



# Decolonizing Hellas

**Hybrid Nomadic Symposium**  
PLYFA Industrial Park  
Korytsas 39 Votanikos Athens

4 .11  
5 .11  
6 .11  
7 .11

**dëcolonize hellás**

2021

IMPËRIAL  
PAŞTS—  
CONTEŞTED  
PRESENTS—  
EMANÇIPATËD  
FUTURES—

décolonize hellás

1821  
2021

## Welcome from the Collective

The *dēcolonize hellás* collective will introduce the aims of the 4-day symposium and its place in the unfolding initiative.

### Nikolas Kosmatopoulos

Department of Political Studies, Department of Anthropology, American University of Beirut / FLOATS – Floating Laboratory of Action and Theory at Sea

### Despina Lalaki

Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Baruch College, City University of New York – CUNY

### Penelope Papailias

Department of History, Archeology and Social Anthropology, University of Thessaly / Pelion Summer Lab for Cultural History and Experimental Humanities

### Sissie Theodosiou

Department of Music Studies, University of Ioannina

### Fotini Tsiibiridou

Department of Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki / Culture-Borders-Gender Lab

#### DISCUSSION

PANEL  
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ANTI—TOUR  
VIDEO—ART  
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KEYNOTE

VOTANIKOS  
ONLINE

GREEK  
ENGLISH

NATION—RACE  
COSMOPOLITANISMS—COSMOPOLITICS  
MEMORY—MONUMENTS

**DISCUSSANTS**

- Boaventura de Sousa Santos  
(Centre for Social Studies,  
University of Coimbra)
- Michalis Bartsidis  
(Hellenic Open University,  
Institute Nicos Poulantzas)
- Alexandros Kioupiolis  
(Department of Political Science,  
Aristotle University  
of Thessaloniki)
- Penny Travlou  
(School of Architecture and  
Landscape Architecture,  
University of Edinburgh)
- Aimilia Voulvouli  
(Aristotle University of  
Thessaloniki, Hellenic Open  
University)

**MODERATORS**

- Iris Lykourgioti  
(Department of Architecture,  
University of Thessaly)
- Fotini Tsiibiridou  
(Department of Balkan,  
Slavic and Oriental Studies,  
University of Macedonia,  
Thessaloniki)

**ORGANIZER**

- Fotini Tsiibiridou  
(Department of Balkan,  
Slavic and Oriental Studies,  
University of Macedonia,  
Thessaloniki)

## Epistemologies of the South, Epistemicide and Cosmopolitics: A Discussion with Boaventura de Sousa Santos

We discuss with sociologist Boaventura de Sousa Santos regarding the possibilities to think beyond the Western colonial epistemicide that has been imposed on local knowledge and cosmologies through European colonial technologies. What would it mean to establish new epistemologies and ecologies of knowledge in the broader Balkan, Mediterranean and Post-Ottoman worlds?

Through engaged fieldwork and the use of ethnographic methodology, we propose the concept of *cosmopolitics* as a new analytical category that includes our shared cosmo-philosophical concerns about humanism and beyond, local political action and global struggle for justice, rights and equality.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Lylaah L. Bhalerao  
(Institute for the Study  
of the Ancient World,  
New York University)
- Dan Hicks  
(Oxford University,  
Pitt-Rivers Museum)

**MODERATOR**

- Esther Solomon  
(Department of Fine Arts  
and Arts Sciences,  
University of Ioannina)

**ORGANIZER**

- Penelope Papailias  
(Department of History,  
Archeology and Social  
Anthropology, University  
of Thessaly)

## Museum as Heist: Between the “Benin Bronzes” and the “Elgin Marbles”

This discussion brings together two experts on and participants in the activism around the decolonization of the British Museum. They consider the treatment of the “Elgin Marbles” as an exceptional (i.e., “white”) case of appropriation/looting, something that often quarantines them from contemporary global discussions and struggles for museum decolonization. These struggles demand the recognition and redress of histories of extractivism, physical, material and symbolic violences and white supremacy: histories that have shaped museums and associated disciplines.

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**AUTHORS**

- Miltiadis Zerpoulis  
(Institute of Transcultural  
Competence, Police  
Academy Hamburg)
- Hasan Işikli  
(Department of Visual  
Communication Design,  
Yaşar University)

**CONTRIBUTORS**

- Kenan Işan / Music
- Emre Şimşek / Visual  
and Sound Effects

**ORGANIZER**

- Fotini Tsibiridou  
(Department of Balkan,  
Slavic and Oriental Studies,  
University of Macedonia,  
Thessaloniki)

**Decolonize Empty Spaces**

The video art installation “Empty spaces” interweaves images and sounds from two urban ethnographies on the two sides of the Aegean Sea: one by Miltiadis Zerboulis in Thessaloniki and another by Hasan Işikli in Izmir. The church of Saint Voukolos in Izmir and Alkazar, the former Hamza Bey Mosque, in Thessaloniki are two places that have historically connected the communities in the respective cities. And while the former mosque and its surrounding, once vibrant, spaces have now become a “hollow materiality,” related to the suspended archeological projects and the subway construction, the church, once ruined but now renovated, remains empty because of its disconnection to its neighborhood. The video art installation invites the viewer to experience different forms of spatial “hollowing out,” while also criticizing the cultural policies followed by decision makers and other actors in the two cities.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Anthony Bogues  
(Department of African  
Studies, Brown University)
- Sakis Gekas  
(Department of History,  
York University, Toronto)
- Konstantina Zanou  
(Department of Italian  
Studies, Columbia University)

**MODERATORS / ORGANIZERS**

- Vangelis Calotychos  
(Department of Comparative  
Literature and Modern Greek  
Studies Program, Brown  
University)
- Yannis Hamilakis  
(Joukowsky Institute for  
Archaeology and the Ancient  
World and Modern Greek  
Studies Program, Brown  
University)

## Coloniality, Race, and Revolution

This discussion explores the colonial and racial genealogies implicated in the formation of the modern Greek state and its imaginary.

The discussion is held in collaboration with the Decolonizing Initiative at Brown University.

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**PERFORMER**

— Gina Athena Ulysse  
 (Department of Feminist  
 Studies, University of  
 California, Santa Cruz)

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

— Penelope Papailias  
 (Department of History,  
 Archeology and Social  
 Anthropology, University  
 of Thessaly)

## The Alpha and Omega in the Letter: A Sonic Meditation on Freedom

A performance by the feminist artist and anthropologist Gina Athena Ulysse inspired by the letter written by Jean-Pierre Boyer (a prominent figure in the Haitian Revolution and president of Haiti from 1818 until 1843), and addressed to the Greek Revolutionaries.

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**PRESENTATIONS**

- Stavros Grimanis  
(Department of History  
and Archeology, National and  
Kapodistrian University of  
Athens), "Law and Policing,  
1821-1827. Between Civic  
Education and National Security"
- Nikos Vafeas  
(Department of Philosophy  
and Social Studies, University  
of Crete), "Ambivalent Identities  
in the Age of Transition:  
The Case of Samos"
- Elpida Vogli  
(Department of History and  
Ethnology, Democritus University  
of Thrace), "Religion as Civic  
Identity"

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

- Despina Lalaki  
(Department of Sociology  
and Anthropology, Baruch  
College, City University  
of New York – CUNY)

## Political Identities I: From Empire to Nation. State Formation and Civic Identities

The panel takes a historical perspective on transformations of political subjectivity at the early stages of the Greek nation-state. It is the first of three panel discussions that seek to trace changes in the Greek political identities and political culture from the founding of the state until today.

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**SPEAKER**

— Julian Go  
 (Department of Sociology,  
 University of Chicago)

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

— Despina Lalaki  
 (Department of Sociology  
 and Anthropology, Baruch  
 College, City University  
 of New York – CUNY)

## Liberalism, Empire and the Postcolonial Standpoint

This talk draws on examples from US liberal imperialism to illuminate the postcolonial critique of liberalism and its standpoint. It argues that the postcolonial critique sees the liberal script as a constitutive boundary-drawing project and that the postcolonial critique emerges from the space of the “colonial”: from a sociopolitical site of difference, both material (or “actual”) and conceptual, that liberal projects seek to organize hierarchically. To illuminate these points, the essay refers to America’s new empire of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century that encompassed Puerto Rico and the Philippines and colonized even the anticolonial critique targeted against it.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Gregoris Ioannou  
(Management School,  
University of Sheffield)
- Andreas Panayiotou  
(Department of Psychology  
and Social Sciences,  
Frederick University)

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

- Christos Mais  
(Department of Culture,  
Creative Media and Industries,  
University of Thessaly)

## Anti-Colonial / De-Colonial Cyprus: Colonialism, Irridentism, and Cultural Imperialism

This discussion addresses the formation of the cultural and political relation between the Greek nation-state and, firstly, the Greek-Cypriot community (and Cypriot society at large) and, subsequently, the Cypriot state, within the historical context of colonialism and decolonization. The discussants will direct their attention to matters related to education, political history, and language.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Tassos Morfis  
(Journalist, Director  
of the Film *Tied*)
- Yiorgos Tsimouris  
(Department of Social  
Anthropology, Panteion  
University)

**MODERATOR**

- Leda Papastefanaki  
(Department of History  
and Archeology, University  
of Ioannina)

**ORGANIZER**

- Nikolas Kosmatopoulos  
(Department of Political  
Studies, Department  
of Anthropology, American  
University of Beirut)

## Can the Subaltern Sail? Laboring in the Greek Shipping Industry

An anthropologist and a filmmaker look into the lives and struggles of workers in Greek merchant and passenger ships. The author of the forthcoming ethnography *We the Sailors, Embarked & On Hold*, and the creator of the documentary *Tied* (which focuses on the 2015 NEL strike) will talk about ship workers and ship owners, as well as cosmopolitanism, racism and gender, aboard or ashore.

In collaboration with FLOATS – Floating Laboratory of Action and Theory at Sea.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Dimitris (Mimis) Livieratos  
(Writer)
- Aleka Makri  
(Founding Member of  
Protagoras Association)

**MODERATOR**

- Yiannis-Orestis Papadimitriou  
(Journalist, *The Manifold*)

**ORGANIZER**

- Nikolas Kosmatopoulos  
(Department of Political  
Studies, Department  
of Anthropology, American  
University of Beirut)

## Michel Pablo, a Greek partisan in Algeria's War of Independence

Michel Pablo was the nom-du-guerre of the trotskyst revolutionary and 4<sup>th</sup> international leader Michalis Raptis. Two of Pablo's companions will talk about the participation of Greeks in Algeria's anticolonial armed struggle, and will also reflect on the relation between decolonization and revolutionary Left today.

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**PRESENTATIONS**

- Peter Bratsis  
(Department of Political Sciences, BMCC, City University of New York – CUNY), “Authoritarian Statism and the Crisis of Politics in Greece”
- Vassilis Lambropoulos  
(Department of Classical Studies and Comparative Literature, University of Michigan), “From André Malraux to Emmanuel Macron: French Selling Hellenism to the Greeks”
- Despina Papadimitriou  
(Department of Political Science and History, Panteion University), “Exploring the Semantic Field of Anti-totalitarianism in the Greek Context”

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

- Despina Lalaki  
(Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Baruch College, City University of New York – CUNY)

## Political Identities II: The postwar liberal international order. The case of Hellenism

If during the 19<sup>th</sup> and the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Hellenism –this convoluted relationship between Greek antiquity and Western modernity– came to be identified with European liberalism, Christianity, and whiteness, during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, democracy came to be its main tenet. This panel explores semantic fields and relationships associated with radicalism, totalitarianism, autonomy, and corruption to explain the Greek democratic culture in the context of the American age.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Gelina Charlafti  
(Institute for Mediterranean  
Studies, Crete)
- Molly Green  
(Department of History,  
Princeton University)

**MODERATOR**

- Sakis Gkekas  
(Department of History,  
York University, Toronto)

**ORGANIZER**

- Nikolas Kosmatopoulos  
(Department of Political  
Studies, Department  
of Anthropology, American  
University of Beirut)

## From Merchants to Tycoons: Greek Shipping in Ottomanism, Colonialism, Capitalism

Two world-acclaimed maritime historians, specialized in the Mediterranean Sea, reflect on the status of maritime trade (especially the part of it controlled by Greeks) during the Ottoman period and the transition to the nation-state. They also discuss the relation between the Greek merchants-turned-shipowners and the colonial seas.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Christos Iliadis  
(Department of Social Anthropology, Panteion University / Council of Europe)
- Alexandra Karayianni  
(Lawyer, Council of Europe)
- Electra Kostopoulou  
(Federated Department of History, Rutgers Newark and NJIT)
- Cynthia-Helen Malakasis  
(Department of Social Anthropology, Panteion University)
- Sissie Theodosiou  
(Department of Music Studies, University of Ioannina)

**MODERATOR**

- Sissie Theodosiou  
(Department of Music Studies, University of Ioannina)

**ORGANIZER**

- Sissie Theodosiou  
(Department of Music Studies, University of Ioannina)
- Cynthia-Helen Malakasis  
(Department of Social Anthropology, Panteion University)

## Racialization processes and the Greek Roma

Within the wider context of knowledge and exchange about postcolonial and decolonial theories and activist practices, this discussion addresses the historical experience and presence of Roma in contemporary Greek society. The discussants will ask how these theories and practices might reframe our understandings of Roma experience and positionality.

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**SPEAKER**

— Mahmood Mamdani  
 (Herbert Lehman Professor  
 of Government at Columbia  
 University and Director of  
 Makerere Institute of Social  
 Research in Kampala)

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

— Nikolas Kosmatopoulos  
 (Department of Political  
 Studies, Department  
 of Anthropology, American  
 University of Beirut)

## Neither Settler nor Native: The Making and Unmaking of Permanent Minorities

Mahmood Mamdani focuses on the problem of extreme violence and its link with the nation-state. His talk will trace this problem of the Indian Question and the reservation system in North America. He will then turn to the end of formal apartheid in South Africa for ideas on how to move forward. Finally, the talk looks at the the Israel/Palestine question through lenses crafted in the South African experience.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Matteo Dutto  
(Department of Italian Studies,  
Monash University)
- Francesco Ricatti  
(Department of Italian Studies,  
Monash University)
- Zora Simic  
(Department of Gender Studies  
and History, University of New  
South Wales)

**MODERATOR**

- Anoniss Piperoglou  
(Centre for Social and Cultural  
Research, Griffith University)

**ORGANIZERS**

- Penelope Papailias  
(Department of History,  
Archeology and Social  
Anthropology, University  
of Thessaly)
- Anoniss Piperoglou  
(Centre for Social and Cultural  
Research, Griffith University)

## Mediterranean Diasporas and Australian Settler Colonialism

This discussion reconsiders the history of migration from the Mediterranean region to Australia. It aims to discuss how migrant-cum-settlers from the Mediterranean displaced, interacted, engaged, and coexisted with Australia's Indigenous peoples. Participants will discuss specific case studies that challenge conventional understandings of how migrants from Italy, Greece, and Serbia interpreted and settled in Australia. The discussion will act as an opportunity to rethink how migration history and diaspora studies are interacting with settler colonial studies. It will also posit questions about the possibility of building on the points of intersection and dissension between these fields with the aim of opening possible future research directions that rethink migrant permanency and belonging.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Angela Dimitrakaki  
(College of Art, University of Edinburgh)
- Christina Grammatikopoulou  
(University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki)
- Murat Issi  
(Department of History and Archeology, University of Crete)
- Persefoni Myrtsou / Ayşenur  
(Institute of European Ethnology, Humboldt University of Berlin)
- Katerina Sergidou  
(Department of Communication, Media, and Culture, Panteion University, Universidad del País Vasco UPV-EHU)

**VIDEO PERFORMANCE**

- “How to Rescue Turkey?  
A Geopolitical Reflection on the Future of a Glorious Land” by Persefoni Myrtsou / Ayşenur

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

- Fotini Tsibiridou  
(Department of Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki)

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**Decolonizing Gender /  
Feminist Methodologies**

On the occasion of the publication of the book *Women in the Kurdish Movement. Mothers, Comrades, Goddesses* by Handan Çağlayan, we discuss anticolonial inquiries on the “coloniality of power,” which primarily concern colonized and subaltern female bodies, but also the dominant male ones. Capitalist enclosures and colonial dispossessions, as they become visible in the dense feminist discourse on patriarchy, feminicide and rape culture, but also through female practices of care and solidarity, and the creative performances of local cosmologies, are urging us to relate female colonized bodies with other subaltern bodies, things and their worlds. Once feminist methodologies engage not only with gender but also with race, class, power and justice, they establish intersectionality in social struggles, in line with postcolonial critique, and become inspiring and practical mediations between society, embodied knowledge and academia.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Petros Petridis  
(Department of Social  
Anthropology, Panteion  
University)
- Kostis Stafylakis  
(Athens School of Fine Arts)

**MODERATOR**

- Alex Afouxenidis  
(National Centre for Social  
Research, Greece)

**ORGANIZER**

- Penelope Papailias  
(Department of History,  
Archeology and Social  
Anthropology, University  
of Thessaly)

## The Greek Alt Right: Genealogies, Aesthetics and New Media Tactics

The discussion will focus on the discourses, aesthetics and media practices that emerge in the context of the alt right on both an international and a local level. More specifically, we will attempt to identify discourses being articulated on that side of the political spectrum related to concepts of race, gender, and nation. In particular, the discussants will address the notions of “beauty” promoted by these discourses and crystallized through rhetoric and audiovisual representations.

Additionally, the discussion will try to present a brief genealogy of the alt right and refer to some basic media tactics adopted by their supporters (including the use of memes, videogames, and trolling) in order to propagandize their views and forge their identity.

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**PARTICIPATING PUBLISHERS**

- Epekeina
- Coworkers' Editions
- Red Marks
- Topovoros

**ΣΥΝΤΟΝΙΣΜΟΣ / ΟΡΓΑΝΩΣΗ**

- Stathis Papastathopoulos  
(Department of Psychology,  
University of Ioannina)
- Sissie Theodosiou  
(Department of Music Studies,  
University of Ioannina)

## Decolonization and Independent Publishing in Greece

Discussion with small, independent publishers that share a common interest in post-/de-colonial studies, feminist theory, and writings on racism/anti-racism. The aim of the discussion is to explore and extend the thinking and practice that inspires the publication of such books in Greece in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century. How does this publishing activity act as a gesture of distancing from, critique and rethinking of, and resisting dominant (national) discourses and biopolitical forms of managing interconnected “crises” – the economic or migrant crisis, racial and gender violence.

Relevant books will be on sale at the Symposium venue.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Aslı İğsız  
(Middle Eastern and Islamic  
Studies, New York University,  
Institute of Advanced Studies,  
Princeton University)
- Yael Navaro  
(Department of Social  
Anthropology, University  
of Cambridge)

**MODERATORS / ORGANIZERS**

- Nikolas Kosmatopoulos  
(Department of Political  
Studies, Department  
of Anthropology, American  
University of Beirut)
- Fotini Tsibiridou  
(Department of Balkan,  
Slavic and Oriental Studies,  
University of Macedonia,  
Thessaloniki)

## Greek-Turkish War, Peace, and the (De-)Colonial Management of Difference

Two Turkish anthropologists with important books on the topic discuss the Greek-Turkish violence and its relation with colonial pacification models in the post-Ottoman space and colonial world in general. What can we learn about the human ruins and the untold dramas of the 1922 population exchange and the Cyprus conflict? How did the post-war peace treaties between Greece, Turkey and Cyprus inspire and were inspired by post-colonial regimes that regulate violence and manage refugee populations?

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**SPEAKER**

— Ann Laura Stoler  
 (Department of Anthropology,  
 The New School for Social  
 Research)

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

— Penelope Papailias  
 (Department of History,  
 Archeology and Social  
 Anthropology, University  
 of Thessaly)

## Imperial Democracy on (il)Liberal Ground: Why the Call for “Decolonizing” Now?

Turning away from the sharp distinction between metropole and colony, this talk seeks to address how “internal enemies” are produced. It asks how racial formations underwrite the imperial archipelagos that have prospered to forge the “interior frontiers” of nation-states and their allegedly “peripheral” imperial locations. This reflection questions why “decolonizing” has become the buzzword of these times, focusing on the pretenses of democratic orders that at once open and foreclose how we understand the inequities written into the very infrastructure of these polities today.

**DISCUSSION**

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 KEYNOTE

VOTANIKOS  
**ONLINE**

GREEK  
**ENGLISH**

NATION—RACE  
 COSMOPOLITANISMS—COSMOPOLITICS  
 MEMORY—MONUMENTS

**MODERATOR**

— Sissie Theodosiou  
 (Department of Music Studies,  
 University of Ioannina)

**ORGANIZER**

— dēcolonize hellás  
 Student Network

## “Decolonize the University!” — dēcolonize hellás Student Network Assembly

Students and faculty from three universities of the Greek periphery (Universities of Ioannina, University of Thessaly and University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki) will discuss with guests what the decolonization of the university might mean in the Greek context.

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**ANTI-TOUR GUIDE**

— Leonidas Moiras  
 (Department of History  
 and Archeology, National  
 and Kapodistrian University  
 of Athens)

## Decolonize Acropolis — The Ottoman Era

This anti-tour is part of a wider program of *dēcoloniize hellás* that aims to open new routes in the monumental landscape of the Acropolis and the city of Athens with a series of activities, seminars and artistic events.

The program is coordinated by Leonidas Moiras with the help of a research team of historians of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens consisting of Eleni Anastassopoulou, Kostakis Babes, and Costas Zouvelos.

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**PRESENTATION**

- Nikolas Kosmatopoulos  
(Department of Political  
Studies, Department  
of Anthropology, American  
University of Beirut)
- Evdokia Noula  
(Researcher, *décolonize  
hellás*)

**PARTICIPANTS**

- Iasonas Apostolopoulos  
(Mediterranea Saving  
Humans)
- Stefanos Levidis  
(Forensic Architecture)
- Jasmine Lozzeli  
(University of Turin /  
Ermennautica Saperiinrotta,  
Roma)
- Phevos Simeonidis  
(Researcher)
- Members of Associacio  
Antropologies Barcelona

## Anti-Periplus: Of Other Ships

“Anti-Periplus – Of Other ships” is a pilot anti-tour project by *décolonize hellás* that aims to showcase the “unconventional” seas, focusing on ships on strike, ships in solidarity, ships with political role, ships that carry pirates or migrants. It also aims to creatively deconstruct the cartographic representation as a postcolonial technology that inscribes borders and controls the flows and lives at sea. On launching this project, we invite researchers and collectivities active around the sea in emancipatory ways to talk about a radical Mediterranean and its new political movements that consist of maroons, migrants and activists.

In collaboration with FLOATS Platform – Floating Laboratory of Action and Theory at Sea.

**DISCUSSION**

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**PRESENTATIONS**

- Dimitris Dalakoglou  
(Department of Social Anthropology, Vrije University, Amsterdam), "Europe's Last Frontier. Securitization, Racialization and the Politics of Belonging"
- Alexandros Kioupiolis  
(Department of Political Science, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), "Democracy in Common. Rethinking the Political Representativeness"
- Aimilia Voulvouli  
(Department of Political Science, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), "From 'Free Greece' to Today's Commons. An Ethnohistorical Approach to Cooperativism in the Thessaly of Crisis"

**MODERATOR / MODERATOR**

- Despina Lalaki  
(Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Baruch College, City University of New York – CUNY)

## Political Identities III: The clash of civilizations at the end of history

Historical narratives engineered during the Cold War to sustain the righteousness of liberalism are being reworked to legitimize neoliberalism – the totalitarianism of our time. On the other side, revolts and revolutions around the world suggest that nothing is lost yet. The panel places the Greek case at its center to explore the transformative effects of the series of crises that the new neoliberal world order has unleashed.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

- Members of the Monumentoclasm Workshop

**MODERATOR**

- Penelope Papailias  
(Department of History,  
Archeology and Social  
Anthropology, University  
of Thessaly)

**ORGANIZERS**

- Memory-Monuments  
Working Group
- Alexis Fidetzis  
(ATOPOS CVC)
- Fotini Gouseti  
(University of Thessaly)
- Cynthia Malakasis  
(Panteion University)
- George Mantziós  
(University of Toronto)
- Jenny Marketou  
(New School  
for Social Research)
- Penelope Papailias  
(University of Thessaly)
- Gene Ray  
(Geneva School  
of Art and Design)
- Olga Touloumi  
(Bard College)
- Jilly Traganou  
(New School for Social  
Research)
- Tom Western  
(University College London)
- Chris Zisis  
(Hamburg University)

**DISCUSSION**

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**Monumentoclasm Manifesto**

The Monumentoclasm: Anticolonial Imagination Workshop, which started in mid-October, reflected on the creative and critical practices, the debates, social movements and the forms of activism that today are intervening in and transforming monumental landscapes in Greece and all over the world. The discussions, webinars, listening activities, reading collaboratives and walks in the Athens were organized by the artists, architects, anthropologists, art historians and social geographers taking part in the *décolonize hellás* Memory-Monuments working group, in collaboration with collectivities in Athens.

The members of the workshop will present their manifesto on monuments.

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**PARTICIPANTS**

— Members of Decolonizing  
Salon Workshop

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

— Aktina Stathaki  
(1927 Art Space)

## Decolonize the Salon: Reflections

The workshop Decolonizing Salon revived the idea of the “salon” as a space of dialogue, flow of ideas, exchange and creativity. In a cultural landscape split between the instrumentalization of cultural heritage for touristic or nationalistic purposes and the institutionalization of contemporary culture within a context of privatization of public spaces, environmental degradation and increased violence and policing, this workshop focused on the art of poster making as a tool for action, propaganda and awareness-raising. It also tried to imagine how decolonization might look in buildings, public spaces and landscapes, cultural heritage and narratives, in short in every aspect of what one might call “Greek culture.”

In collaboration with 1927 Art Space.

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## Closing and Reflections on the Future of *dēcolonize hellás*

This final discussion brings together members of the DH collective, the advisory board and collaborating collectives to reflect on the actions of the initiative up to this point, the symposium and the possible directions the initiative could develop in the future.

*dēcolonize hellás*

### DISCUSSION

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**SPEAKER**

— Dušan I. Bjelić  
 (Department of Criminology,  
 University of Southern Maine)

**MODERATOR / ORGANIZER**

— Vangelis Calotychos  
 (Department of Comparative  
 Literature, Brown University)

## **Black Marxism, Racial Capitalism and the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean Complex. On the Abolition of Europe's Racial Supremacy**

Today the European Union uses the Balkans & East Mediterranean region as a buffer zone for migrants treated as racialized “surplus populations.” By relying on Black Marxism’s sociological history of racial capitalism, this talk argues that, despite the region’s Europeanization, the EU’s racialization is neither an administrative nor a temporary “solution” for the so-called “migration crisis.” Rather, since medieval capitalism, the region has been a historically designated place for the production and reproduction of Europe’s racial supremacy. Firstly, the talk analyzes the rise of Venetian capitalism and, more specifically, the sugar plantations in Cyprus. It then analyzes the regional revolts and the rise of the region’s pre-modern radical tradition. The speech concludes with a discussion of Cedric J. Robinson’s parallel between the Black Radical Tradition and the region’s radical tradition, their shared task to abolish ‘Europe’ as a civilization of racial capitalism.

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**ROSA LUXEMBURG STIFTUNG**  
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**decolonial  
collective**  
on migration of objects  
and people



Symposium Organization  
*DH Collective*

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*Lazaros Kakoulidis*

Translation/Editing  
*Vangelis Poullos*

Event Coordinator  
*Natalia Klossa*

Project Manager  
*Electra Alexandropoulou*  
*Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung*

All events will be streamed on the DH  
YouTube at EEST time and later archived.

Due to public health restrictions related  
to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, only  
a limited number of people - on a first-come-  
first-serve basis - will be able to enter the  
buildings where the symposium is being  
streamed.

To be admitted into PLYFA Industrial Park,  
vaccination documentation or documentation  
of illness from COVID-19 will be required.  
The wearing of face masks is mandatory  
in all indoor spaces.