

This workshop proposes to study political banditry via ego-documents produced by gang leaders or bandits, in an Ottoman and post-Ottoman regional framework including the Balkans, Asia Minor and the Caucasus, and concerning political banditry from the 1890s to the early 1920s. The aim of the workshop is to challenge the view that these texts are of a lesser value due to their subjective character. On the contrary, we postulate that the very nature of the ego-document allows for a heuristic interrogation of political banditry. The workshop will bring together scholars from the region in an international team. These researchers will present ego-documents written in different languages, having previously studied them according to a common grid of questions.

### Organisation

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ATHENS

24-25/04

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Hybrid conference:

École française d'Athènes, Didotou 6, Athens & Webinar registration: [Day 1](#) | [Day 2](#)

**Monday, April 24 | 9:30-17:20**  
**Session 1 - Fighting for Macedonia**

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**9:30-10:30 | Welcome and introduction**

**10:30-12:10 | 1<sup>st</sup> panel**

**Tasos Kostopoulos** *Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH*

The Letters of the Greek Guerrilla's general Chieftain in Macedonia Pavlos Melas to his Wife Natalia

**Petar Todorov** *Institute of National History - Saints Cyril and Methodius University*

The Diary of Vasil Tchakalarov (1901-1903): Banditry in Ottoman Macedonia

**12:10-12:30 | Coffee break**

**12:30-14:10 | 2<sup>nd</sup> panel**

**Dmitar Tasić** *Institute for Recent History of Serbia*

Life as an Adventure: Memoirs of Vasilije Trbić (1881-1962)

**Athena Skoulariki** *University of Crete*

A discrete Greek-Macedonian Fighter: the Autobiography of Nikolaos Kanoutas from Grevena

**14:10-15:40 | Lunch break**

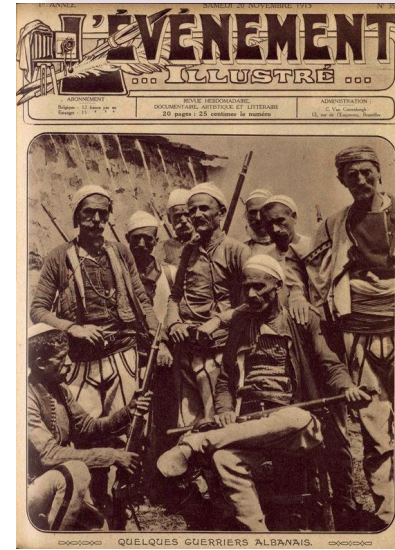
**15:40-17:30 | 3<sup>rd</sup> panel**

**Vladimir Crețulescu** *University of Bucharest*

The Memoirs of Cola Nicea: on the Self-representation of Vlach Partisans, in early 20<sup>th</sup> Century historical Macedonia

**Alexandre Toumarkine** *INALCO/Paris*

The Memories of Resneli Niyazi, Hero of the 1908 Young Turk Revolution in Macedonia



**Tuesday, April 25 | 10:00-14:40**

**Session 2 - Beyond the Macedonian struggle: Other Guerrilla Fronts**

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**10:00-12:30 | 1<sup>st</sup> panel**

**Nikos Vafeas** *University of Crete*

The Memoirs of Ioannis Giayas, a Leader of the Yaya Insurrection in Samos (1912-1925)

**Ioannis Skalidakis** *University of Crete*

The Memoirs of the Cretan Warlord Capitan Manolis Bandouvas

**Ozan Arslan** *Izmir University of Economics/Turkey*

The Memoirs of Fuat Balkan, a Guerrilla Chieftain in Western Thrace and Bulgaria

**12:30-12:50 | Coffee break**

**12:50-14:20 | 2<sup>nd</sup> panel**

**Elias G. Skoulidas** *University of Ioannina*

"Northern Epirus Struggle", Narratives of Irredentism and Economy: Memoirs of Athanasios Tsekouras

**Nikos Sigalas** *CETOBaC- EHESS/Paris*

Germanos Karavangelis in his own Words: from Macedonia to Pontus

**14:20-14:40 | Conclusions**