



**CHAIR OF MODERN GREEK LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
DEPARTMENT OF EUROPEAN, AMERICAN AND INTERCULTURAL STUDIES
SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY OF ROME**

International Conference

THE ITALIAN PHILHELLENIC MOVEMENT AND THE GREEK WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

(9-11 November 2021, Sapienza University of Rome)

**Under the Patronage of the
ROMA SAPIENZA FOUNDATION**

**In collaboration with the
BICENTENNIAL INITIATIVE 1821-2021***

The 1821 Greek War of Independence was the first rebellion against the Ottoman Empire that was crowned with success, and at the same time it was the first uprising during the European Restoration that led to the creation of a modern state (1832).

Several causes led to the uprising of the Greeks against the Sublime Porte in 1821, amongst which were the movement of neoclassicism, theorised in Rome by the archaeologist and art historian Johann Joachim Winckelmann and the painter and art theorist Anton Raphael Mengs; the intervention of Catherine the Great in the Mediterranean during the 1770s, and the consequent Treaty of Kuchuk-Kainarji (1774) that greatly promoted Greek interests and favoured the further spread and strengthening of the diaspora throughout Europe; and the formation of a Greek national consciousness under modern terms, under the influence of both the ideals of

* National Bank of Greece, Eugenides Foundation, Foundation for Education and European Culture, Bodossaki Foundation, Captain Vassilis & Carmen Constantakopoulos Foundation, Social and Cultural Affairs Welfare Foundation (KIKPE), Lambrakis Foundation, the A.C. Laskaridis Charitable Foundation, Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation, John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation, A.G. Leventis Foundation, B & M Theocharakis Foundation for the Fine Arts & Music, Michael N.Stassinopoulos-VIOHALCO Public Benefit Foundation, Onassis Foundation.



the Enlightenment and the French Revolution, and the work of Greek and European scholars.

During the second half of the 18th century, these significant historico-political and cultural developments not only did not go unnoticed by the European society of the time, but they also gave rise to the formation of the Philhellenic movement, which in the first half of the 19th century had a major impact in Europe and part of the American continent.

Particularly in Italy, the geographical proximity, the long-lasting contact and coexistence between Italians and Greeks, the Napoleonic wars, the consequences of the Congress of Vienna in 1815, as well as a series of other social, political and cultural conditions prevailing at the time in the Italian peninsula were the reasons why the Philhellenic movement enjoyed great popularity and rapid dissemination. During the first decades of the 19th century and mainly from 1821 onwards, the movement became a common reference point among many Italian intellectuals, artists, writers, historians and politicians. Furthermore, in many cases the Greek War of Independence triggered heated debates that seem to have played an important role in the rapprochement between the Italian states and to have influenced the process of political unification that led in 1861 to the establishment of the Kingdom of Italy.

Literature, theatre, history, music, fine arts and folklore are just some of the areas where the Italian Philhellenic movement, through a multitude of works, has left its indelible mark by creating a cultural heritage that never concealed its political perspective and promoted a European thought that recognised the contribution of Greek culture in shaping a common European identity.

For these reasons, the conference intends to highlight and study all aspects of the Italian Philhellenic movement related to the period of the preparation, the beginning, the events and the aftermath of the Greek War of Independence, especially those which illuminate the European perspective of the Greek 1821 Revolution. The subject of the conference is particularly offered for interdisciplinary, cultural and intercultural approaches that this scientific meeting wishes to promote and to which it wishes to give prominence. Part of the conference will be dedicated to the female voices of the Italian Philhellenic movement.

The conference's areas of interest are:

1. Literature
2. History
3. Music



4. Theater
5. Fine arts
6. Political sciences
7. Cultural studies
8. Translation
9. Comparative studies
10. Gender studies.

The conference will be held at the Sapienza University of Rome, and it aims to host original and unpublished high-level scientific papers that will be selected by members of the scientific committee using a double-blind peer review method.

Interested parties are kindly requested to submit their paper proposals by the **30th of December 2020** to the following email address: convegno1821sapienza@gmail.com, under the subject “**CONVEGNO 1821**”. The attached proposal should include:

1. Title
2. A summary of a maximum of 1000 characters (in English)
3. Language of the paper (Italian, Greek, or English)
4. Name and surname
5. Affiliation and position.

The proceedings of the conference will be published. The Chair of Modern Greek Language and Literature is committed to partially cover the expenses of the conference speakers.

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ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Important dates and information

- Submission of proposals deadline: **30th of December 2020**
- Notice of acceptance: **30th of January 2021**
- Conference: **9–11 November 2021**
- Venue: **Sapienza University of Rome**
- Languages and paper duration: **Italian, Greek, English / 20 min.**

Secretary

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