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## 2015 Summer Seminar on Nationalism, Religion and Violence

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Την πρώτη μέρα του συμποσίου απονεμήθηκαν τα βραβεία της Αμερικάνικης Εταιρείας Νεοελληνικών Σπουδών. Βραβεύτηκαν ο Κωστής Κορνέτης για το βιβλίο *Children of Dictatorship: Student Resistance, Cultural Politics, and the “Long 1960s”* (Νέα Υόρκη και Οξφόρδη, 2013), ο Peter Bien για τη μετάφραση του έργου του Νίκου Καζαντζάκη *Βίος και Πολιτεία του Αλέξη Ζορμπά* (Νέα Υόρκη, 2014), ο Vasilis W. Molos για την διδακτορική του διατριβή με τίτλο *Nationness in the Absence of a Nation* (New York University, Abu Dhabi, 2014) και ο Panayotis League από το Πανεπιστήμιο του Harvard ως εκπονητής της καλύτερης φοιτητικής εργασίας. Η εργασία του για τα τραγούδια της Καλύμνου παρουσιάστηκε και στο πρόγραμμα του φετινού συμποσίου της MGSA.

Οι εργασίες του συμποσίου ολοκληρώθηκαν την Κυριακή 18 Οκτωβρίου με γενική συνεδρίαση και με ξενάγηση στην πόλη της Ατλάντας. Αποφασίστηκε επίσης ότι το επόμενο συμπόσιο της Εταιρείας Νεοελληνικών Σπουδών της Βόρειας Αμερικής θα λάβει χώρα από 2 έως 5 Νοεμβρίου του 2017 στο Πανεπιστήμιο Stockton στο New Jersey.

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## **2015 Summer Seminar on Nationalism, Religion and Violence**

Jan Lalić

The 2015 edition of the *Summer Seminar on Nationalism, Religion and Violence* (NRV) took place in Thessaloniki, Greece from June 29<sup>th</sup> to July 10<sup>th</sup>. The summer school was organized by the International Hellenic University (Thessaloniki) in partnership with the Institute of International Studies at Charles University (Prague), Peace Research Institute Oslo – PRIO Cyprus and LSEE – Research on South Eastern Europe, a research unit based at the European Institute of the London School of Economics. Such institutions were promising a great educational experience, but reality exceeded expectations by far.

The program consisted of four themes, namely Political and Institutional Issues, Memory, Political Violence and Migration. Lecturers from prestigious educational institutions, including Oxford University, LSE and NYU, addressed these themes from a wide range of methodological approaches and scientific fields.

Historiography, political science, international law and anthropology were all present, making the whole experience truly complex and challenging. Few of the academic highlights included a lecture given by Nikos Skoutaris (LSE) dealing with different aspects of international law in European conflicts, Harry Tzimitras' (PRIO Cyprus) lecture on the use of law in nationalism, and last, but not least, Jiří Kocián's (Charles University) interactive workshop on memory and Holocaust testimonies. Memory and its role in the study of the past played an important role in the summer school's curriculum. Scientists from both main organizational institutions, the International Hellenic University and Charles University, are extensively engaged in the memory research and they did a magnificent job in presenting this complex field of study and showing how different remembering and interpretations of the past can affect our present.

One of the most memorable parts of the NRV program were class discussions, showing in its best a desired added value of every international summer school. Student body consisted of 21 people from 13 different countries. There were no two students with similar academic or personal background. Among attendees was a British journalist working in Kosovo, Kosovar employee of the International Criminal Court for Former Yugoslavia, German Ph.D. candidate studying in Turkey, Argentinian intern of the Israeli NGO, and the list goes on. Such diversity made our discussions incredibly inspiring and stimulating in and out of the class as we exchanged thoughts backed by different cultural, academic and professional perspectives. This "summer school effect" was strengthened by the fact that the program took place during the Greek bailout referendum, which not only provided us with a lot of discussion topics, but also reaffirmed the necessity to study such topics as nationalism, conflict and violence.

Even though the summer school was very intense and included 13 two-hour lectures, 2 field trips and 2 workshops spanning across 10 working days, we enjoyed our stay in Greece in full also socially. Thessaloniki is an amazing city with thousands of years of bittersweet history, which one can feel on every corner. We enjoyed city's museums, monuments and landmarks but also the Greek cuisine and beaches. Here I must offer a special thanks to program coordinators Nikos Skoutaris and Giorgos Antoniou, who were always ready to recommend a place or organize a social event. All of this made our stay extremely enjoyable and contributed to forging valuable connections and friendships. Last but not least, I must extend my gratitude to the other two members of the Program Committee, without whom the summer school would not exist, Kateřina Králová (Charles University) and Harry Tzimitras (PRIO Cyprus).

The fourth edition of the Summer Seminar on Nationalism, Religion and Violence will take place between June 20<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 in Prague and will be

organized by the Institute of International Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences at Charles University.

The list of 2015 Summer Seminar on Nationalism, Religion and Violence lecturers:

Constance Grewe, Constitutional Court of Bosnia Herzegovina

Harry Tzimitras, PRIO Cyprus

Dawn Brancati, Washington University in St. Louis

Kostis Kornetis, NYU

Giorgos Antoniou, International Hellenic University

Elias Dinas, University of Oxford

Simon Prince, Canterbury University

Mark Levene, University of Southampton

Arzu Kibris, Sabanci University

Liza Schuster, City University and Kabul University

Nikos Skoutaris, University of East Anglia and LSE

Kryštof Kozák, Charles University in Prague

Anna Anathangelou, York University

Jiří Kocián, Charles University in Prague

Sakis Gekas, York University

Links:

2015 Summer Seminar on Nationalism, Religion and Violence in Thessaloniki:

<http://www.ihu.edu.gr/nrv15/>

2016 Summer Seminar on Nationalism, Religion and Violence in Prague:

<http://nrvschool.fsv.cuni.cz/>

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## Připravuje se řecký dokument o vyhlazení Lidic

Alena Vitáková

Aténský žurnalista Konstantinos Follas začal na jaře roku 2014 pracovat na vytvoření dokumentárního snímku o Lidicích. K této bolestné kapitole českých dějin se dostal úplnou náhodou. „Trávil jsem dovolenou v Praze a navštívil jsem též pravoslavný chrám Cyrila a Metoděje. Tam jsem viděl pamětní desku věnovanou jak církevním hodnostářům, tak parašutistům, co zabili Heydricha. Zapátral jsem