Related Photographic Archives

Dr Theopisti Stylianou-Lambert, Cyprus University of Technology, & CYENS Centre of Excellence
LSE Collaborator: Dr. Joanna Lewis, Department of International History

This project aims to critically examine different photographic archives in archaeological museums in Cyprus and the UK and make policy suggestions on how these archives can be "de-colonialized" and be given new affordances. The originality of the project lies in the fact that decolonization practices in the GLAM (galleries, libraries, archives, and museums) sector are still lagging in Cyprus. While the island became independent 60 years ago, several colonial structures are still in place; i.e. legislation, buildings, museums, libraries, and archives. Decolonization as a political process has been extensively addressed by established academics and new researchers, however discussion on the theory and process of decolonizing the photographic archives of museums - or the museums themselves - is still relatively new.

The COVID-19 Anti-Vaccination Movement in Cyprus: an investigation of its discourses

Marilena Paraskeva, University of Cyprus

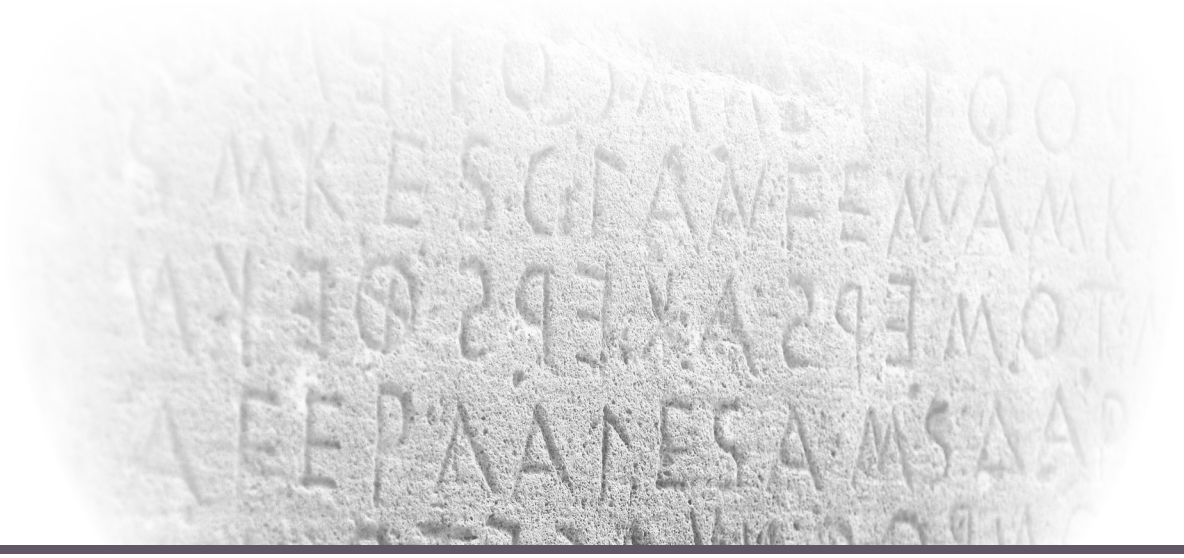
This project aims to examine the speeches articulated in anti-vaccination onsite protests in Cyprus, bridging the gap caused by the absence of research on both the oral discourses articulated in anti-vaccination onsite protests and the anti-vaccination movement discourse in Greek-speaking contexts. Specifically, the project will:
(a) identify and analyse the main topics included in these speeches;
(b) identify the range of implicit and explicit influences/resources (political, scientific/medical, religious, cultural and/or social) upon which the speeches draw to support their arguments;
(c) identify the linguistic strategies that the speeches contain to persuade the public on certain (anti) vaccination ideas and, in turn, shape the beliefs and knowledge of the public.

Visit the A.G. Leventis Research Innovation Programme on Cyprus webpage on our website to find out more information.

A new Call for Research Projects was announced on June 2022, inviting the submission of research proposals on the following themes:

1. Decolonizing the study of Cyprus
2. Culture Wars

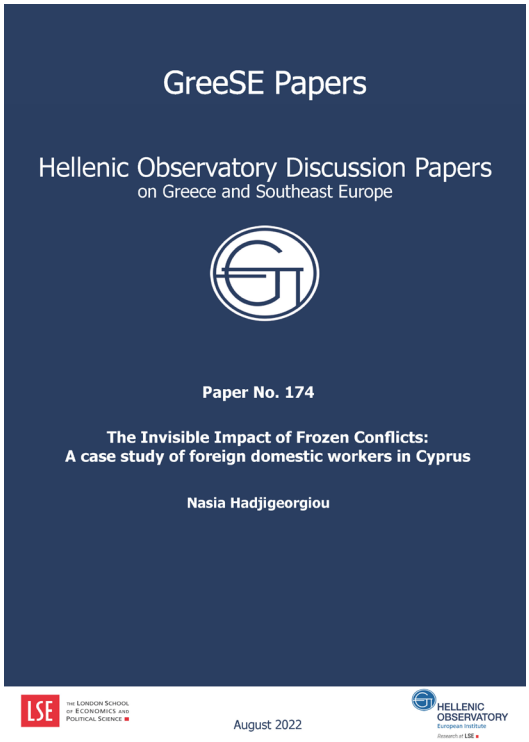
The deadline for submission was on 30 September 2022. The successful projects will be announced in November 2022. Check our website for updates.



GreeSE PAPERS 2021/22
Hellenic Observatory Papers on Greece and Southeast Europe

The Hellenic Observatory Papers on Greece and Southeast Europe (GreeSE Papers) have been published monthly since 2007, with the series reaching its 174th issue this year. The Papers cover a large range thematically, welcoming contributions from all disciplines within the social science spectrum.

The past academic year saw the publication GreeSE papers covering a range of topics, from e-government reforms (GreeSE Paper 168) to economic diplomacy with the Western Balkans (GreeSE Paper 169), political violence in Greece (GreeSE Paper 167), and precarious employment (GreeSE Paper 171), with a clear focus remaining on the economic adjustment programmes of the past decade (GreeSE Papers 162 and 172). The Papers are published online only, and with nearly 28,000 downloads a year, they influence scholarly research and the public debate on Greece and Cyprus within the Southeast European context.



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Latest Papers in the Series

174. Nasia Hadjigeorgiou, The Invisible Impact of Frozen Conflicts: A case study of foreign domestic workers in Cyprus, August 2022
173. Dimitrios Karamanis, Defence partnerships, military expenditure, investment, and economic growth: an analysis in PESCO countries, July 2022
172. Cyrille Lenoël, Corrado Macchiarelli, Garry Young, Greece 2010-18: What could we have done differently?, June 2022
171. Ilias Livanos and Evi Tzika, Precarious employment in Greece: Economic crisis, labour market flexibilisation, and vulnerable workers, May 2022
170. Theodoros Rakopoulos, On Divisionism and Cypriotism: the civic languages of the Cyprus Problem, April 2022
169. Ritsa Panagiotou and Nikolaos Tzifakis, Deciphering the Greek Economic Diplomacy towards the Western Balkans: actors, processes, challenges, March 2022

Hellenic Observatory Researchers

Hellenic Observatory Research Officer

Dr Philipp Katsinas



My current research focuses on the impact of property foreclosures and evictions, tourism, and global corporate investors on the housing market. I recently published a paper on the instrumentalisation of the concept of happiness by the Greek government, while I have two further papers in preparation, on the financialisation of housing in Greece, and the privatisation of public space during the pandemic. As the Hellenic Observatory Research Officer, I coordinate the research projects funded by the Hellenic Observatory Research Calls Programme and A.G. Leventis Research Innovation Programme. It is both exciting and rewarding to be in direct contact with early career and more established scholars working on a variety of policy relevant themes and to learn about and from their research on Greece and Cyprus.

Hellenic Bank Association Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Dr Dimitris Soudias

I call myself lucky to have been both an HBA postdoctoral research fellow and subsequently a visiting fellow at the Hellenic Observatory in these past months. As a postdoctoral fellow, I investigated social entrepreneurship in Athens and Berlin, by attending to the consequences of using market-based methods to pursue emancipatory ends, leading to many great discussions and insights, an article (under review), and a presentation in the HO Seminar Series on the entrepreneurialisation of solidarity. Additionally, my current visiting fellowship allows me to continue collaborating with my wonderful colleagues at the LSE. On the one hand, I have been provided the space and resources to finalize the revisions for my book manuscript, titled 'Paradoxes of Emancipation. Radical Imagination in Neoliberal Greece', which is under contract with Syracuse University Press. On the other hand, I have been given the opportunity to delve deeper into a research project with the HO research officer Philipp Katsinas on what we call 'The Political Imaginary of Happiness in Greece.' We have presented our first findings at the 2nd conference of the Cultural Analysis Network: *Greek Studies Now* in Amsterdam, and we are currently writing up an article – all of which would not have been possible without the generous support of the HO. Thank you!



Fellows and Associates

Each year the Hellenic Observatory offers affiliation to a group of selected academics and policy practitioners who wish to spend a period of 6 to 12 months at the LSE to conduct independent research on a topic relevant to the work of the Hellenic Observatory. The Visiting Fellows, Visiting Senior Fellows & Visiting Professors play an active part in the intellectual life of the Observatory during their fellowship.

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(Left to right) Philipp Katsinas, Vassilis Monastiriotis, Sofia Vyzantiadou, James Batterson, Spyros Economides, Areti Chatzistergou, Kevin Featherstone



Dr Vassilis Monastiriotis
Associate Professor of
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Hellenic Observatory
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Areti Chatzistergou
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OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Hellenic Observatory Director bestowed the title 'Doctor Honoris Causa' by the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

The Hellenic Observatory is pleased to announce that its director, Professor Kevin Featherstone, has been conferred the title 'Doctor Honoris Causa' by the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. The ceremony took place at the University on Thursday 3 March 2022. The title is the highest honour bestowed by the University and is in recognition of Professor Featherstone's outstanding work in political science and political economy.

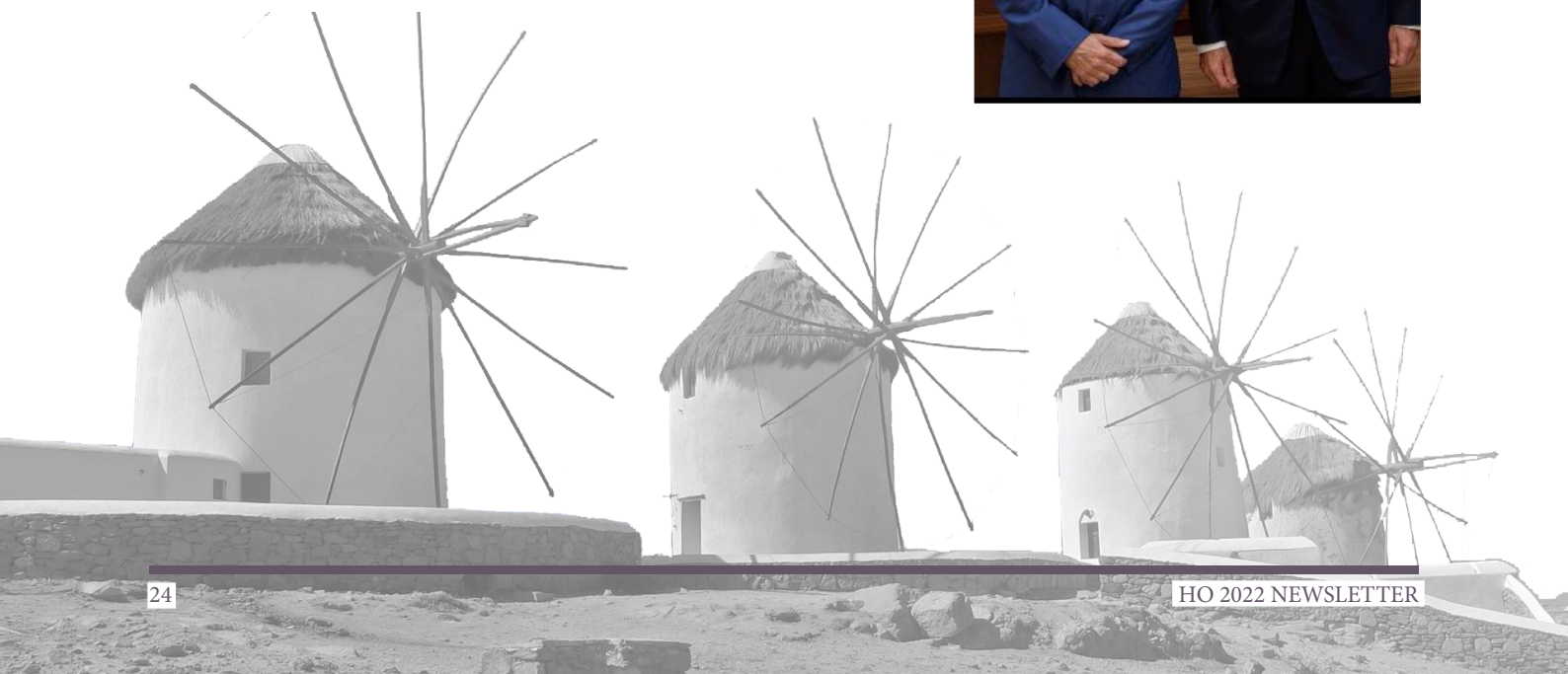
In his acceptance speech, Professor Featherstone thanked those friends and colleagues who have supported him over the years. "I am very proud to receive this great honour, which means so much to me", he added.



Dr Spyros Economides in a roundtable discussion with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, Mr Nikos Dendias

Dr Spyros Economides participated in a roundtable discussion with Mr Nikos Dendias, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic. The event, focusing on "Enhancing Security and Stability in Europe and the Mediterranean", was organised by the Royal United Services Institute on 25 October 2021.





Professor Kevin Featherstone took part in the 7th Annual Delphi Economic Forum

Professor Kevin Featherstone attended the Annual Meeting of the Delphi Economic Forum VII: New Realities, which took place between 6-9 April 2022. Professor Featherstone chaired the 'Defending Democracy in Challenging Times' fireside chat, and the panel discussion 'Universities after Brexit: What Future for UK - Greek ties?'.



(Left to right) Anastasia Andritsou, Vivienne Stern, Dimitrios Bourantonis, Stuart Bond, Andreas Boudouvis, Kevin Featherstone

LSE Cities, in partnership with the Hellenic Observatory, hosted the event 'Urban Age Forum | Athens: towards a more liveable city?'

Hosted at Serafio City of Athens, this event marked the completion of the Athens Urban Age Task Force initiative. The event explored the future liveability and sustainability of Greece's capital city. Professor Ricky Burdett, Director of LSE Cities presented new in-depth analysis comparing Athens with other global cities and offered insights into spatial, social, economic and environmental attributes at a metropolitan and local level. Mayor Kostas Bakoyannis was joined by local and international experts to discuss innovation and best practice in Urban policy and design. This event was organised by LSE Cities at the London School of Economics and Political Science, the Alfred Herrhausen Gesellschaft and the City of Athens, in partnership with the LSE Hellenic Observatory.



(Left to right) Alexis Papahelas, Kostas Bakoyannis, Maria Vassilakou, Jean-Louis Missika, Tony Travers, Georgios Panetsos, Ricky Burdett

Advisory Board

The Hellenic Observatory is governed by School policies and regulations and as a departmental research unit is part of the European Institute. It also benefits from the advice and support of its Advisory Board. This comprises academic and public figures, as well as representatives of the Hellenic Observatory's original donors. The members of the Advisory Board of the Hellenic Observatory are:

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS
Michaelmas Term 2022/23

(More future events will be published on our events page)

STOP PRESS

Monday 28 November 2022

Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis in conversation with Professor Kevin Featherstone

Celebrating 25 years of the Hellenic Observatory

Check our webpages for further details

RESEARCH SEMINARS



Tuesday 25 October 2022

Crisis and Entrepreneurship: business dynamics, firm level, sectoral and regional determinants

Speaker: Ioannis Kaplanis, Athens University of Economics and Business



Tuesday 8 November 2022

Political trust and satisfaction with democracy in Greece in comparative perspective (1986- 2020)

Speaker: Sofia Vassilopoulou, King's College London



Tuesday 22 November 2022

The privatisation of public space by leisure industries and commercial gentrification in post-pandemic Greece

Speaker: Philipp Katsinas, LSE

BOOK LAUNCH



Tuesday 11 October 2022

Exiting the crisis: the challenges of reform agency in Greece

Speakers: Calliope Spanou, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, **Jens Bastian,** German Institute for International and Security Affairs

PANEL DISCUSSIONS



Michaelmas Term 2022 (TBC)

Looking to the Next Greek Elections: what choice for Greece?

Speakers: Christos Dimas, Deputy Minister of Development and Investments, **Effie Achtsioglou,** SYRIZA MP, **Panagiotis Vlachos** Communications Secretary, KINAL



Wednesday 2 November 2022

The Parallax of 1922: The Greco-Turkish war in history, memory and international politics

Speakers: Giorgos Giannakopoulos, City University of London, **Yaprak Gürsoy,** LSE, **Ioannis Grigoriades,** Bilkent University, **Ozan Ozavci,** Utrecht University, **Elisabeth Thompson,** American University, Washington DC



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