Workshop

Humans, Drugs, and Arms:
Illicit Trafficking in the Mediterranean

ATHENS
27/06
2023

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Photography: Books used to smuggle cigarettes (Germany, 1932) [Wikimedia Commons]

École française d’Athènes, Didotou 6, Athens
The workshop will gather specialists within the domains of trafficking in humans, narcotics, and arms, who will explore the topic of illegal circulation in the Mediterranean between 1870 and 1960. By shifting the focus to agents and regulations, this workshop aims to connect historiographies that have been considered unrelated to the present day. Consequently, methodology and the use of sources will be central topics of our discussions. The workshop revolves around the hypothesis that individuals involved in trafficking—whether it be in humans, drugs, or arms—share similar profiles and are often subjected to comparable restrictive measures both at the national and international levels.

9:30-10:00
Welcome
Gilles de Rapper Director of Modern and Contemporary Studies, École française d’Athènes

Introduction
Pierre Salmon École Normale Supérieure & Kostis Gkotsinas National Hellenic Research Foundation

10:00 - 11:30 | Session 1: Places
Ramazan Hakkı Öztan Bogaziçi University
Small Places, illicit Directions: Smuggling and the Age of Globalization

Laurence Montel Université de Poitiers
Illicit Circulations in Marseilles, ‘Capital City of Crime’ (1820-1940): Assessment of a situated Investigation and further new Insights

Andreas Guidi Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales
‘Mediterranean’ Trafficking? The Area Studies Approach and the spatial Logic of Smuggling

11:30 - 11:45 | Coffee break

11:45 - 13:45 | Session 2: Agents
Daniel-Joseph MacArthur-Seal British Institute at Ankara
Cosmopolitan Underworld: Opium Refinement in Prohibition-Era Istanbul

Mogens Pelt Danish Institute at Athens
Moving Arms and People in the 1930s Mediterranean in Times of escalating Tensions

Pierre Salmon École Normale Supérieure
When the French Riviera’s Milieu was involved in the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939): Rethinking the Intermediarity of illegal Networks during Conflicts

Kostis Gkotsinas National Hellenic Research Foundation
Going international: global Dimensions of Greek Drug Smugglers’ Activities

13:45 - 16:00 | Lunch break

16:00 - 17:30 | Session 3: State Control
Dimitris Mitsopoulos Columbia University
Smuggling in Greek Macedonia: Between Empires and State Building

Samantha Pratali Université Catholique de Lille
The Visibility of Pimping in the departmental Archives of Bouches-du-Rhône from 1885 to 1939

Haggai Ram Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Israel and the Dialectics of the War on Drugs: Detoxicating ‘Outsiders within’, Intoxicating ‘foreign Enemies’

17:30 - 17:45 | Coffee break

17:45 - 19:00 | Session 4: Round table
Sources on the History of illicit Trafficking