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10th Annual International Conference on
Mediterranean Studies
10-13 April 2017, Athens, Greece

Edited by
Gregory T. Papanikos

2017

Abstracts
10th Annual International
Conference on
Mediterranean Studies
10-13 April 2017, Athens,
Greece

Edited by Gregory T. Papanikos

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Preface

This book includes the abstracts of all papers presented at the *10th Annual International Conference on Mediterranean Studies, 10-13 April 2017, Athens, Greece*, organized by the Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER) and Center for European and Mediterranean Affairs, and sponsored by the Athens Journal of Mediterranean Studies. In total, 38 papers were submitted by 41 participants, coming from 18 different countries (Albania, Algeria, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Libya, New Zealand, Oman, Portugal, Qatar, South Korea, Spain, Turkey, UK, and USA). The conference was organized into nine sessions that included a variety of topic areas, including history, business, education, health, literature, and politics of the region. In accordance with ATINER's Publication Policy, the papers presented during this conference will be considered for inclusion in one of ATINER's many publications.

The purpose of this abstract book is to provide academics around the world with a resource through which to discover colleagues and research relevant to their own work. This purpose is in congruence with the overall mission of the institute. ATINER was established in 1995 as an independent academic organization with a mission to become a forum where academics and researchers from all over the world could meet to exchange ideas on their research and consider future developments of their fields of study.

It is our hope that through ATINER's conferences and publications, Athens will become a place where academics and researchers from all over the world regularly meet to discuss the developments of their discipline and present their work. Since 1995, ATINER has organized more than 400 international conferences and has published nearly 200 books. The institute is organized into 7 research divisions and 40 research units. Each research unit organizes at least one annual conference and undertakes various small and large research projects.

I would like to thank all the participants, the members of the organizing and academic committees, and most importantly the administration staff of ATINER for putting this conference and its subsequent publications together.

Gregory T. Papanikos
President

FINAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM
10th Annual International Conference on Mediterranean Studies, 10-13
April 2017 Athens, Greece

PROGRAM

Conference Venue: Titania Hotel, 52 Panepistimiou Street, 10678 Athens, Greece

Organizing & Scientific Committee

1. Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER & Honorary Professor, University of Stirling, UK.
2. Dr. Nicholas Pappas, Vice-President of Academics, ATINER, Greece & Professor, Sam Houston University, USA.
3. Dr. Panagiotis Petratos, Vice President of ICT, ATINER, Fellow, Institution of Engineering and Technology & Professor, Department of Computer Information Systems, California State University, Stanislaus, USA.
4. Dr. Chris Sakellariou, Vice President of Financial Affairs, ATINER, Greece & Associate Professor, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.
5. Dr. Sharon Bolton, Head, Management Research Unit, ATINER & Head, Business Studies, University of Stirling, U.K.
6. Dr. Jayoung Che, Head, History Research Unit, ATINER & Research Professor, Institute for the Mediterranean Studies, Pusan University of Foreign Studies, Republic of Korea.
7. Dr. Gregory A. Katsas, Head, Sociology Research Unit, ATINER & Associate Professor, The American College of Greece-Deree College, Greece.
8. Dr. Valia Kasimati, Head, Tourism Research Unit, ATINER, & Researcher, Dept. of Economic Analysis & Research, Central Bank of Greece, Greece.
9. Dr. Peter Koveos, Head, Accounting & Finance Research Unit, ATINER & Professor, Syracuse University, USA.
10. Dr. John Roufagalas, Head, Economics Research Unit, ATINER & Professor, Troy University, USA.
11. Dr. Cleopatra Veloutsou, Head, Marketing Research Unit, ATINER & Senior Lecturer in Marketing, Department of Business and Management, University of Glasgow, UK.
12. Dr. David Philip Wick, Director, Arts and Humanities Research Division, ATINER & Professor of History, Gordon College, USA.
13. Dr. Christopher Janetopoulos, Head, Biology Research Unit, ATINER, & Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, University of the Sciences, USA.
14. Dr. Emmanuel Sivan, Professor Emeritus of History, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

15. Dr. Silvana Calaprice, Full Professor in General and Special Pedagogy, University of Bari, Italy.
16. Dr. Alka Obadic, Academic Member, ATINER & Full Professor, Department of Macroeconomics and Economic Development, Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Zagreb, Croatia.
17. Dr. Ahmed Ghanem Hafez Ahmed, Academic Member, ATINER & Associate Professor, University of Alexandria, Egypt.
18. Dr. Mihalis Kuyucu, Academic Member, ATINER & Assistant Professor, İstanbul Aydın University, Turkey.
19. Dr. Ilksoy Aslim, Academic Member, ATINER & Lecturer, Near East University, Cyprus.
20. Dr. Nellie Munin, Academic Member, ATINER & Lecturer, Zefat Academic College, Israel.
21. Dr. Caterina Pizanias, Academic Member, ATINER & Independent Curator, Canada.
22. Dr. Daphne Vidanec, Academic Member, ATINER & Professor, Applied College of Economic Sciences for Business and Management "Baltazar A. Krčelić," Croatia.
23. Mr. Benjamin Lewis, Academic Member, ATINER & Founding Director, The Philology Institute, Wilmore, USA.

Monday 10 April 2017

08:00-08:30 Registration and Refreshments

08:30-09:15 Welcome and Opening Address

Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER. The Organization of Academic Symposiums in Ancient Athens

09:15-11:30 Session I: History and Culture

Chair: Olga Gkounta, Researcher, ATINER.

1. Nuno Valerio, Professor, University of Lisbon, Portugal. Empires in the Near East and Mediterranean Areas: Steps towards Globalization?
2. Bok Hee Kim, Professor, Andong National University, South Korea. Athletic Dress and Nudity in Greek Athletics.
3. Sandra Linguerri, Associate Professor, University of Bologna, Italy. The Oceanographic Achievements of Vito Volterra in Italy and Abroad.
4. Margaret Venzke, Associate Professor, Stetson University, USA. The Tribal Factor in the Decline of the Eastern Mediterranean Lands: From the Perspective of the 16th Century.
5. Maher Abu-Munshar, Associate Professor, Qatar University, Qatar. Social Diseases in the Mamluk Era: *Bartil* as a Case Study.
6. Lorna Sheppard, Lecturer, University Centre Somerset and PhD Student, Falmouth University, UK. A Mediterranean Odyssey: Text and Illustration and the Discourse of Foreign Travel in Elizabeth David's *A Book of Mediterranean Food* (1950).
7. Hideaki Katsumoto, PhD Student, Kyushu University, Japan. The Arguments of

Education: Survey of the Journal *Muallim* in the Second Constitutional Period of the Ottoman Empire.

11:30-13:00 Session II: Business, Economics and Planning

Chair: Victoria Mousteri, Researcher, ATINER.

1. Donald Sparks, Professor, The Citadel, USA. Migration from sub-Saharan Africa to Mediterranean Europe: The Economic Consequences.
2. Niyazi Berk, Professor, Bahcesehir University, Turkey & Sabriye Bicen, Advisor, Biçen Real Estate, Turkey. Causality between the Construction Sector and GDP Growth in Emerging Countries: The Case of Turkey.
3. Jayoung Che, Associate Professor, Busan University of Foreign Studies, South Korea. A Critical Review on the Theories of Violence of Arendt and Sorel: The Ancient Greek Citizen Society as an Alternative.
4. Manuella Roupnel-Fuentes, Lecturer, University of Angers, France. To Train, or not to Train. Looking Back at the Vocational Training of Former Moulinex Employees.
5. Mohamed Lashin, Associate Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman & Rashid Al-Fahdi, Associate Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. The Practicing of Volunteer Work and its Challenges in Educational Institutions by using SWOT Analysis Approach in Oman.

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 Session III: Beyond the Mediterranean: The Diaspora of Greek Tragedy I

Chair: Nuno Valerio, Professor, University of Lisbon, Portugal.

1. Daniela Cavallaro, Senior Lecturer, University of Auckland, New Zealand. From the Mediterranean to the South Pacific: An Australian Medea.
2. Christian Dahl, Associate Professor, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. Witnessing in Greek Tragedy and South African Theatre: Yael Farber's *Molara* (2008) (MDTTRA).
3. Scott Rubarth, Associate Professor, Rollins College, USA. Euripides' *Hippolytus* and Dassin's *Phaedra*: Gender and Myth in Greek Tragedy and Contemporary Cinema.
4. Jack Adams, Instructor, Fort Hays State University, USA. Why We Continually Misinterpret Classical Tragedy in the 21st Century. (MDTTRA)

15:30-17:00 Session IV: Education, Health, Ecosystems

Chair: Margaret Venzke, Associate Professor, Stetson University, USA.

1. Ria Nicoletti Morphitou, Associate Lecturer, University of Nicosia, Cyprus & Marlen Demetriou, Assistant Professor, University of Nicosia, Cyprus. The Impact of Social Media on Students' Decision Making Process on Selecting a University.
2. Rashid Al-Fahdi, Associate Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. Assessing the Possession of Action Research Skills by Administrators and Supervisors in Omani Schools.
3. Yasser Al-Mahdy, Assistant Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman & Mahmoud Emam, Associate Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. The Impact of School Leadership Styles on Teacher Efficacy, Collective Efficacy and School Effectiveness in Oman.

17:00-19:00 Session V: A Small Symposium on the Nordic Origins of the Homeric Poems

Chair: Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER.

1. Felice Vinci, Independent Researcher, Writer, Italy. An Up-to-date Survey of the Theory upon the Nordic Origins of the Homeric Poems. (MDTNOR)
2. Arduino Maiuri, Teacher, Liceo Classico "C. Tacito" in Rome and Lifelong Learning University in Rome, Italy. Etymological Connection between the Ancient People of Iaones and the Tacitean Suiones. (MDTNOR)
3. Giuliana Bendelli, Researcher, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano, Italy. Ulysses Setting Sail for an Irish *Imram*. (MDTNOR)
4. Marco Duichin, Member of Italian Philosophical Society, Italy. The Wolf, the Bear, the Master of the Winds: On the Nordic Roots of Odysseus. (MDTNOR)
5. Silvia Peppoloni, Researcher, Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Italy. Geological and Climatic Events that Affected the Baltic and Mediterranean Regions during the Holocene: An Overview. (MDTNOR)
6. Ilze Rumniece, Professor, University of Latvia, Latvia. Mediterranean and Baltic Areas: Mythical, Real and Potential Signs in the Facts of Language(s). (MDTNOR)

20:30-22:30 Greek Night and Dinner (Details during registration)

Tuesday 11 April 2017

07:45-11:00 Session VI: An Educational Urban Walk in Modern and Ancient Athens

Chair: Gregory Katsas, Head, Sociology Research Unit, ATINER & Associate Professor, The American College of Greece-Deree College, Greece.

Group Discussion on Ancient and Modern Athens.

Visit to the Most Important Historical and Cultural Monuments of the City (be prepared to walk and talk as in the ancient peripatetic school of Aristotle)

(Note: The simple registration fee of the conference does not cover the cost of this session. More details during registration).

11:30-13:30 Session VII: Politics & Security

Chair: Utku Özer, Research Fellow, ATINER.

1. Caterina Barone, Associate Professor, University of Padova, Italy. Greek Tragedy and Political Debate: Peter Sellars and his Provocations. (MDTTRA)
2. Dilek Barlas, Professor, Koç University, Turkey. Turkish-Yugoslav Relations on the eve of WWII.
3. Walter Ward, Associate Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA. Orientalism and the Study of the Pre-Modern Middle East.
4. Umut Albayrak, Dr., Eastern Mediterranean University, Cyprus. Cultural Reconciliation and Music: Musical Dialogues Direction to Reconciliation between Turkish and Greek Communities in Cyprus.
5. Marsela Sako, Lecturer, University of Tirana, Albania. Albania in Democracy: Less Minorities, more Legislation!
6. Marcia Rosalie Hale, PhD Candidate, UCLA, USA. Urban Water Systems as Instruments of Human Security.
7. Adel Zeglam, Professor and Consultant Neurodevelopment Pediatrician, Tripoli University, Libya. Current Situation of Health Services for Children in Libya.

13:30-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:30 Session VIII: Education, Culture and Society

Chair: Marcia Rosalie Hale, PhD Candidate, UCLA, USA. Mediterranean Water and Environmental Security: A Case Study.

1. Mervyn Wighting, Professor, Regent University, USA & Gail Derrick, Professor, Regent University, USA. Teacher Preparation Delivered Online: Measuring Alumni Effectiveness and Retention in the Classroom.
2. Houman Sadri, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Model U.N. Program, University of Central Florida, USA. Teaching & Learning about Globalization & Localization: Comparative Analysis of Cross-Cultural Communication Issues.
3. Jabbar Al-Obaidi, Professor and Director, Center for Middle East Studies, Bridgewater State University, USA. Pedagogical Approach of Colleges and Universities in the Middle East: Curriculums and Programs for Media and Communication Studies.
4. Khaled Douglas, Head of the Department of Archaeology, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman. Early Bronze Age IV Semi - Nomadic Culture in Southern Levant: An Ethno-Archaeological Case Study of Upper Wadi az-Zaqa in Jordan.

16:30-18:00 Session IX: Special Topics

Chair: Houman Sadri, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Model U.N. Program, University of Central Florida, USA.

1. Adolfo Cosme Fernandez Puente, Professor, Universidad de Cantabria, Spain & Nuria Mercedes Sanchez Sanchez, Associate Professor, Universidad de Cantabria, Spain. Is Women's Satisfaction Higher than Men's?: Self-Selection, Expectations or Biology.
2. Ismail Chaib, PhD Student, University of Biskra, Algeria & Yassine Bada, Professor, University of Biskra, Algeria. Spatial Hierarchy and Street Pattern: Effects of Spatial Configuration on People Movement, Case of Ghardaia Ksours.

21:00- 22:30 Dinner (Details during registration)

Wednesday 12 April 2017
Cruise: (Details during registration)
Mycenae and Epidaurus Visit: (Details during registration)

Thursday 13 April 2017
Delphi Visit: (Details during registration)

Maher Abu-Munshar
Associate Professor, Qatar University, Qatar

**Social Diseases in the Mamluk Era:
Bartil as a Case Study**

The Mamluk state was established in Egypt after the assassination of Sultan Turanshah, the last Ayyubid sultan, in 1250CE. It lasted more than 250 years, until the Ottomans dismantled it in 1517CE. This newly established state, which was able to control a wide swath of the Islamic world, was considered a model powerful state. This was evident when the Mamluks decisively defeated the Mongols in 1260 at the Battle of 'Ain Jalut in northern Syria, and when later they defeated the Crusaders in several battles, expelling them from the East by 1291CE.

However, the Mamluk era was marked by the emergence of a wide range of social diseases that, among other factors, were the main reasons for the collapse of the Mamluk state. Among the most important social diseases was bribery or *bartil*, which became a legitimate means to reach the highest positions in the state. Literature from the Mamluk period reports many cases of *bartil* and documents the spread of this phenomenon on a large scale.

This paper is an analytical study of the subject *bartil* at the time of the Mamluks. It relies on a wide range of sources from the Mamluk period that indicate the role of the *bartil* in the political and social life of that period.

Jack Adams

Instructor, Fort Hays State University, USA

Why We Continually Misinterpret Classical Tragedy in the 21st Century

Literature has long been “seen as a field of activity set apart from ordinary life” (James White Boyd). However, this modern approach is completely at odds with the Greek tragic tradition. Further, “a good education [and understanding of] the humanistic past [is] essential to excellence in [the] law” itself (*Id.*). Within a truly liberal and humanistic education, the study of foreign languages and literatures is crucial because they “teac[h] us that the ways we think, our ways of imagining ourselves and the world we inhabit, are not the only ways” (*Id.*). And, like the law itself, Greek tragedy is:

not a world of authoritarian clarity, . . . but a world of deep uncertainty and openness, of tension and conflict and argument, a world where reasons do not harmonize but oppose one another. This means that it is a world of learning and invention, where a great premium is placed upon one’s capacity *to make sense of an immense body of material as it bears upon a particular case* (*Id.*, emphasis added)

Yet, while great efforts have been made since the 1970’s to rediscover the connections between law and literature, the study of law and classical Greek literature has almost exclusively focused upon Aeschylus’s *Oresteia* tetralogy and Sophocles’ Oedipus cycle. However, this focus has often ignored the actual cultural, historical, and legal context in which Greek tragedies were written. Nowhere is this better illustrated than through a classical Greek legal examination of these works by Aeschylus and Sophocles. For, only through a solid grounding in Greek culture and law can we gain an understanding of the misinterpretations applied by modern Western readers that will then allow us to more fully appreciate and learn from these works.

Rashid Al-Fadhi

Associate Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman

Assessing the Possession of Action Research Skills by Administrators and Supervisors in Omani Schools

Action research is either research initiated to solve an immediate problem or a reflective process of progressive problem solving led by individuals working with others in teams, or as part of a community of practice, to improve the way they address issues and solve problems. There are two types of action research: participatory action research and practical action research. The action research strategy's purpose is to solve a particular problem and to produce guidelines for best practice. It also involves actively participating in a change situation, often via an existing organization, whilst simultaneously conducting research. Action research can be undertaken by larger organizations or institutions, assisted or guided by professional researchers, with the aim of improving their strategies, practices and knowledge of the environments within which they practice. As designers and stakeholders, researchers work with others to propose a new course of action to help their community improve its work practices.

Sagor (2000) identified seven steps, which become an endless cycle for the inquiring teacher, namely:

1. Selecting a focus
2. Clarifying theories
3. Identifying research questions
4. Collecting data
5. Analyzing data
6. Reporting results
7. Taking informed action

This study aimed to examine the administrators and supervisors skills in action research in Omani schools from their point of view and identify statistically significant variables in the participants' responses. The study sample consisted of (461) principals, assistant principals, supervisors and other administrators in (5) governorates in Oman. To answer the study questions, the researchers developed a questionnaire which consisted of (51) items divided into (6) domains. Validity and reliability of the questionnaire were computed. The means, standard deviation, one way ANOVA and LSD-test were used to answer the study questions. The results of the study were as follows:

- The means of all domains were between 3.37 to 3.85, five of them were in high level except the fifth domain which is in medium level.
- There were no statistically significant differences in the responses of research participants attributable to gender and position, whereas there were statistically significant differences attributable to governorate and experience.

In light of the results, researchers recommended that it is necessary to develop the administrators and supervisors skills in data collection, analyzing results, and discussion.

Yasser Al-Mahdy

Assistant Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman

&

Mahmoud Emam

Associate Professor, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman

The Impact of School Leadership Styles on Teacher Efficacy, Collective Efficacy and School Effectiveness in Oman

Purpose

The purpose of this study was to investigate the impact of school leadership styles on teacher efficacy, collective efficacy and school effectiveness in Oman.

Design/methodology/approach

The study sampled 305 teachers in Oman using transformational leadership scale (Carless et al 2000), distributed leadership scale (Özer and Beycioğlu 2013), teacher efficacy (Tschannen-Moran and Hoy 2001), collective efficacy (Goddard 2002), and the school effectiveness index (Hoy 2009).

Findings

School leadership styles were positive and significant predictors of teacher efficacy, collective efficacy, and school effectiveness. Omani teachers had high perceptions of the school leadership styles. Results also supported the role of school leadership styles as a pathway to increase teacher efficacy, collective efficacy, and school effectiveness.

Originality/value

This study provides some empirical evidence on the role of school leadership styles as a pathway to increase teacher efficacy, collective efficacy, and school effectiveness in Oman.

Jabbar Al-Obaidi

Professor and Director, Center for Middle East Studies, Bridgewater State
University, USA

The Pedagogical Approach of Colleges and Universities in the Middle East: Curriculums and Programs for Media and Communication Studies

The Middle East represents a vital and diverse geographic region of more than 20 countries. Despite the turmoil and troubles that spread around several countries in the area, higher education appears to maintain its position among both the elites and the general public. Governments and people place great value on higher education to benefit their sons and daughters to cope with economic diversification, political challenges, and drastic shifting demographics. Student enrollment rates in higher education reached 31 compared to international average rate of 30 in 2014. This paper intends to shed new light on the pedagogical approach of colleges and universities in the Middle East as related to curriculums and programs for media and communication studies in the Middle East. It is designed to map out and study the various curriculums and academic programs in relations to the modern media as well as political communication theories, communication technologies, and standard of excellence. Governments in the region tend to own, run, or influence the educational agencies and institutions, including higher education and scholarly research. A comparative and analytical methodology should help with uncovering the quality of curriculums and their validities to prepare students to understand and seek professional careers in a constantly changing technology, marketing strategies, economies, and competitive global environment. Examining the policies and regulations governing a higher education curriculum in any given university in the region becomes critically imperative.

Umut Albayrak

Dr., Eastern Mediterranean University, Cyprus

**Cultural Reconciliation and Music:
Musical Dialogues Direction to Reconciliation between
Turkish and Greek Communities in Cyprus**

This study has been done to understand the role of music in inter-community reconciliation and to examine music as a cultural solution area between Turkish and Greek communities in Cyprus. The main focus of the study is on musical dialogues towards the reconciliation between Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities, and accordingly it touches upon the contributions of music to the reconciliation between two communities and how it is being used to create a mutual identity. Therefore bi-communal gatherings, sense of entertainment, songs which are the way of a self-expression and instrument sessions of two communities have been reviewed in the contribution of music in the reconciliation.

While it has been searched for an answer in whether music can be effective in inter-community reconciliations or not, the role of music in reconciliations and also in conflict has been handled in examples like Palestine-Israel, German-Jewish and the Berlin Wall. The view of music creating conflict and reconciliation between communities has been examined under the concepts such as cultural reconciliation, cultural identity, the pragmatic use of music and multiculturalism.

Dilek Barlas

Professor, Koç University, Turkey

Turkish-Yugoslav Relations on the eve of WWII

This article analyses Turkish-Yugoslav relations from 1934 (the formation of the Balkan Entente) to 1941 (German invasion of Yugoslavia) based mainly on Yugoslav archival documents. After its formation, the leaders of Turkey, Yugoslavia, Greece, and Romania believed that the Balkan Entente was to guarantee security against any revisionist demands over the Balkans. Although the political leaders in Turkey and Yugoslavia became more optimistic about the future of the region after having signed the Balkan Entente, changing governments and leaders did not always have overlapping interests. On the eve of the war, Turkey and Yugoslavia could not feel sufficiently protected within a regional entente during the increasing instability in Europe. After the assassination of King Alexander in October 1934 and after Milan Stojadinović became prime minister in June 1935, the policy of Belgrade towards the Balkan Entente and Turkey started changing. The Yugoslav-Bulgarian rapprochement worried the Turkish political leadership. The Turkish political leadership was also oscillating because of the rapidly changing balance of power in Europe. After the British-Turkish Declaration of Mutual Assistance on 12 May 1939, Turkish-Yugoslav relations became less sincere because Yugoslavia did not approve of the Turkish rapprochement with Britain and France. According to Yugoslav reports, Turkey 'appeared on the international diplomatic field in its new role as the British representative in the Mediterranean'. In January 1941, when Ankara received new information on the movements of German troops in Romania towards the Yugoslav and Bulgarian borders, it aimed to be 'in permanent contact' with Yugoslavia. However, Yugoslavia did not want to incite German reaction to its cooperation with other Balkan countries. After the German invasion of Yugoslavia on 6 April 1941, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister insisted on Turkish action according to the above-mentioned 1934 Turkish-Yugoslav military convention, but the Turkish Foreign Minister believed that it was too late.

Caterina Barone

Associate Professor, University of Padova, Italy

Greek Tragedy and Political Debate: Peter Sellars and his Provocations

Peter Sellars is an iconoclast, an irreverent director, a man who loves the classics because of their ability to offer fertile ground for politico-social provocations of urgent contemporary relevance. Born in 1957, Sellars has focused his activity as *enfant terrible* of the American scene not only on the classics of modern literature, but also on the forefathers of western theatre. Working successively on Sophocles (*Ajax* 1986), Aeschylus (*The Persians* 1993) and Euripides (*Heracleidae* 2002), in the span of 15 years he produced his own personal trilogy dedicated to pacifism and the theme of welcoming refugees.

In *Ajax*, the Greek hero, driven mad by the loss of honour, assumes the features of an American general regretful over his actions in a war of aggression similar to that fought in Vietnam. He is determined, even if it may cost him his life, to reject the abuse of power and the unscrupulousness of politicians in a regime where propaganda and censorship are intertwined in a perverse and inextricable knot.

The Persians is instead presented in an interpretation explicitly linked to the 1990-1 Gulf War. It attacks American foreign policy promoted by George H. W. Bush, whom the director denounces as an imperialist acting in bad faith.

Finally, in *Heracleidae*, Sellars has associated the vicissitudes of the mythical characters (Heracles's sons, persecuted by king Eurystheus) to those of modern refugees, forced by wars and persecutions to leave their country in search of a place to live. The director pushes the degree of realism to such a level that there are actual refugees present on the stage.

The aim of this paper is to analyse how much of the semantic richness of the original works survives in such a radical and anti-historical treatment of mythical material, and to assess if the contemporary setting deprives Greek tragedy of meaning by undermining the primeval and sacral power of its universal reach.

Giuliana Bendelli

Researcher, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano, Italy

Ulysses Setting Sail for an Irish *Imram*

The aim of this paper is to show the presence of classical epic topoi in modern Irish literature, tracing back to heroic sagas and classical epics in Medieval Ireland. Drawing on some groundbreaking works, such as Tymoczko's *The Irish Ulysses* (1994), Hillers's *The Odyssey of a Folktale: Merugud Uilix Meic Leirtis* (1995), Harris's *Adaptations of Roman Epic in Medieval Ireland* (1998), and Miles's *Heroic Sagas and Classical Epic in Medieval Ireland* (2011), this study deals with Irish oral and written tradition of folkloric, legendary, and epic material and its traces in modern culture and literature. The focus here will be on the theme of the sea voyage. One of the chief types of ancient Irish literature, shared by other orally based literatures, is in fact the "imram," or voluntary sea expedition story. My analysis had already been carried out on two novels (*The Crooked Cross* and *The Florentines*) by a contemporary Irish writer, Brendan Kennelly. In *The Crooked Cross* (1963), the microcosm of a typical Irish village supplies fertile soil for cultural, literary, and stylistic interrelations, suggesting an interesting underlying cross-cultural communication; in *The Florentines* (1967), Ireland is portrayed while getting into contact with other cultures and languages. Besides, the process of translating Kennelly's novel *The Florentines* into Italian, it offered a chance to unearth shared literary and cultural links that trace back to Ireland's own historical and mythological past. This paper will focus especially on Joyce's *Ulysses*. The novel is analysed in order to highlight its underlying structure, indebted to that of an Irish imram. In my conclusion, I envisage a link with Felice Vinci's hypothesis of a Nordic origin of the Homeric poems.

Niyazi Berk

Professor, Bahcesehir University, Turkey

&

Sabriye Bicen

Advisor, Real Estate, Turkey

Causality between the Construction Sector and GDP Growth in Emerging Countries: The Case of Turkey

This study empirically investigates the relationship between construction investment and GDP growth in emerging countries. Incentives applied to the construction sector are affecting growth very quickly. However, the construction industry's growth in a sluggish economy is shrinking more than the GDP. Using a Granger causality test for the 1996-2016 data, we will examine whether there is a systematic relationship between construction investment and economic growth. In consideration of these findings, the impact on economic growth, as well as economic growth of construction investments, in Turkey should be noted to be effective on construction spending.

Daniela Cavallaro

Senior Lecturer, University of Auckland, New Zealand

**From the Mediterranean to the South Pacific:
An Australian Medea**

Since before 1982, when Alicia Ostriker theorized the field of women's revisionist mythmaking, many women have revisited the plots and characters of Greek tragedy and of Medea in particular. After centuries of being characterized as the epitome of a scorned, revengeful wife and unnatural mother, contemporary women writers (among them Italian Franca Rame and Maricla Boggio) have modernised and rewritten the story of Medea for the stage in powerful monologues, allowing the audience to listen to her voice only.

On the other hand, Australian theatre-makers Anne-Louise Sarks and Kate Mulvany, in a production which premiered in 2012 in Sydney, 2015 in London and 2016 in Auckland, centred their modern revision of the Medea plot on the children: what do the children understand about their parents' fights? Do they have any idea what their parents' dispute will mean for their future?

Sarks and Mulvany's *Medea* is set in the kids' very messy bedroom, where two brothers, aged about 10 and 12, wait while their parents' lives and their own destiny develop offstage. Their father hopes to take them away to live with his new affluent girlfriend. Their mother plots a way of dealing with the situation. While the children entertain themselves shooting nerf blasters and playing word games, the audience becomes painfully aware that the tragic conclusion of the mythical plot will be played out again in the contemporary South Pacific, and finds foreshadowings of their fate in every nose bleed or nerf-ball induced make-believe death on stage.

In this presentation, I will insert Sarks and Mulvany's Australian *Medea* within the genre of revisionist mythmaking, as well as focus on its attempt to combine the enduring power of Euripides' tragedy with the issue of innocent victims in parental disputes.

Ismail Chaib

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&

Yassine Bada

Professor, University of Biskra, Algeria

Spatial Hierarchy and Street Pattern: Effects of Spatial Configuration on People's Movement, Case of Ghardaia Ksours

The study of traditional settlements have been an interest for many researchers in many fields, particularly within Urban Studies. For example, Ghardaia Ksours (nucleuses) in the South of Algeria has been a subject of numerous researches, especially because it is still inhabited by the same society and still fulfills the social-cultural requirements.

It is largely argued that the built form or spatial configuration of Ghardaia Ksours, mainly streets, is adequate for people's social needs, based on a specific spatial arrangement implemented by its street pattern, which aims to create a certain hierarchy of spaces from public to private, thus preserving the community's privacy.

This paper works to grasp the correlation between built form and people's mobility in order to preserve the hierarchal character of the settlement. In other words, it aims to answer: how can spatial structure impact the pattern of using space for movement ?

Space syntax theories and methods are applied to the modeling of the spatial configuration of these settlements using depthmap software with its different models. In addition, various data related to pedestrian flows are collected and observed in-situ through people counting using 'gate count.'

Statistical correlation is explored between configuration measures of settlement layout and pedestrian flows.

Research findings reveal that there is a crucial correlation between topological variables of spatial configuration, such as integration, connectivity, choice and mobility data collected in situ. These confirm that spatial hierarchy by the spatial pattern of outdoor spaces, mainly streets, meets the social requirement in such a way that it regulates accessibility to the wanted degree of privacy.

Jayoung Che

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A Critical Review on the Theories of Violence of Arendt and Sorel: The Ancient Greek Citizen Society as an Alternative

Hannah Arendt defined power as a rightful outcome originated in the agreement of the majority, which is opposite to the violence executed by any arbitrary minority. And d'Entréves justified his concept of 'legal', 'institutionalized' enforcement, which ceases, according to him, to be actual illegal violence.

In my opinion, however, it is not enough to say simply that any minority's violence has to be ceased as Arendt did. Instead there should be reflective consideration on the political and social environments which permitted the minority's violence. Above all, there should be reflective consideration on the mechanism of legal, organized military or police power of the modern state, which causes the minority's violence to be actualized. 'Legal' or 'institutionalized' power does not guarantee justness. To the contrary, legality itself could motivate inequality.

Furthermore, un-politically, biologically and individually committed violence has to be differentiated from the violence executed by social, institutionally organized power. This is why, if these two kinds of violence are confused so as to be equivalently dealt with, we lose the opportunity to reflect upon the evil practices of social violence committed by the authority of law or organized military power, and unjust violence committed by the minority as well, the very things which happened to promote social inequality.

On the other hand, in contrast to Arendt whose argument concerned the antithesis of the rightful power of the majority and the unjust violence of the minority, G. Sorel criticized the concentrative power of the modern state, and supported the movement of 'syndicalism' of the laborers as an alternative. In my opinion, however, his 'syndicalism' turns into nothing more than a dream under the centralized mechanism of power. This could only be properly operated within a very decentralized structure, and the latter does not refer only to decentralization of political organization, but also to the intensification of each citizen's rights. A decentralized structure could only be actualized by restraining the violence committed by every kind of organized social power, military or police, under the authority of law. And the dispersion of power has to be extended down to the level of each citizen, who regards best his own interests first. From this point of view, the citizen state of ancient Greece has to be reconsidered as an alternative.

The ancient Greek city-state which granted free citizenship did not have a central government, with neither military nor police forces being organized. It is a kind of sophistry to argue that the modern state is bigger in scale than the ancient Greek city-state, so that direct democracy does not apply to the modern situation: the key point does not concern the scale but its power structure. Indeed it is not only a false recognition, but tends to distort the essence of the problem to suppose that citizens enjoyed liberty by the exploitation of slave's labor, or that the women were subject to the men, so that the Greek states were not a really democratic societies. The social classes of citizenship and slave s were not absolutely exclusive, but could be alternated with each other. And women also enjoyed citizenship, as they had social and economic rights in the decentralized Greek society.

Christian Dahl

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**Witnessing in Greek Tragedy and South African Theatre:
Yael Farber's *Molora* (2008)**

For obvious historical reasons, South African re-adaptations of Greek tragedy have been remarkably focused on tragedy as political drama. It is therefore no coincidence that the Orestes-myth has inspired a number of adaptations since the early seventies. My paper will discuss Yael Farber's critically acclaimed play *Molora* (2008), which is a remake of Aeschylus' *Oresteia*, written in the aftermath of the hearings of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee. While *Molora* is clearly inspired by Aeschylus' dramatic investigation of the practices of retributive justice, it departs from the Greek model in its questioning of restorative justice. My paper will relate Farber's *Molora* to earlier South African adaptations of the *Oresteia*, such as Athol Fugard's *The Orestes* (1971), and in particular it will discuss how the play relates to the ideas of witnessing that have inspired much of South African theatre. Finally, my paper will consider how the practices of witnessing found in Greek tragedy relate to modern witness theatre.

Khaled Douglas

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**Early Bronze Age IV Semi - Nomadic Culture in Southern
Levant: An ethno-Archaeological Case Study of Upper Wadi
az-Zarqa in Jordan**

The Early Bronze Age IV (2250-2000 B.C) was marked by Levantine archaeologists as a rural phase. It came after the decline of urban culture that flourished during the Early Bronze Age II and III in southern Levant. Most sites during this period were sharing the same patterns of settlements, such as the absence of real settlements, lack of fortifications, and very little material remains, especially as compared to the previous period of culture. Due to the scarcity of the cultural remains of this period, archaeologists considered it as a Dark Age. This paper tries to shed light on this culture through a new perspective by following the ethno-archaeological approach. This approach will help archaeologists understand some of its cultural aspects, by studying a modern group of people who lived at the beginning of the 20th century AD in the Upper Wadi az-Zarqa region of North Central Jordan. Their lifestyle was very similar to that of people during the Early Bronze Age IV. This group is considered to be modern semi-nomadic. The region of the Upper Wadi az-Zarqa is a semi-arid zone and considered a transitional environmental zone, located between the Black Basalt Desert to the east and the central Transjordanian hills in the west, where a Mediterranean climate is dominant. The semi-arid environment attracted certain groups of people in the past, as well as in modern times. Several Early Bronze Age IV sites have been discovered in the Upper Wadi az-Zarqa. By studying the modern group of semi-nomads in the region and their interactions with their surrounding environment, we can ascertain its effect on their material culture. This will in turn help us understand the life of Early Bronze Age IV communities that lived in the same region under similar conditions.

Marco Duichin

Member of Italian Philosophical Society, Italy

The Wolf, the Bear, the Master of the Winds: On the Nordic “Roots” of Odysseus

One of the greatest merits of Felice Vinci’s innovative book (*Omero nel Baltico. Le origini nordiche dell’Odissea e dell’Iliade*, Rome 1995; 2009⁵) lies in the recognition of numerous underground connections linking ancient Greece to the boreal world, the vast area of the Eurasian north running through Fennoscandia, the Baltic countries and Siberia. Here, I will not – for lack of archeological knowledge – get to the heart of the author’s suggestive hypothesis that Homer’s Troy was situated on the southern coast of Finland. Instead, I will look at some collateral aspects of the question he raised, focusing on some of the themes of the “Nordic” descent of Odysseus (Autolykos, Aiolos, Sisyphos, Arkeisios) and his “shamanic” profile (cataleptic sleep, ecstatic journey to Underworld, theriomorphism, initiation mark). The fact that the protagonist of the *Odyssey* is far more ancient than Homer has already been demonstrated by William B. Stanford’s seminal monograph, *The Ulysses Theme*, which appeared at Oxford in 1954. That the Greek hero reflects some primitive shamanic traits has also been pointed out by influential scholars of different nationalities and subject-areas since the first decades of last century. In this paper, I intend to focus on some singular elements that can be recognized, in disguised or atavistic form, in the complex character of Odysseus. More specifically, I will examine certain unexpected features and properties that – according to Vinci’s general theory – seem to place the roots of the Greek hero in a pre-Hellenic substratum of Nordic origin. This is also suggested by the surprising parallels that appear in the Finnish poem *Kalevala*, permeated by shamanistic Lapp motifs, and is confirmed by similar evidence in the Scandinavian sagas, in the German *Märchen*, and in Russian epic and folkloric materials, which in turn are deeply influenced by Siberian shamanism.

Adolfo Cosme Fernandez-Puente

Professor, Universidad de Cantabria, Spain

&

Nuria Mercedes Sanchez-Sanchez

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Is Women's Satisfaction Higher than Men's? Self-Selection, Expectations, or Biology

This study examines the paradox between high relative levels of job satisfaction and the characteristics of women's jobs compared to men's in Spain. Three hypothesis are tested: i) the existence of a selection bias when participating in the labour market; ii) the presence of adaptive job satisfaction; and iii) the existence of differences related to gender of a different nature than those strictly related to labour issues.

The study shows that, although experiencing lower working conditions, women are more likely to be satisfied at work than men. This paradox persists regardless of the age group under consideration and the educational level. The significance level is higher in women between 40 and 60, which could support, at least partially, the hypothesis that the prospects and selection bias of women decrease as age does. The Oxaca-Blinder decomposition suggests that women's expectations are actually influencing the differences in job satisfaction. However, it is not proven that these disappear as age decreases or as the educational level increases. The probable existence of a "glass ceiling" that prevents women from having access to posts of greater responsibility and wage could cause those that actually reach them to be more satisfied than their male counterparts. As the labour market becomes more equal, it is possible for the paradox to become diluted.

Marcia Rosalie Hale
PhD Candidate, UCLA, USA

Urban Water Systems as Instruments of Human Security

In our highly interconnected world, it is a matter of security that water be allocated, planned, and managed with regard to the wellbeing of all users within the geographic region, rather than using imposed boundaries for demarcation, as the environment is a transnational issue that does not adhere to political boundaries. Environmental security recognizes the relationship between the state of the environment and national security, as well as the connection between the environment and human security. Climate change exacerbates existing security issues, and the Mediterranean region is especially vulnerable to the effects of climate extremes, including water scarcity, food production and desertification. This paper explores the most salient aspects of Turkey's environmental security profile as it relates to water, including transboundary water conflict, groundwater issues, climate change, and armed conflict in the region. Recent scientific developments are employed to analyze relationships between factors, including NASA satellite data that measures groundwater, as well as climate and political science that links drought to armed conflict. Considering social and environmental issues within and around Turkey's borders renders geopolitical strategy most robust. Of particular interest is the distinction between water as the overt cause of war, water as a factor of war, water as a weapon of war, and water used to intervene in war as a tool towards peace building, as well as to prevent future conflicts. The concluding section is a discussion of how environmental security issues can be addressed through resource management, especially in the context of failed states and intense human migration.

Hideaki Katsumoto
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The Arguments of Education: Survey of the Journal *Muallim* in the Second Constitutional Period of the Ottoman Empire

Generally speaking, industrial innovations brought about an increasing need for vocational education all over the world in the early 20th century. The Ottoman Empire is no exception to this. In the 1910s, some improvements were executed at Istanbul Vocational School, and these improvements influenced the same kind of schools throughout the provinces of the Ottoman Empire.

In order to understand the ideological backgrounds of vocational education in this period of the Ottoman Empire, I will survey arguments about vocational education in the educational journal, *Muallim*, published from 1916 to 1918. The disputants of these arguments were İsmayil Hakkı [Baltacıoğlu] (1886-1976), Ziya Gökalp (1847-1924), and Mustafa Satı [Satı al-Husri] (1880-1968). They were each representative educators in the Second Constitutional Period (1908-1918).

In preparation for this survey of vocational arguments, I will show that the purpose of this journal was to create the nation in a modern sense through sharing information, and will investigate the possibility that this journal was led by Turkish nationalists by analyzing the preface and the authors of the journal.

Next, I will demonstrate the focus and process of the arguments. The arguments were started by Hakkı's assertion that vocational and practical education was so necessary in the 20th century that vocational education should be the main educational purpose of the Ottoman Empire, just as in advanced countries.

Against this assertion, Gökalp objected from the point of view that Turkish nationalistic education was most important. Satı also objected against Hakkı's assertion by attaching greater importance to idealistic education. At the end of the arguments, Hakkı accepted Gökalp and Satı's insinuations, and Gökalp and Satı also agreed that Hakkı's assertion was reasonable.

Lastly, I will explore the historical backgrounds of these vocational arguments, in addition to the influence of industrial innovations and the possibility that arguments about vocational education influenced education in the Republic of Turkey. These arguments were published during the First World War.

During the war, the Ottoman Empire suffered labor shortages and the Ottoman government encouraged the creation of a Muslim bourgeoisie to replace non-Muslims. The Ottoman Empire needed skilled and talented laborers. In 1922, Mustafa Kemal indicated the necessity of vocational

education and national education at the Grand National Assembly. We can still see the influence of the arguments between Hakkı and Gökalp on the educational policy of the Republic of Turkey today.

Bok Hee Kim

Professor, Andong National University, South Korea

Athletic Dress and Nudity in Greek Athletics

Among the Ancient Greek traditions of sporting events, the most salient characteristic was to play in the nude. The adjective *gymnos*, which is the etymology of *gymnastic* or *gymnasium*, and is used in referring to gymnastics and physical education in Greek, means 'light clothed', 'naked' and 'playing in the nude,' and is associated with various sports. In Homer's poems, nudity is described as humiliating, and it was not until 720 B.C. that completely naked players appeared. What brought this change and why did Greeks play in the nude? In this study, the athlete's dress, a loincloth, the incident of causing nudity in athletics, and the changing processes of nudity in athletics are analysed.

It was discovered that Homeric players wore what is called a perizoma, which is a kind of loincloth, and the origin of nudity in sport events was 720 B.C. After, Orsippos ran in the nude in a stade game, and Akanthos and other athletes played dolichos in the nude, according to the law of nudity in athletics introduced at that time. These two facts explicitly distinguish perizoma from nudity. In the fifth century B.C., Thucydides states that the Spartans were the first to strip. It is presumed that nudity in athletics was also continuous in Olympia, but it is uncertain. In the fourth century B.C., Plato says that the Cretans were the first, then the Spartans, to practice athletic nudity. It is probable that players in Athens wore loincloths during the period between Orsippos and Thucydides. In support of this, the Attic perizoma group of vase painters represent athletes wearing a large, white loincloth, and completely naked players at the same time. With the evidence of Thucydides, Plato, and the works of perizoma group of painters, it is likely that athletes were not naked at the end of the sixth century and probably not at the beginning of the fifth century B.C. either. Rather, nudity was reintroduced probably after the Persian Wars. The Persian Wars polarized the views of Greeks and barbarians and probably brought general nudity in athletics to Greece.

Mohamed Lashin

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&

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The practicing of volunteer work and its challenges in educational institutions by using SWOT analysis approach in Oman

The voluntary sector in the Sultanate of Oman has witnessed a remarkable growth over the last few years, which had a significant impact on the activation of social mobility and contributed positively to the development plans of the Sultanate of Oman. The aim of this study was to identify the current practices of the voluntary sectors in Oman and analyze the challenges faced by the voluntary sector in the Sultanate of Oman using a SWOT analysis. This study will answer the following questions: 1)What are the expectations and reality of volunteer work practices in the Sultanate of Oman from the view point of experts?; and 2)What are the Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threats (SWOT) of the current practices of volunteer work in the Sultanate of Oman?. To answer these questions, a qualitative approach using a semi-quantitative questionnaire was used to analyze the point of view of 89 experts in volunteer work practices in the Sultanate of Oman. The results of this study revealed that the average mean of internal strength factors of voluntary work was 194.44. Meanwhile, the average mean of internal weakness factors of voluntary work was 189.46. This may reflect that the current internal strengths overcome the current internal weaknesses of voluntary work in the Sultanate of Oman. However, the statistical results using One-Way ANOVA showed no significant differences between the overall internal strength and weakness factors. Thus, more efforts are required to empower the workers since volunteer work represents an added value for sustainable human development in the Sultanate of Oman. This study concludes with a recommendation to empower the strength factors of volunteer work by providing a supporting atmosphere for volunteer workers through rules and regulation that empower and encourage volunteering and create healthful, pleasant, and safe volunteering conditions in the Sultanate of Oman.

Sandra Linguerra

Associate Professor, University of Bologna, Italy

The Oceanographic Achievements of Vito Volterra in Italy and Abroad

Vito Volterra (1860-1940) is generally considered one of the greatest mathematicians of his time.

Volterra's great interest in the application of mathematics to biological sciences dates back to his inaugural address at the University of Rome for the academic year 1900/01. 25 years later, in 1926, Volterra developed a mathematical theory of the relations of competition between species. Volterra's theory gave form to the mathematical study of animal populations and set the foundations for population dynamics. Fields in which greater use is being made of population dynamics are studies of fisheries, biology, and ecology.

The aim of my speech is to introduce Volterra's activity as a policy maker in the field of oceanography. In 1910 he was one of the promoters of the Italian Thalassographic Committee, a national endeavor for marine research in the Mediterranean Sea, which soon internationalized. This Committee played a crucial role in Italy in promoting oceanographic studies vis-à-vis the industrial world of fisheries. Abroad, it was affiliated with the "Commission Internationale pour L'exploration Scientifique de la Mer Méditerranée" (International Commission for the Scientific Investigation of the Mediterranean Sea), led by Albert I, Prince of Monaco (1919-1922), and then by Vito Volterra himself (1923-1928).

Arduino Maiuri

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Etymological Connection between the Ancient People of Iaones and the Tacitean Suiones

One of the most recent insights of the intriguing theory formulated by Felice Vinci 25 years ago and continuously enhanced with new evidence, concerns the identification of the Ionians (*Iaones*, mentioned by Hom. *Il.* XIII, 685) with the people of *Suiones*, mentioned by Tacitus in the last chapters of his *Germania*. According to the Italian scholar, it is likely that the Achaeans who migrated to the Aegean Sea to found the Mycenaean civilization - whose language actually was an Ionian dialect, similar to that of Homer - were the *Iaones*, deriving their origin from Sweden. This idea contrasts the prevalent opinion that justifies the Ionic basis of Homer's style by means of its first writing during the Pisistratid tyranny. Following this new track, the presence of the Ionic dialect inside the poems would be much more important than it has been believed so far. In short, a "genetic" constitution, not a simple influence. Felice Vinci offers significant analogies to prove his hypothesis, drawing from several scientific disciplines, such as history (the movement appears similar to that of Varangians, who in the Middle Ages moved from Sweden to found the kingdom of Rus'), geography (the promontory of Cape Sounion, located 43 miles south-southeast of Athens, seems to be a souvenir of the same name), archaeology (the spiral shape, one of the most popular ones in the volutes of the Ionic capitals, was a common decoration also during the Nordic bronze age), and literature (especially a remarkable quotation taken from Plato, *Critias* 111e). In my contribution, I will try to support this interpretation through a careful survey of linguistics, consulting lexicons of Ancient Greek and other Indo-European languages in order to find relevant sources and defend the etymological connection between the ancient people of Iaones and the Tacitean Suiones.

Ria Nicoletti Morphitou

Associate Lecturer, University of Nicosia, Cyprus

&

Marlen Demetriou

Assistant Professor, University of Nicosia, Cyprus

The Impact of Social Media on Students' Decision Making Process on Selecting a University

Purpose of the Research

Educational Institutions have been using traditional media to promote their services, which can be categorized as a one-way communication. On the other hand, with the recent technological advancements they can not only communicate effectively with their target market, but they can still use social media to disseminate information and receive feedback. Social media can assist them to establish a two-way flow of information.

A vital issue of this research paper is to uncover the process by which potential students use social media and more specifically what the media's role is in the decision making process of choosing a University.

In an effort to understand the use of social media in Tertiary Education this research paper consists of extensive literature review and primary data analysis. Key findings extracted by the literature review led to an inductive research approach.

Interpretation of the data allowed comparison between the extent of the use of social media by UNIC students and the effective use of social media as a communication tool by the university towards potential students.

Design/ Methodology

The study takes a quantitative approach where a more in-depth view will also be given. For the purpose of this research 300 students have been personally surveyed in an effort to investigate how social media is used and to what extent it influences students' behaviour. The students were selected randomly through the university's data base. Originally 450 students were contacted but only 300 had successfully completed the questionnaire.

Findings

Relating to the behaviour of of students in social media environments, the study indicates that UNIC students are heavy users of social media, but the majority of students are using mainly two types of activities; social interaction and information seeking. The do rely however on information posted on social media for a number of purchasing decisions.

Silvia Peppoloni

Researcher, Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia, Italy

Geological and Climatic Events that Affected the Baltic and Mediterranean Regions During the Holocene: An Overview

The Holocene is the geological epoch that began about 11,700 years ago, in which the more important human civilizations appeared. From that time, environmental events and the hazards associated with them became very relevant to a wider impact on historical events. They mingle with human vicissitudes, influencing the development and decline of the same civilizations.

Taking into account the hypothesis formulated by Felice Vinci about the migration of Baltic populations towards the Mediterranean area as a result of the end of the “optimum climate” of the Bronze Age, some information about the geological and climatic conditions on the Nordic region will be summarized, particularly the data on glacio-eustatic changes, phenomena of isostatic uplift, and information about probable tsunamis that occurred in ancient times in the North Atlantic. In addition, some geological and geomorphological factors, nowadays considered valid paleoclimatic indicators, will be shown as well as their contribution to studies about climate variations.

Finally, some data on catastrophic events that affected the Mediterranean region will be reported, which could have favored the settlement of “people came from the sea” because of a demographic and socio-economic weakening of indigenous peoples.

In this way, authors will try to provide a contribution of knowledge that allows a better framing in geological and palaeogeographic terms of the hypotheses formulated by Vinci on the migration of Scandinavians towards the Mediterranean.

Manuella Roupnel-Fuentes
Lecturer, University of Angers, France

To Train, or Not to Train: Looking Back at the Vocational Training of Former Moulinex Employees

The pathway to vocational training is studded with social and professional inequalities. Young people train more than their elders¹ but, more importantly, access to training remains highly contingent on the qualification² and training levels already acquired. In 2010, one third of holders of a graduate degree gained access to vocational training vs. 10% of non-graduates. This led French researchers to a rather disappointing conclusion: “training goes to the most highly trained people.”

Unequal access to training also arises between the unemployed and wage earners. “Job seekers get access to training twice as seldom as wage earners” (Gelot & Minni 2004). Unequal access to training even prevails within job seeker groups: “The advantage goes to unemployed people who were employees (18%), occupied an intermediate profession (22%) or, better still, held an executive position (27%) before becoming unemployed. On the other hand, former workers and unemployed who have never worked before experience more difficulties in accessing training courses (10%)” (Fleuret & Zamora 2004/2005, p. 163).

How, then, can we explain why vocational training appears to escape those it is supposed to benefit, i.e. the people encountering the most difficulties in getting ahead professionally and/or finding a new job?

To answer this question, our analysis focuses on the employees laid off by the Moulinex factory in Normandie (France), with the aim of ascertaining how training is implemented and represented in and outside the company. This home appliance manufacturer went bankrupt in the autumn of 2001, resulting in the final dismissal of more than 3,000 employees. To help them find a new job or further training, five reclassification units were implemented at the five facilities shut down totally (Alençon, Bayeux, Cormelles-le-Royal near Caen, Falaise) or partially (Saint Lô). The research I conducted during my sociology thesis began in the autumn of 2002, when I met with employees participating in various meetings held by the trade unions and the classification officers. A series of individual and group interviews followed (with couples and colleagues from the same professional category). Then, in 2003, a

¹ “In 2012, 15.1% of young people under 26 experienced a period of unemployment in the year following a training course” vs. 5.8% of the 45 and older age group (Cavan, 2014, p. 7).

² The chances of accessing “unskilled worker and employee-level” training (16.4 % in 2000) are three times lower than for engineers and executives (52.8 % in 2000) and almost twice as low for qualified workers and employees (29.1 % in 2000).” (Dubar, 2008, p. 172).

questionnaire survey was conducted on approximately a third of the 2,998 people registered with the reclassification units. In all, 830 former Moulinex employees were met by interviewers tasked with completing the questionnaire at interviewees' homes. During some of the questionnaire sessions, the conversations between interviewers and interviewees were recorded on audio media. This article relies both on the statistical analytics of the quantitative data gathered via the questionnaire, and on excerpts from these survey interviews.

Scott Rubarth

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Euripides' *Hippolytus* and Dassin's *Phaedra*: Gender and Myth in Greek Tragedy and Contemporary Cinema

Euripides' *Hippolytus* is an odd play. A virginal Athenian youth dedicated to a virgin goddess is destroyed by the goddess of love through the machinations of his stepmother and the rashness of his powerful father. The play has been reinvented and adapted many times by Ovid, Seneca, Jean Racine, Eugene O'Neill, and others. However, one of the most interesting adaptations is the little known 1962 film, *Phaedra*, directed by Jules Dassin. This film sets the myth in modern Athens (early 1960s), making Theseus a Greek shipping magnate (reminiscent of Aristotle Onassis) and Hippolytus a half Greek art student (Anthony Perkins). The magnificent Melina Mercouri, acclaimed star of cinema and stage and former Minister of Culture of Greece, is brilliantly cast as Phaedra.

In my presentation, I examine how the challenges of adapting the Euripidean tragedy to the demands and conventions of contemporary culture shed much light on the nature of myth and on conceptions of gender, both ancient and contemporary. I approach the ancient text from a philological and philosophical perspective and the film from the perspective of adaptation and film studies. I argue that by keeping the story Greek, casting Mercouri and Perkins as lead roles, and altering the basic plot in significant ways, Dassin reveals much about the fluid nature of Greek myth and about the sexual and gender tensions that tested values and politics in both the 5th century (BCE) and 1960s Athens. Finally, the events and controversies associated with the production of the film and the lives of the director and cast add another dimension to the reading of the play and film.

Ilze Rumniece

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Mediterranean and Baltic Areas: Mythical, Real and Potential Signs in the Facts of Language(s)

Many facts of language and history in the regions of the Baltic Sea and the Mediterranean open up interesting and, as of yet, rarely explored possibilities to draw parallels in the common scene of history, ethnography, and mythology. As a specialist in the field of ancient culture and classical languages, and as an inhabitant of modern Latvia, I have begun researching several such facts in more detail using both linguistic ideas as well as ethnographic and cult tradition sources – in lexicography and texts of ancient times, Middle Ages, as well as modern scientific literature. One concrete example could be the juxtaposition of the Ancient Greek (Homer's) Curetes and the name of "Couronians," the ancient inhabitants of the southern part of the Baltic Sea (still one of the four districts of Latvia – Kur-zeme, i.e. Couronian land).

The etymology of the Baltic ethnonym "kūri" is unclear. One of the assumptions links the word "kūri" with the verb "kurt" (= to make fire); additional etymological commentary of this verb leads to a link with the Indo-European root *ker – with the meaning "to cut".

Aside from other significant parallels, which I anticipate revealing in the paper, a noteworthy fact is that the martial dance *pyrrichios*, which in ancient sources is mentioned as a ritual of the Cretan curetes (eg. *Pausanias*), is etymologically linked with fire (gr. πῦρ). The main ancient heavenly deity of the Balts is *Pērkons* (latvian "Thunder/Thunderer") – Perkūnas (lith.), Perkunis (Old Pruss.), Perun (slav.). The attributes of this deity (as of Zeus) are thunder, lightning, fire and the effect of a lightning bolt or "cut."

Did the ancient "kūri" of the Balts have similar functions to the Greek Curetes to Zeus? At least historically, this Western Baltic tribe (settled in the south-western part of the Baltic Sea from the 4th till the 2nd millennium BC) is believed to be the most militant of the Baltic tribes.

I believe that the pieces of the puzzle, which could form a clearer historical and cultural link between the ethnos of the northern and southern seas, are far from assembled, and they are still to be collected.

Houman Sadri

Associate Professor and Coordinator of Model U.N. Program, University
of Central Florida, USA

**Teaching & Learning about Globalization & Localization:
Comparative Analysis of Cross-Cultural Communication
Issues**

The objective of this study is to provide cross-cultural comparative observations about students' attitudes and behaviors toward the process of teaching and learning about globalization and localization in International Relations (IR) courses. Based on author experience in teaching IR courses and surveys measuring the "globalized" and "localized" viewpoints of students in the U.S., Russia, and Turkey, the focus of this project addresses the subjects of globalization and localization. The topic is significant in research as well as teaching perspectives, especially in a cross-cultural context.

Therefore, one main purpose of this study is to delve into key concepts known as "globalization," "localization," "cosmopolitanism," and "world citizenship" as they relate to the social sciences and to discover the true similarities and differences between them. This research explores the minds of the generation whom "globalization" will most impact; it is they who will first handedly take part in its growth in the future. Ultimately, this study will attempt to uncover the implications of teaching and learning about "globalization" in international relations courses and examine students' perspectives towards these major concepts.

Marsela Sako

Lecturer, University of Tirana, Albania

**Albania in Democracy:
Fewer Minorities, More Legislation!**

Immediately after the 1990's, former communist countries began to devote more importance to policies related to minorities. In this way, multiethnic Balkan states had to create a society dominated by respect for freedom and human rights. In addition to providing individual rights, democratization also requires collective recognition of the rights of all kinds of minorities. In this context, it should be stressed that the realization of a successful transition to a post-communist era should be supported by creating opportunities for competition on equal terms for minorities in the new economic processes, the creation of legislation on individual rights and collective rights of minorities, and protection of those rights against discrimination. Despite these common goals, it is clear that the policies, which the former communist countries have followed for minorities, are determined by various factors. Given this, the paper aims to review the policy approach followed by the Albanian state toward its national minorities. As an ethnically homogeneous country, contrasting the other Balkan countries, Albania has a relatively small number of minorities, among whom the Greeks, mostly concentrated in the southern part of the country, constitute the largest number. For this reason, the analysis of legislative initiatives, Albanian legislation, and conventions signed concerning freedoms and rights guaranteed to minorities in Albania, will give us a clear picture of the fundamental rights currently enjoyed by national minorities in Albania, focusing in particular on the Greek minority.

Lorna Sheppard

Lecturer, University Centre Somerset and PhD Student, Falmouth
University, UK

**A Mediterranean Odyssey:
Text and Illustration and the Discourse of Foreign Travel in
Elizabeth David's *A Book of Mediterranean Food* (1950)**

During the early 1950's, new technologies in printing and colour imagery emerged, transforming the visual language of cookery. Yet, despite the availability of photography, many cookery writers chose to still use illustration. Elizabeth David's post war cookbooks typically appealed to the middle-class reader, evoking memories of and aspirations to foreign travel, and illustration was instrumental in promoting the touristic experience.

This paper will focus on Elizabeth David's cookbook *A Book of Mediterranean Food* (1950), and on how the spirit of the Mediterranean was realised and embodied through David's vivid and authentic text and John Minton's colourful and intense illustrations. During a period of post-war austerity in Britain, David's book was seen as a welcome return to stability, and, despite the limitations of the English larder, the book was instrumental in introducing the public to culinary daring, adventure and travel narratives. David would later describe the book as 'a love letter to the Mediterranean' (cited in Cooper 1999: 153). Through David's evocative writing and Minton's accompanying illustrations, a cultural and historical link is made to the original source of her recipes.

This paper will argue that in the process of the reader noting the historical and cultural significance of what they are cooking - conveyed by the interplay between illustration and text - a touristic experience is negotiated and explored through the reading of the recipe and in the subsequent preparing, consuming, and discussing of the meal at the table and elsewhere in the home.

Donald Sparks
Professor, The Citadel, USA

Migration from sub-Saharan Africa to Mediterranean Europe: The Economic Consequences

In 2015, some 130,000 sub-Saharan African refugees and migrants (the largest numbers from Eritrea, Nigeria and Somalia) made their way to Mediterranean Europe, according to the International Organization for Migration. Many observers termed this a "crisis" as 3,770 migrants drowned in the Mediterranean the same year. In late 2015, European and African leaders signed an agreement in Malta to set up an Emergency Trust Fund to spur economic development, as well as to encourage those in the Horn of Africa, the Sahel, and other parts of sub-Saharan Africa to reduce the flow of refugees and to take back migrants who had already arrived in southern Europe. At the Malta conference the Europeans pledged €1.8 billion in aid, in addition to €20 billion annually that it provides in other forms of development assistance. African migrants include a combination of economic migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers who use common migration routes into southern Europe. Poverty, lack of employment opportunities, and civil strife remain the important push factors for migration from sub-Saharan Africa, despite the region's generally improved economic performance. The pull factors include the perception of better jobs, health care, and education.

Such large numbers of migrants have had important political, social, and economic impacts both on the destination and origin regions. This paper will look at recent economic and demographic developments in sub-Saharan Africa and explore Europe's response, looking particularly at the economic aspects. It will include an examination of a variety of regional organizations (including the Union for the Mediterranean, The Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly, the European Commission and the African Union Commission) to see what role they play in mitigating some of the root causes of economic migration to Mediterranean Europe. It will conclude by assessing the positive and negative economic impacts of continued migration flows on both Mediterranean Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Nuno Valerio

Professor, University of Lisbon, Portugal

Empires in the Near East and Mediterranean Areas: Steps towards Globalization?

The idea that empires in the Near East and Mediterranean areas represent steps towards globalization may have two different meanings:

(A) Contemporary globalization at a world level presupposes a previous form of globalization. That is to say, there is an increasing interdependence of human societies that were previously relatively self-contained at the regional level. Empires, or political spaces based on the dominance of one society over other culturally different societies, are globalization processes in the sense just outlined. The Near East and Mediterranean areas were important spaces for empire building. Thus, empires in the Near East and Mediterranean areas were cases of regional globalization and, as such, represented steps towards world globalization.

(B) Either empires in general or particular empires in the Near East and Mediterranean areas presented features that have significant analogies with the worldwide contemporary globalization process. As such, their construction, organization, functional mechanisms, and ultimate collapse may produce fruitful insights, which then contribute to a better understanding of contemporary developments.

These two meanings will be discussed in turn.

Margaret Venzke

Associate Professor, Stetson University, USA

The Tribal Factor in the Decline of the Eastern Mediterranean Lands: From the Perspective of the 16th Century

The shores of the Mediterranean invoke memories of glorious past civilizations, an image that is at odds with the impact of tribal peoples, particularly the Turcomans, on the region of the eastern Mediterranean in the 16th century. The proposed paper attempts to ascertain the tribal impact as it is seen over a broad area of northern Syria and southeastern Anatolia in the 16th century. Problems abound regarding the integrity of any such endeavor, but Ottoman demographic data available in the form of the Ottoman tax registers, which were largely a product of the 16th century, offer a window into the tribal presence, however imperfect. The changes that tribal peoples—whether settled or nomadic—brought to this region appear to be a factor in the decline of certain rural areas, yet nomadic tribes made critical contributions to economic life. At the same time, other tribesmen were also becoming assimilated to agricultural life, and therefore, their impact was both positive and negative.

Four areas will be examined in the proposed paper. The first is a sweeping view of the tribal impact in the *livâ* (sub-province) of Aleppo, which encompassed much of northern Syria. Here is revealed the full complexity of the tribal picture. Certain Turcoman tribes, still nomadic, were attached to the jurisdiction of the *livâ*, although, in reality, they simply passed through it en route to summer or winter pastures. They were being taxed on the basis of their sheep. Some of the above tribes, plus other tribal peoples, were being taxed for their violation in remaining for part of the year in the *livâ*, rather than simply passing through.

Other tribal peoples, nomadic, nevertheless resided year-round within the *livâ*, while yet other tribal peoples had settled in villages, but still paid some part of their Ottoman taxes to their erstwhile tribal chiefs. The correlation between the tribal presence in districts and the agricultural productivity of these districts is considered, as well as the pattern of settlement in heavily tribally impacted districts.

Next, the encroachment of tribes, particularly Turcoman, will be examined, from a longer-term perspective, as one factor that played a role in the decline of the city of Antioch. In addition, the surprising scarcity of villages that reveal a settled tribal presence in the western Aleppine districts surrounding Antioch (in contrast to certain eastern Aleppine districts) suggests, not the absence of any tribal bedrock, but rather the fact that the Turcoman infiltration into this area had occurred earlier (and

some of these Turcomans may have been those settled by the Mamluk Sultan Baybars in this area). By the 16th century, tribal peoples here had been assimilated to agricultural life for a longer period of time, hence losing their tribal identity. The poorer agricultural results in these western districts, as seen in the 16th century, may have something to do with this area having a settled tribal population.

Finally, a brief survey of three Turcoman entities that effectively bordered the Aleppine north—the Ramazan-o’lu and Dhu’l-Qadir Turcoman principalities, and the *livâ* of A`zâz – will be considered because these areas were so much more heavily tribal in the 16th century than the Aleppine lands, in general. One might conclude that a rough boundary line of sorts, running east/west, marked the Aleppine lands to the south as being much less overtly tribal and less Turcoman in character. This boundary line does not greatly deviate from the present-day border between Syria and Turkey.

Felice Vinci

Independent Researcher, Writer, Italy

An Up-to-Date Survey of the Theory upon the Nordic Origins of the Homeric Poems

An up-to-date survey of the theory that the real setting of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* can be identified not as the Mediterranean sea, where it proves to be undermined by many incongruities, but rather in the north of Europe, is presented here. The sagas that gave rise to the two poems came from the Baltic regions, where the Bronze Age flourished in the second millennium BC and where many Homeric places, such as Troy and Ithaca, can still be identified today, not to mention the places of Odysseus's wanderings. The seafarers who founded the Mycenaean civilization in the Aegean Sea in the 16th century B.C. brought these tales from Scandinavia to Greece after the end of the climatic optimum. They were the Homeric *Iaones*, Ionians coming from Sweden, who reached the Aegean area by following the River Dnieper (as the Swedish Vikings called Varangians did 2500 years after, during the Middle Ages). They rebuilt their original world, where the Trojan War and many other events of Greek mythology had taken place, in the Mediterranean, transferring significant names from north to south. Through many generations, they preserved the memory of the heroic age and the feats performed by their ancestors in their lost Hyperborean homeland, until this oral tradition was put into written form around the 8th Century BC, when alphabetical writing was introduced in Greece. This new prospect sheds light on the peoples of the northern Early Bronze Age and allows us to reconstruct their life, culture, religion, and history, which have been almost totally unknown until now. Besides, this prospect is susceptible to far-reaching, unexpected developments, regarding European prehistory and the dawn of the Greek civilization.

Walter Ward

Associate Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA

Orientalism and the Study of the Pre-Modern Middle East

Edward Said's opus *Orientalism* (1978) has exerted a tremendous influence on modern scholarship concerning how the "West" has viewed the Middle East. Said argued that the image of the Middle East (Orientalism) that was created by "western" (mainly French) writers and artists in the 19th century justified European imperialism in the region. This theory as well as others (such as Huntington's *Clash of Civilizations*) has been uncritically applied to pre-modern understandings of the Middle East as well.

My goal for this paper is to investigate how an Orientalist framework can and cannot be applied to the study of the pre-modern Middle East, using two concrete examples: urbanism in the Middle East during the Greco-Roman period (c. 323 BCE - c. 300 CE) and the early Islamic conquests of the Middle East (seventh century CE). I will argue that using presentist (or perhaps 19th century) frames of reference concerning "east" and "west" are misleading, simplistic, and modes of thinking that actually obscure the complexities of everyday interaction in the pre-modern Middle East.

Mervyn Wighting
Professor, Regent University, USA
&
Gail Derrick
Professor, Regent University, USA

Teacher Preparation Delivered Online: Measuring Alumni Effectiveness and Retention in the Classroom

Approximately one-third of all new teachers now being hired in the United States are following alternative paths to teacher certification, and these teachers are being prepared in approximately 600 programs that offer alternatives to the traditional route of college-based teacher preparation. According to Feistritz (2011), this trend continues to grow as increasing numbers of career-changers and other post baccalaureate adults seek to teach, and school districts increasingly seek to hire them.

Almost 25% of the total of new public-school teachers leave the profession within the first three years (U.S. Department of Education, 2007), and the rates are higher in schools with low academic achievement by children. Empirical data are not available on the national retention rate of alternative licensure teachers, but according to Glass (2008), and Feistritz, Gallagher, and Henderson (2009), it is estimated that 70-90% of them continue teaching in the profession.

This presentation will report the full results of a study of approximately 200 teacher candidates who have been prepared for the classroom using online courses since 2003. The participants were surveyed on their reasons for remaining as teachers, their perception of how adequately they were prepared for teaching, and an evaluation of their effectiveness as teachers based on their children's pre-test/post-test learning scores, and by direct feedback obtained from their employer. Initial results are encouraging, showing the retention rate of 77% for online program completers who had been teaching 3-5 years was close to the national retention rate of 85% for alternative licensure teachers, and that program alumni were having a positive impact on children's learning when measured using a variety of methods.

Adel Zeglam

Professor and Consultant Neurodevelopment Pediatrician, Tripoli
University, Libya

Current Situation of Health Services for Children in Libya

Libya is the second largest country in North Africa with the longest coast in the Mediterranean basin and has been considered to be the "gateway to Africa." The country has been justifiably renowned as one of the world's great success stories in public health. Its ability to deliver low-cost healthcare with good outcomes is held as a model for other developing countries. The most brief examination of the evidence from the UN's Human Development Index (HDI) strongly supports this. However, all this is changing, and in 2011, Libya experienced a major armed conflict that resulted in great human loss and economic cost, as well as degradation to the public health care system. This forced the Libyan health and education systems to deal with great challenges under unusual circumstances. Over the last five years and since the eruption of the Arab spring, many hospitals, health centers, and schools for the disabled children were closed because they were located in areas affected by the fighting. Health staff, children, and the hospitals themselves have been put in danger. "Some of the health facilities that are still functioning are close to the areas where fighting is taking place, and it's difficult for staff to work there, as well as difficult for the children to attend their schools." Armed conflicts within cities are known as a major cause of poor health and disruptions to economic activity. One critical problem is the lack of primary healthcare facilities, such as local clinics, special schools, and district hospitals. As a result, people seeking basic or routine care have to line up outside the country's specialist hospitals, if there are any. In some places, facilities were always scarce. In others, they have been badly damaged.

The following difficulties will be discussed:

- Foreign health workers
- Specialized health services for children with special needs
- Long-lasting economic consequences
- Role of NGO's in facing the collapsing health services for children