



THE HELLENIC INSTITUTE

27th January 2021

Dear Students, Colleagues and Friends,

With the beginning of the New Year I would like to wish you and your families good health and every blessing. This is an important year for Hellenism, marking the Bicentenary of the outbreak of the Greek War of Independence (1821-2021). As part of the celebrations a series of events are co-organised under the [21 in 21](#) programme of Greek-British encounters, representing a wide range of activities and reflecting collaboration across London-based institutions and organisations. These are generously supported by the A. G. Leventis Foundation and addressed to students, scholars and the general public. Most of these events are part of the [Initiative 1821-2021](#), the product of collaboration between 15 major partner public benefit, cultural and academic foundations, among them the Bodossaki Foundation and the A. G. Leventis Foundation, along with the National Bank of Greece. It aims to bring together scholars and institutions in Greece, Cyprus and countries all over the world and to create a lasting legacy of 1821. The Hellenic Institute is contributing to this initiative with a number of events, information on which is available on our [website](#). We look forward to seeing you and your families and friends to these events.

This term, the Nineteenth Annual Hellenic Lecture on “The Greek Revolution of 1821 and its Multiple Legacies” will be given by Professor Gonda Van Steen, Koraës Professor of Modern Greek and Byzantine History, Language and Literature, and Director of Centre for Hellenic Studies at King’s College London. Since the outbreak of the Greek War of Independence in 1821, the Greek people have celebrated three major anniversaries: the 50th, 100th, and 150th anniversary date of the inception of this revolutionary war that led to sovereign statehood after nearly four centuries of Ottoman rule. These three jubilees, each with their own legacies, have come to represent three different ways of celebrating Greek statehood that have, nonetheless, much in common. They posited a linear progression from Greek antiquity through postclassical, Byzantine, and post-Byzantine (Ottoman) times. The lecture will explore in what ways the celebrations and re-enactments, with their commemorative events and symbolic images, acquired a prescriptive character, which advanced their aim to educate youth in state-promoted nationalism, and to what extent the present 200th anniversary celebrations differ from the three aforementioned ones. The Lecture is scheduled to be held on 11 March 2021 at 6.15pm. Depending on the measures taken by the Government and eth College against the pandemic, these events will take place either in the [Moore Building Auditorium](#), Royal Holloway, Egham Campus, Surrey, or online via Zoom. You will be receiving details and updated information in due course. We very much hope you would be able to join us physically or virtually on this special occasion.

I am delighted to announce the establishment of the post of Senior Manager at The Hellenic Institute and Director of the Centre for Greek Diaspora Studies, thanks to a generous three-year grant awarded by the A. G. Leventis Foundation for this purpose, for which we would like to express our deep gratitude. Dr Achilleas Hadjikyriacou, former Cultural Counsellor of the Cyprus High Commission in the UK, has been selected and appointed to the post. On behalf of all of us, I would like to congratulate and welcome Dr Hadjikyriacou. We wish him every success with his work.

Finally, we should be grateful if you would renew your annual subscription to the Friends of the Hellenic Institute for 2021, by contributing the modest sum of £15. Any additional donation, for which gift aid is available, would be most welcome and deeply appreciated. Through your kind and generous donations we shall be able to continue offering grants to our students who need support.

Please accept our deepest thanks for your continued support and our warmest wishes for a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Charalambos Dendrinos
Director, The Hellenic Institute

Name:

Email:

Please donate online at <https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/giving/donatetohellenicinstitution.aspx> or send a cheque payable to “RHBNC Hellenic Institute” and posted to Dr Charalambos Dendrinos, The Hellenic Institute, History Department, School of Humanities, Royal Holloway, University of London, Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX, UK.

Donation:

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