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ÉCOLE FRANÇAISE D'ATHÈNES  
ΓΑΛΛΙΚΗ ΣΧΟΛΗ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ



UNIVERSITY OF CRETE  
SCHOOL of SOCIAL SCIENCES



**FORTH**  
INSTITUTE FOR MEDITERRANEAN STUDIES

**Rethymno**  
**February 24, 2025**

3rd Meeting:  
The Cretan Connection

When Villains write  
their history:  
Political Banditry  
in the Balkans and  
Asia Minor through  
Ego-documents

**Organisation**

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With the support of INALCO

Venue: Institute for Mediterranean Studies:  
Nikiforou Foka 130 & Melissinou, Rethymno, Crete



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## Programme

Welcome and Introduction 9:30-10:30

### Fighting for Crete

1st panel 10:30-12:10

**Eleftheria Zei**, (University of Crete): Political banditry as revolutionary tradition in Crete, 19th-20th c.

**Nikos Sigalas**, (Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH): The unpublished memoirs of the Cretan chieftain Chatzimichalis Yannaris

Coffee break 12:10-12:30

2nd panel 12:30-14:10

**Yannis Skalidakis**, (University of Crete): From bandits to heroes. The official recognition of the armed struggle in Crete against the Ottomans by the autonomous Cretan State.

**Nikos Vafeas** (University of Crete): The world of the chieftains of Cretan Resistance during WWII through the eyes of a “spy” of His Majesty’s Government: Tom J. Dunbabin’s (incomplete) notebook

Break 14:10-15:40

### Cretans Fighting for Macedonia

3rd panel 15:40-18:10

**Athena Skoulariki** (University of Crete): The recruitment of Cretan fighters in the Greek guerilla in Ottoman Macedonia according to band leaders’ memoirs.

**Kostas Fradellos** (University of Crete): Narratives of an "avenger"? The "Diary of the Macedonian Struggle" by Georgios Perros.

**Tasos Kostopoulos**, (Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH): "Only the knife can bring good results". The voluminous diary of Captain Vardas, the Cretan general chief of the Greek guerillas in Bitola vilayet, 1904-1907.