GREEK-TURKISH YOUNG LEADERS SYMPOSIUM

ON SECURITY
4-7 DECEMBER 2019
KAVALA, GREECE

This event is supported by
NATO’s Public Diplomacy Division

FRIEDRICH NAUMANN FOUNDATION
For Freedom
Turkey
About the Symposium Directory

The symposium directory compiles a list of all speakers, participants, and staff involved in the 3rd Greek - Turkish Young Leaders Symposium (GTYLS) on Security including brief narrative bio sketches. It also provides some background information on Kadir Has University, the Center for International and European Studies (CIES), Navarino Network, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, and the NATO’s Public Diplomacy Division. It contains the following sections:

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All bio sketches have been based on information provided by the respective individual and/or internet sources. Please note that due to the varied length, level of detail and format of the information provided, the CIES has edited the curricula vitae. We sincerely apologize for any mistakes, misinterpretations, or omissions that may have occurred during the process. Thank you for your understanding.

Please note: For emergencies you can contact the CIES staff at ciesactivities@khas.edu.tr you can contact with Seren Bostan on the following mobile phone number: + (90) 5397246043.

The CIES Team

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THE VENUE
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Greek-Turkish Young Leaders Symposium (GTYLS) on Security
4-7 December 2019
Kavala, Greece

Program

Wednesday, 4 December 2019

Arrival of participants at Lucy Hotel
All Sessions will be held at the Lucy Hotel, Kavala (Akti Kalamitsas, Kavala, Greece 65404)

16:30 – 17:00 Welcome and Introduction
• Dimitrios Triantaphyllou, Center for International and European Studies (CIES), Kadir Has University, Istanbul
• Ronald Meinardus, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Istanbul
• Angelos Kaskanis, Executive Director, Navarino Network, Thessaloniki

17:00 – 18:30 Peer to Peer Workshop – I. Session
• Andreas Kotelis, The People for Change Foundation, Malta

18:30 – 18:45 Coffee Break

18:45 – 20:00 Tour D ‘Horizon: The State of the World
• Sotiris Serbos, Democritus University of Thrace, Komotini
• Serhat Güvenç, Kadir Has University, Istanbul

21:00 Group Dinner (sponsored by the Kavala Chamber of Commerce)

This event is supported by:
Thursday, 5 December 2019

09:00 – 10:30 Rethinking the Role of Youth in Peacebuilding
• Cihan Dizdaroglu, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University
• Athanasios Grammenos, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Athens

10:30 – 12:00 Peer to Peer Workshop – II. Session

12:00 – 12:30 Coffee Break

12:30 – 14:00 Peer to Peer Workshop – III. Session

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 16:15 What Role for NATO?
• Despina-Ino Afentouli, Public Diplomacy Division, NATO

16:15 – 16:45 Coffee Break

16:45 – 18:15 Young Leaders and Engagement
• Gülçin Sınav, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Istanbul
• Angelos Kaskanis, Navarino Network, Thessaloniki

Free Evening

Friday, 6 December 2019

09:30 – 11:00 Assessing the State of Greek-Turkish Relations (focus on public opinion and elite opinion)
• Mustafa Aydı̇n, Kadir Has University, Istanbul
• Dimitrios Triantaphyllou, Kadir Has University, Istanbul

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

This event is supported by:
09:00 – 10:30  **Understanding Turkish and Greek Foreign Policies**
- Mustafa **Aydin**, Kadir Has University, Istanbul
- Dimitris **Keridis**, Hellenic Parliament, Athens

10:30 – 11:00  **Coffee Break**

11:00 – 13:00  **Presentations; Certificates and Closure**

13:00 – 14:00  **Lunch**

**Departure of Participants**
Despina-Ino Afentouli, Program Officer for Partnerships/Cooperative Security and Open-Door policies, Public Diplomacy Division, NATO

Despina-Ino Afentouli is the Program Officer for Partnerships/Cooperative Security and Open-Door policies, regional coordinator for South Caucasus & Central Asia, and Program Officer for Moldova at NATO’s Public Diplomacy Division (Engagements Team). In this capacity, she is responsible for the elaboration and implementation of all Public Diplomacy activities related to NATO’s partnerships, she represents Public Diplomacy Division in the respective NATO Committees and official meetings with the countries under her responsibility. Ms. Afentouli joined the organization in 2001. From 1986 to 2001, she worked as a journalist and columnist specializing in Foreign Policy and European Affairs. She was European Affairs Editor at the Athens News Agency (1997-2001); editor-in-chief of the Greek edition of the Economist Intelligence Unit reports (1996-1999); diplomatic correspondent, STAR Channel (1995-1996) and Messimvrini Daily (1995-1996); political correspondent, Kathimerini Daily (1989-1994); and Foreign Affairs editor, Athens Municipal Radio (1986-1989). She studied Law at the University of Athens and earned a MA in Political Communication from the University of Paris-I (Sorbonne). She also attended the Institut Français de Presse (University of Paris II). Ms. Afentouli is a recipient of many awards and the author of four books and numerous articles on international relations and foreign policy.

Petros Aikaterinis

Petros Aikaterinis is currently a Planning and Programming Officer at the European External Action Service (EEAS), the European Union's diplomatic service. He is working on horizontal coordination issues and the overall management of files related to the Budget and the Administration of the EEAS, covering the Headquarters in Brussels and the 142 EU Delegations around the world. Prior to this, Petros worked on EEAS-European Parliament affairs and he successfully completed distinguished traineeships at the Permanent Representation of Greece to the EU and the Cabinet Office of the Union's High Representative, Federica Mogherini. He received his First Class Honours bachelor's degree at University of Leicester (UK) and he was awarded a full scholarship to follow a master's degree in International Relations and Diplomacy Studies at the College of Europe (Belgium). For his work on EU-enlargement issues, he also received the European Young Journalist Award from the European Commission in 2010.

Sinem Akgül Açıkmeşe, Professor of International Relations; Dean, Graduate School of Education, Kadir Has University, Istanbul

Sinem Akgul Acikmese is a Professor of International Relations and Dean of Graduate Institute of Education at Kadir Has University, Istanbul. She holds a BA in International Relations as well as an MA in European Studies-International Relations from Ankara University. She studied at the European Institute of the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) for her MSc degree in European Studies. She completed her PhD in European Studies-International Relations at Ankara University. She was Jean Monnet fellow at the LSE (2001-02), Turkish Academy of Sciences Fellow (2002-2008), visiting PhD student at the LSE (2005-2006), visiting scholar to IGCC-UCSD as a US Department of State Fellow (2007), Sasakawa Young Leaders fellow (2005-2007), Black Sea Young Reformers fellow (2010-2011) and visiting scholar at Harvard University (2017). She has published on Security Studies, European security, EU foreign and neighborhood policy, European integration and enlargement as well as Turkey-EU relations. She is currently serving as a member of the Governing Council of the International Studies Association (2019-2020).

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Abdullah Arslan
Abdullah Arslan started to pursue an MA degree in International Relations at Kadir Has University after he received his BSc degree in International Relations from Middle East Technical University in 2019. During the 2018-2019 Fall semester, he was at the Maria Curie-Skłodowska University - Faculty of Political Science in Lublin/Poland within the Erasmus+ Program where he attended undergraduate and graduate level courses. Also, he interned at the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) and the Center for Eurasian Studies (AVİM) in 2018. Currently, he is a research fellow at the Center for International and European Studies (CIES). In addition to his academic activities, he has also participated in a volunteering organization called Ankara Volunteer Team where he helped children from different backgrounds with their schoolwork and spent time on different activities between 2015-2018.

Georgia Apostolaki
Georgia Apostolaki is a coordinator at the Europe Direct Information Centre at the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy. She is a graduate of the Department of Languages, Translation and Interpreting of Ionian University. She holds her master’s degree International and European Affairs from the Faculty of Political Science and Public Administration of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. She is fluent in English, German and French.

Chrysanthi Athanasiadou
Chrysanthi Athanasiadou is an honor graduate student of the School of Political Sciences of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Her fields of interest include international relations related subjects, related to political, economic and social interaction and development, diplomatic history, security and strategic balance topics in the international system, especially between Greece and Turkey. She has taken part in an Erasmus exchange program as a student of political sciences and sociology at Bogazici University. Finally, she participated in an Erasmus placement program as an intern at the Consulate General of Greece in Istanbul. She is fluent in English and French and a certificated user of the Turkish language after having attended Erasmus courses on Turkish literature.

Mustafa Aydın, Professor of International Relations, Kadir Has University; President, International Relations Council of Turkey, Istanbul
Mustafa Aydın is a Professor of International Relations at Kadir Has University and the President of the International Relations Council of Turkey since 2004. He held the position of Rector of Kadir Has University between February 2010 and March 2018. He is also Governing Board Member of the OECD International Management of Higher Education Programme and Member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. Professor Aydın previously worked at Ankara University (1994-2005) and TOBB University of Economics and Technology (2005-2009); and was guest researcher/lecturer at Michigan (1998), Harvard (2002, Fulbright fellow), and Athens (2003, Onassis Fellow) universities, as well as the Richardson Institute for Peace Studies (1999, Unesco Fellow) and the EU Institute for Security Studies (2003). He is a member of the Global Relations Forum (GIF), the International Studies Association (ISA), the Turkish Atlantic Council, the Turkish Political Sciences Association, the International Network on Regional Security, and the European Society for Central Asian Studies (ESCAS). He was a member of the Economy and Foreign Policy Study Group of the President of Turkey (2003-2009); Co-Coordinator of the International Commission on Black Sea (2010); and Director of International Policy Research Institute (2005-2011).
Fotini Bellou, Assistant Professor of International Relations, Department of International and European Studies, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki

Fotini Bellou is Assistant Professor of International Relations in the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Macedonia in Thessaloniki, Greece. She holds the UNESCO Chair in Women, Peace and Security: Building capacity and Resilience through Education and Research. She graduated from the Department of Political Science and Public Administration of the University of Athens. She holds an MA in International Relations (University of Kent at Canterbury) and a PhD in War Studies (King’s College London). She also teaches in the Interdepartmental Joint MA programme on ‘International Relations and Security’ with the Supreme Joint War College in Thessaloniki and she is visiting Instructor to the Multinational Training Centre for Peace Support Operations at Kilkis, Greece. She is a Special Advisor to the NRDC-GR in Thessaloniki on civil-mil cooperation and gender aspects and is a member of its civilian cell. From 2000 to 2004, she was Research Fellow at the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, ELIAMEP and Managing Editor of the Southeast European and Black Sea Studies. From October 2004 through June 2007, she was Head of the Department of International and European Relations in the Research Centre for Gender Equality (KETHI), Hellenic Ministry of Interior. She has published on transatlantic relations, European and international security, aspects of conflict resolution and international relations and international politics of Southeastern Europe.

Seren Bostan, Office Administrator, Center for International and European Studies (CIES), Kadir Has University, Istanbul

Seren Bostan received her BA in International Relations from Kadir Has University. She also studied at Hanze University of Applied Sciences in Groningen under the Erasmus Student Exchange Programme between 2012–2013 where she took courses on Creating International Events and Campaigns prior to joining the Center for International and European Studies in 2013 as an intern. In August 2015, she became the CIES’ Office Administrator. She also has a theatre background having been affiliated with the Child Theatre, the National Theatre, and University Theatre. She is currently pursuing her MA degree in acting at Kadir Has University’s Film and Drama program.

Hazel Çağan Elbir

Hazel Çağan Elbir graduated from the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Bilkent University in 2008. She holds an MSc degree in International Relations from Middle East Technical University (2012). Having completed a Master’s thesis entitled “Armenian Terrorism and the Turkish Press (1973-1984)”, Hazel interned in the Turkish Grand National Assembly (2006); the Center for Eurasian Strategic Studies (ASAM) (2007); the Institute for Global Strategy (2007), and attended a Project on Model European Parliament in Graz, Austria. Hazel worked at the Institute for Global Strategy for four months in 2008 as a specialist on the Balkans and joined AVIM as an analyst in February 2012. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the interdisciplinary department of Political Economy at Atılım University. Her research interests include the European Union, Turkey - US Relations, the Caucasus, propaganda studies, crimes against humanity, and terrorism.

Ahmet Çörekcióğlu

Ahmet Çörekcióğlu works as a civil servant at Zeytinburnu Municipality, Istanbul. At the municipality, he is responsible for project grant calls such as Erasmus+, EU IPA programs, Horizon 2020, Blacksea Basin Cooperation Program, and those of many embassies. In addition, his responsibilities include town-twinning, city diplomacy and the foreign affairs of the municipality. Previously, he acquired professional skills on.

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project management while working for a consultancy company and being involved in an NGO project on Global Environment Facilities. Ahmet is volunteering in multiple civil society organizations such as the Zeytinburnu Cycling Club Association, the Turkey Photography Foundation, and the UPS Sports Club Association. He holds a BA degree in Political Science and International Relations from Boğaziçi University, Istanbul.

Vildan Demirkıran
Vildan Demirkıran received her bachelor’s degree from the Department of International Relations and EU from Izmir University of Economics in 2013. After her graduation, she worked as an interpreter, youth worker, researcher, and project assistant in different NGOs as a volunteer. She also took part in several national and international conferences, trainings, and EU projects in Turkey and abroad. She is currently completing an MA in Energy and Sustainable Development at Kadir Has University.

Cihan Dizdaroglu, Marie Sklodowska-Curie Fellow, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University
Cihan Dizdaroglu is a Marie Sklodowska-Curie fellow at the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations of Coventry University, UK and a member of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Kadir Has University, Istanbul, Turkey. He is also associate editor of the Journal of International Relations (Uluslararası İlişkiler). He holds a PhD in International Relations from Kadir Has University. Previously, he served as the Director of the Center for Turkish Studies at Kadir Has University (2017-2018) and as the Project Coordinator to the International Relations Council of Turkey (IRCT) (2009-2018). He was research associate in the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey | TEPAV, a think-tank based in Ankara, in the Foreign Policy Studies Program between 2006-2010. His academic interests include Peacebuilding, Youth, Cyprus, Peace and Conflict Studies, Turkish Foreign Policy (particularly Turkish-Greek relations and Turkey-EU Relations), and the NATO-EU Relations.

Yunus Barış Ertürk
Yunus Barış Erturk is the communication manager of the 3H Movement, a liberal political youth association in Turkey. He recently graduated from the London School of Economics with a MSc degree in European Union politics as a Jean Monnet Scholarship Grantee. He also worked as an EU Policy Expert and Data Analyst Intern for Politik Consulting Ltd., which is one of the rising consultancy firms in the United Kingdom. His research and studies mostly related to the International Relations of the European Union, European Security and Defense, and EU-Turkey relations.

Selen Eșençay
Selen Eșençay is an MA Candidate and a Research Assistant in the Department of International Relations at Bilkent University. She graduated from the Political Science and Public Administration Department at Bilkent University with an honors degree in 2019. She has studied in the Department of International Relations and Diplomacy at Collegium Civitas in Warsaw, Poland in 2018 as an Erasmus student. She was a research assistant at the Center for Foreign Policy and Peace Research where she focused on Security Studies and she worked as a Teaching Assistant at Bilkent University during her BA studies. She also had an internship at the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. She attended several European Union-funded Erasmus Plus Projects in Portugal, Italy, Poland, and Romania (2013-2018). Her research interests include EU-Turkey Relations, Security Studies, and Immigration in Central and Eastern Europe.

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Alexandros Fotiadis
Alexandros Fotiadis is a journalist at Parapolitika Media Group, where he reports on topics related to diplomacy, energy and foreign affairs. Alexandros has also cooperated with media outlets from Northern Greece, such as Makedonia Newspaper, ThessNews, and Voria.gr. He has participated at the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) of the Department of State and is currently a Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) Fellow at the "Newsroom Essentials" Program of the Columbia School of Journalism. Having concluded his BA in Political Sciences at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH), Alexandros is a post-graduate student in Strategic Studies and International Relations from the Panteion University of Athens.

Athanasios Grammenos, Project Manager, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Athens
Athanasios Grammenos is working for the liberal Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom in Greece. His duties include the design of political education programs and publications about freedom, human rights, and democracy. He has received his Ph.D. in International Relations from the Department of Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies of the University of Macedonia. He holds a BA in Political Science and History from Panteion University and an MA in Diplomacy from the Graduate Institute of Political and International Studies of Reading University. He is recipient of the NATO scholarship from the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a Tsakopoulos Library Fellow (2019-2010) at the California State University at Sacramento. He has published numerous articles in journals and the media, in Greece and abroad. He is the author of the book Orthodox American: Archbishop of North and South America Iakovos in the Greek-American Relations (1959-1996) and the co-editor of Young People in Europe. He is active in several civil society initiatives and has more than 7 years of professional consulting experience in the private and public sectors.

Serhat Güvenç, Professor of International Relations; Chair, Department of International Relations, Kadir Has University, Istanbul
Serhat Güvenç received his BA and MA degrees from Marmara University and his PhD in Political Science and International Relations from Boğaziçi University, Istanbul. He is currently the Chair of the Department of International Relations at Kadir Has University. Previously he held fulltime, adjunct and visiting faculty positions at Istanbul Bilgi University; the University of Chicago; Koç University; and Boğaziçi University. Dr. Güvenç’s research interests include Turkish foreign and security policy and Turkish naval policy and history. He is the author of: The Ottomans’ Quest for Dreadnoughts, Istanbul, 2009, Turkey in the Mediterranean during the Interwar Era (Indiana University Turkish Studies, 2010) (with Dilek Barlas) and 60 Years in NATO: Turkey’s Contributions to Transatlantic Security, (Istanbul, 2013). His articles have appeared in Middle Eastern Studies, International Journal of Naval History, Uluslararası İlişkiler, Exotierika Themata (Greek), Journal of Strategic Studies, GMF Mediterranean Papers, Southeast European and Black Sea Studies, International Journal, Turkish Studies, and Turkish Policy Quarterly. His most recent article, co-authored with Mesut Uyar, “One Battle, Two Accounts: The Turkish Brigade at Kunu-ri in November 1950” was published in The Journal of Military History. Professor Güvenç is a board member of the Foundation of Lausanne Treaty Emigrants and advisory board member of Koç University’s Maritime Forum (KUDENFOR).

Gözde Han
Gözde Han studied at Yıldız Technical University, Istanbul. Currently, Gözde is a PhD student of Cultural Studies at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at Yıldız Technical University where she also works as a full-time English Language Instructor. Having concluded her BA in English Language and Literature at Ege University, she then received an MA degree at Istanbul University from the same
Recently, she attended the London Critical Theory Summer School at the University of London where she developed an interdisciplinary understanding of culture and society. Gözde’s subjects cover hybridity, globalization and social theory.

Ornela Hidri
Ornela is studying Political Science at the Democritus University of Thrace. Born in Albania but raised in Greece, Ornela opted to study politics in order to contribute to the development of both her homeland and her host country. Upon graduation, she considers continuing her studies abroad either on migration or on energy policy. With regard to her human values, Ornela is hardworking, sincere and compassionate. These were the key factors leading her to volunteer at the Department of Advisory and Psychological support of the Democritus University of Thrace. Her role models are her parents who always motivate her to be sensible and renowned in her field.

Taha Kaan İşleyici
Upon the completion of his high school education in the basics of science and nature, he pursued a bachelor’s degree in international relations and global studies at Middle East Technical University, Ankara. Throughout his university studies, he was an activist as a strong defender of gender minorities and their rights. He elaborated on his specific interests in European security policy with his BA project on European Union External Diplomacy and European Security Problems in Millennium. In 2017, he founded his own NGO based in Ankara to fight against the discrimination of queer youth groups and Roman minorities in Turkey. He has started his real-time MBA degree after obtaining a micro master’s degree from Boston University-BUx - Digital Leadership program. Besides his academic studies, in the summer of 2019, he was appointed as a country director to coordinate the peacebuilding activities of the Global Peace Chain in Turkey. Currently, besides his enrollment in a specialization in the strategy management program at the Copenhagen Business School, he is working as an expert in the OSCE Youth Security Policy “Perspectives 20-30” initiative.

Aycan Kahya
Aycan Kahya holds a BA degree in International Relations from Bursa Uludağ University. Currently, he is a postgraduate student at the same department and the same university. Aycan also studied in the departments of Foreign Trade and Media and Communication at Anadolu University. She is currently working on her MA thesis titled “A Frozen Conflict in Cyprus: Varosha”. In addition, she is a dancer affiliated with the Turkey Dance Sport Federation and has participated in several competitions. Also, she is project coordinator at the Association for Research on Diplomacy (DARD) since 2018.

Angelos Kaskanis, Executive Director, Navarino Network, Thessaloniki
Angelos Kaskanis is the Executive Director of Navarino Network, a public policy think-tank based in Thessaloniki (www.navarinonetwork.org). He holds a PhD degree from the Department of Black Sea Studies of the Democritus University of Thrace. His field of research is Security Studies and the impact of International Terrorism in Southeastern Europe and the Caucasus. He has worked as a Research Assistant with the Municipality of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, in Komotini; as a Project Assistant in Youth NGOs in Ankara; as a Project Coordinator for Youth NGOs in Athens; and as a Project Coordinator with Save the Children/under UNHCR mandate in the islands of Kos and Leros, during the Humanitarian Crisis. He has also participated/co-organized several workshops in more than 20 countries that focus on Religious Extremism, Radicalization, Safety, and Security in Southeastern Europe, European Identity and Greco-Turkish Relations. He speaks
Greek, English, Russian, German, and Turkish.

Dimitris Keridis, Member of the Hellenic Parliament, Athens; Founding Director, Navarino Network, Thessaloniki

Dimitris Keridis is a member of the Hellenic Parliament, representing Athens-North for the center-right party of New Democracy. He is a Professor of International Politics at Panteion University of Athens and the Founding Director of the Navarino Network in Thessaloniki. He has taught at many universities in Greece and abroad and is a regular TV political commentator. He has published extensively on international politics including books on nationalism and ethnic conflict, US foreign policy and Greek-Turkish relations.

Ioanna M. Kostopoulou

Ioanna M. Kostopoulou is pursuing her second master’s degree in European Journalism at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH). Her Bachelor’s degree was in Journalism and Mass Media Communication while her first MA degree focused on New Media Journalism, at the same university. She has attended Journalism & Communication courses at the University of Vienna (Universität Wien), where she stayed for five months due to her participation in the Erasmus program. She has taken part in various research programs, seminars, and summer schools such as: the communication campaign for the European elections “#pressEU_NextGen” (Thessaloniki, Greece); “Young social media multipliers from Greece” (Brussels, Belgium); NATO internships for crisis Journalism (Thessaloniki, Greece); “CSIS Practicum in Modern Journalism: Reporting on International Affairs” (Washington, DC, USA); “Digital bridges” and “Greek-Turkish Dialog” (Eskisehir, Turkey); “Seminar for Young Journalists and the Role of the European Parliament” (Brussels, Belgium), inter alia. Ioanna has worked as Press Clipper and Media Monitoring Manager (Print, Social Media, RTV), journalist, editor-in-chief, and editor in various local media (electronic and printed) in Thessaloniki. Skilled in journalism, communication, photography, news writing, editing, and media relations, she is planning to pursue a doctorate degree in the same field. She is research fellow at the Peace Journalism Laboratory (AUTH) and her research interests include European & International Journalism, Disinformation, Propaganda and Fake News, Media and Social Media Impact, and the role of the Media in Crisis Communication.

Andreas Kotelis, Researcher, The People for Change Foundation, Malta

Andreas Kotelis holds a PhD in Political Science from Bilkent University in Turkey, and between 2013-2016, he was an Assistant Professor at the Department of International Relations at Zirve University in Gaziantep, Turkey. He was also the 2017 Scholar-in- Residence at the Clark Center for Global Engagement and a visiting instructor in the International Studies Program at the State University of New York (SUNY) Cortland. He is currently a Researcher at the People for Change Foundation and a Visiting Senior Lecturer at the University of Malta. His research interests include international conflict and international negotiations, while much of his recent work has focused on refugee integration and human rights. As a professional trainer, Andreas has facilitated track-II and multi-track initiatives on several occasions.

Özgür Kurşun

Özgür Kurşun is a PhD candidate in Political Science and International Relations at the University of Peloponnese in Corinth where he also received his master’s degree in the same field. He is a research assistant at the University of Ege, Izmir. He has also participated for a short period of summer studies at the University of Texas in Arlington, USA as a recipient of a state scholarship by the Ministry of National Education (MEB). He is a member of the Balkan Advisory Group at the University of Peloponnese. Kurşun’s research interests include international conflict and international negotiations, while much of his recent work has focused on refugee integration and human rights. As a professional trainer, Andreas has facilitated track-II and multi-track initiatives on several occasions.

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include history and the political situation of the Balkan Peninsula in particular Greece and its relations with neighboring countries, Greek foreign policy and Greek-Turkish relations. Currently, he is doing research on ‘Turkish and Greek foreign policies towards the Western Balkans’.

Minas Lyristis

Minas is an elected Councilor of the Regional Authority of the South Aegean (since September 2019). He graduated from the Department of Mediterranean Studies (University of the Aegean) with a specialization in International Relations and Organizations. Moreover, he obtained an MSc degree focused on Geopolitical Analysis, Geostategic Synthesis and Defence and International Security Studies from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. His MA dissertation covered the topic of how Kurdish nationalism geopolitics affect the redistribution of power in the Middle East subsystem. He is a research associate at the Center for Eastern Studies for Culture and Communication (kans.gr) and at Center for Mediterranean-Middle Eastern Policy and Culture (kemmep.gr). He is also a member of the Organizing Committee of the Mare Nostrum Conference, held in Rhodes every May (marenostrum.edu.gr). Minas has worked as an Intern at the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at the Institute of International Economic Relations in various positions (graduate research fellow and project coordinator). He also has experience in the tourism industry, as he has worked in a variety of positions at hotels, restaurants and other workplaces in his hometown of Mykonos.

Nikolaos Markovitis

Nikolaos Markovitis is a student of political science at the Democritus University of Thrace. He comes from a small town called Naousa and from a family of lawyers. Upon graduation he plans to study towards a master’s degree in International Relations in Turkey to be followed by a law degree. He is currently learning Turkish and Mandarin Chinese. He has also participated in a number of Model United Nations programs and Erasmus projects. He wants to travel and broaden his horizons.

Marina Mavrandrea

Marina Mavrandrea is an undergraduate student at the Department of International and European Studies, specializing in Global Politics, Diplomacy and World Affairs at the University of Macedonia. Since May 2019 she is part of the Navarino Network team as an administrative assistant while she also works as an operations associate at Afixis (a non-profit organization located in Thessaloniki which aims to reshape education by transforming the education system). Her main fields of interest include International Relations, Communication Strategies, Conflict Theory, International Security and counterterrorism. Apart from Greek, she is fluent in English and proficient in Italian.

Fatih Hafız Mehmet

Fatih Hafız Mehmet is a journalist at Anadolu Agency since 2016, currently covering news about Europe. Previously, he covered news about Turkey and its relations with other countries. He is also a PhD candidate at the Area Studies Department of Middle East Technical University (METU). Hafız’s research interests include Turkish-Greek relations, minority studies, nationalism, identities and media. Having finished high school in Greece, he obtained a BA in International Relations from METU. He also holds a master’s degree from the University of Manchester. He has also conducted lobbying work on minority rights in international institutions such as the OSCE and the United Nations.

Ronald Meinardus, Resident Representative, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom Turkey

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Ronald Meinardus calls himself a liberal, a political commentator, a desk activist, and a citizen of the world. He came to Istanbul in late 2019 as Resident Representative of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF). Before that, he served the Foundation in India, Egypt, the Philippines, South Korea, and Greece. As a journalist by training, Dr Meinardus has published widely on current political affairs in academic journals and the media. Before leaving New Delhi, he edited “How Liberal is India? The Quest for Freedom in the biggest Democracy on Earth” (Academic Foundation, 2019).

Grigorios Miliadis
Grigorios Miliadis holds a bachelor’s degree in International and European Studies from the University of Macedonia. Fascinated by politics, he completed an internship at the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Economic Relations. He also completed a semester of traineeship at the UNESCO Chair of the University of Macedonia and with the Erasmus Committee of his university. He has participated in a number of Model United Nations (MUN) and chaired many MUN committees in Thessaloniki, Istanbul, and Bucharest.

Filotas – Georgios Niarchos
Filotas-Georgios Niarchos graduated from Athens College High School in 2008. He received his BSc from the University of Athens in Political Science and Public Administration. He continued his studies at Queen Mary, University of London obtaining an MA in International Relations and Politics. He has won the 1st Prize in 3 Conferences related to Politics, the 1st prize in the Russian Embassy’s Article Contest in 2017, and the 1st prize for the most efficient Company Volunteering Scheme in Greece at the Corporate Affairs Excellence Awards 2019 (Vodafone Greece). He is now working as the Press Office Coordinator at Wind Hellas and he is the CEO of AMEN Technologies (Nanotechnology Company) and We4All (Environmental Movement). He is also the Secretary General of the Alumni Association of Political Science.

Yüksel Serdar Oğuz
Yüksel Serdar Oğuz is a journalist and Op-Ed writer at Turkey’s official news outlet Anadolu Agency. He teaches “strategic communication” at the Turkish Armed Forces’ Centre of Training & Partnership for Peace, and Turkish Cooperation & Development Agency (TIKA). He is an advisor at the NATO Research Committee on Cyber Defense/Resilience. He is involved in the establishment of municipal migration offices in Ankara as the advisor to the UN since 2016. He has been selected as a legislative fellow by US State Department in 2012 to work on governance at the Congress. He is a board member of Turkey’s largest NGO hub Checks & Balance Network, Freedom Research Association, and Public Research Foundation, and the founding president of the Association for Solidarity with Victims of Human Trafficking. He holds a BA degree from Ankara University and an MSc. in International Relations from Hacettepe University.

Stavroula Oustoglou
Stavroula Oustoglou is a Political Scientist. She holds a master’s degree in International Relations, specializing in Strategic Studies and Diplomacy from the University of Macedonia and is competing her graduate studies in Global Security at the University of Glasgow. Her interest in politics and international relations has been cultivated from a very young age. She has been participating and organizing Model United Nations conferences since she was 14 years old and having taken part in more than 20 conferences in Greece, Turkey, Romania, United Kingdom, and Brazil, as an organizer, a member of the secretariat and a delegate. As a young professional, she has successfully completed internships at the United States Consulate of Thessaloniki, the Greek Embassy in Madrid as well as taken a Common Security and Defense Policy Course.

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from the European Security and Defense College. In 2020, she will work at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE-NATO) as an intern, at the Strategic Development of Forces Division. Her research interests include Space Security, South-East Europe and time and relativity in IR theory. Constantly looking to advance her knowledge on international relations and international security, she has attended numerous conferences pertaining to these issues. She speaks English, Spanish and French.

Iason Paschalidis-Gerostergiou
Iason Paschalidis-Gerostergiou has a long-time experience, as well as theoretical knowledge, on topics such as social inclusion, non-formal education, social economy, sustainability and other core issues related to political ecology as well. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Linguistics, Language Teaching and Translation from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and an MSc in Management of Water Resources in the Mediterranean from Eastern Macedonia and Thrace Institute of Technology. He is currently an MSc student in Human Geography at the Nijmegen School of Management at Radboud University in the Netherlands. His studies in Human Geography and in Linguistics, Language Teaching and Translation have shaped his multicultural sensibility and his conviction about the importance of intercultural communication.

Rafaela Papastergiou
Rafaela Papastergiou has studied History and Archaeology at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She is currently studying towards her MA in International Relations, Strategic and International Politics at the University of Macedonia. She has organized and administrated many international conferences, has been a fellow of the UNESCO Chair, the Chair of Pontic Studies, the University of Western Macedonia, the Historical Archive of Refugee Hellenism, the Olympic Museum of Thessaloniki, and has participated in several programs and seminars (Intercultural and Adult Education). She is currently a columnist and social media administrator at Offlinepost and an Administrative Associate at Navarino Network. Her interests include European and world politics, communication strategies and public diplomacy. Apart from Greek, she speaks English and German.

Eleftheria Selkou
Eleftheria Selkou is Junior Assistant at ViLabs and holds a bachelor’s degree in Political Sciences from the Faculty of Political Sciences of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences of Charles University in Prague. Since January 2019 she is a graduate student in “Governance - Regional Development”, from the Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Program (MSc) of the Department of Political Sciences and the Faculty of Economics of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She has participated as a Research Assistant in the Hellenic Voter Study of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the virtual exchange program “Redefine politics from the 21st century”, of the Sharing Perspectives Foundation. Eleftheria has participated in several conferences and workshops. Her interests include European Studies, Gender studies, Populism, and socio-political phenomena.

Sotiris Serbos, Assistant Professor of International Politics, Democritus University of Thrace, Thrace
Sotiris Serbos is an Assistant Professor of International Politics at the Democritus University of Thrace, in Greece. Born in Thessaloniki, he graduated as full-scholarship student of Anatolia College. He studied International Relations at the University of Macedonia (BA), the London School of Economics and Political Science (MSc), and the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (PhD). He has served as special adviser in the Hellenic Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defense, Economy & Finance and Macedonia - Thrace.

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His policy experience includes consulting memberships at Gerson Lehrman Group’s Policy & Economics Council. For the academic year 2014-2015, he was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship at The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University and the University of Pittsburgh’s EU Center of Excellence. Serbos’ research interests focus on European integration, transatlantic relations, foreign policy analysis and Turkish foreign policy.

Gülçin Sinav, Project Coordinator, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Istanbul
Gülçin Sinav was born in Aydın in 1986. She studied International Relations and EU at Izmir University of Economics. She holds a Master's degree in Advanced European and International Studies from Istanbul Bilgi University and its European Institute. Formerly, she worked as Project Assistant in the Spanish Embassy in Ankara, as Project Manager in the ARI Movement, and as Assistant Project Specialist in the Istanbul Aydin University. Since March 2013, she has been working in the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom as a Project Coordinator.

Dimitrios Triantaphyllou, Associate Professor of International Relations; Director, Center for International and European Studies (CIES), Kadir Has University, Istanbul
Dimitrios Triantaphyllou is Associate Professor of International Relations and Director of the Center for International and European Studies (CIES) at Kadir Has University in Istanbul. He holds a BA in Political Science and History from the University of California, Berkeley and an MA and PhD in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. He has previously served in various capacities in a number of research and academic institutions such as the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP), Athens; the EU Institute for Security Studies, Paris; the Hellenic Observatory at the London School of Economics; the University of the Aegean, Rhodes; and the International Center for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS). Athens. He also served as an advisor at the Hellenic Ministry for Foreign Affairs. He is Associate Editor of Southeast European and Black Sea Studies (SSCI indexed); a member of the Greek-Turkish Forum; co-convener of the Commission on the Black Sea; a member of the Advisory Boards of the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, the International Institute for Peace, Vienna; and the Corporate Social Responsibility Association of Turkey. His more recent applied and research interests include Black Sea Security and Politics; EU foreign and neighborhood policies, Greek-Turkish Relations, and Sustainable Development.

Dimitrios Tsaknis
Dimitrios Tsaknis is a political scientist, specializing in European Governance. In 2017, he obtained his bachelor’s degree from the Democritus University of Thrace in Komotini. He followed modules on Political Sciences and Public Administration, including studies on International Organizations, NGOs and Civil Society. In 2018, he received his MA degree in European Governance from the European Law & Governance School, located in Athens. Currently, he is offering his services at the Hellenic Association of Political Scientists, both as an executive and as a researcher. Over the course of the last year, he served his military service at the Hellenic Army General Staff (Lt General Deputy Chief’s Office).

Gülfer Ulaş
Gülfer Ulaş is a PhD Candidate of International Relations at Kadir Has University and a former Visiting PhD Researcher at the London School of Economics. She is studying radicalization and gender issues pertaining to security. During her undergraduate studies, she took courses on “IR Theory” and “Managing International Conflicts” at King’s College London University in 2011 and studied the subjects of “Women in Conflict”
and “The EU and the Crisis Management”. Subsequently, she worked as an intern at the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where she attended extensive course series. Alongside her research interests, she also attended various programs across Europe, in a number of institutions such as the European Council, ECFR London, DFID, MSF, the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the UK Parliament. Her current research include security, terrorism, radicalization and gender.

Simla Yavaş, Project Coordinator, Center for International and European Studies (CIES), Kadir Has University, Istanbul
Simla Yavaş received her BS in Sociology from Middle East Technical University. She worked at United Cities Local Governments Middle East West Asia Section (UCLG-MEWA) as Local Agenda 21 Program Expert and then Women’s Activities Coordinator. She was granted a SIDA Scholarship in 2008-2010 and received her MS in Development Studies at Lund University in Sweden. She then worked at Junior Achievement Turkey, an international NGO on youth entrepreneurship, as a Project Manager. She joined the Center for International and European Studies in January 2014 as its Projects Coordinator.

Alican Yıldızalp
Alican Yıldızalp holds a bachelor’s degree in International Relations from Yaşar University in İzmir, Turkey. He then completed his master’s program on Sustainability Science and Policy at Maastricht University in the Netherlands. His study areas are mainly NATO Relations, Defense & Security Policies, National Security, Sustainable Development Practices, Environmental Policy, and Space Policy. He worked with UN HQ in Bonn as a consultant to formulate a strategic framework for UN Volunteers to ensure their adaptation to SDGs in 2017. He is also actively engaged in politics in Turkey as he serves as an executive of the İYİ Party Youth Branch HQ in Ankara. He is the Head of the Developmental Branch of İYİ Youth’s R&D Commission and he is actively representing the organization on many levels in international events. Alican is currently aiming for a PhD in Space Policy and plans to start this journey in early 2021. He dreams of an advanced human civilization with sustainable practices and harmony among all humans.
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* Gülfer **Ulaş**, PhD Candidate in International Relations, Kadir Has University, Istanbul
* Alican **Yıldızalp**, Party Executive Committee Member, İYİ Party Youth Branch, İzmir
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* Despina-Ino Afentouli, Public Diplomacy Division, NATO
* Sinem Akgül Açıkmese, Kadir Has University, Istanbul
* Mustafa Aydın, Kadir Has University, Istanbul
* Foteini Bellou, University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki
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The Center for International and European Studies at Kadir Has University was established in 2004 as the Center for European Union Studies to study Turkey’s European Union accession process. Since September 2010, the CIES has undergone a major transformation by widening its focus in order to pursue applied, policy-oriented research and to promote debate on the most pressing geostrategic issues of the region.

The Center’s areas of research and interaction include EU institutions and policies (such as enlargement, neighbourhood policies and CFSP/CSDP), cross-cutting horizontal issues such as regional cooperation, global governance, and security, inter alia with a geographical focus on the Black Sea Region (including the Caucasus), the Mediterranean, Southeastern Europe, Turkish-Greek relations, and transatlantic relations.

The CIES has organized numerous international conferences and outreach activities with selected speakers on a wide range of issues and has partnered with a number of like-minded organizations in Turkey and abroad. In 2011 it started to publish The Neighbourhood Policy Papers series, a series meant to provide the policy, research and professional communities with expert input on many of the important issues and challenges facing, in particular, the Eastern neighborhood of the European Union today as they are written by relevant experts. Most of these papers are also translated into Russian in an attempt to enlarge the scope of the dialogue and input on neighborhood-related issues. The key priority is to maintain the focus of the policy debate on the Black Sea Region and the wider region including its interaction with the Mediterranean South. In addition, the CIES publishes the CIES Policy Briefs, short and informative expert analyses and commentary on some of the contemporary and pressing international relations challenges. Moreover, the CIES included the CIES Commentary Series to its publications list in 2013. This series offer op-ed style insights in the personal level, about the issues of interest to the CIES research focus areas.

With the support of Kadir Has University, the CIES has laid the foundations for a sustainable research institution. It hopes to continue its mission of being a viable policy-oriented research center by promoting sustainable activities; promoting synergies among partners; cooperating with national and international institutions; and by continuing its outreach through policy-oriented publications, seminars, conferences, training symposia, and other activities.

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The Navarino Network (NN) was founded in October 2009 and, since September 2010, it is an initiative of the Cultural Society of Entrepreneurs of Northern Greece. The NN is an independent, non-profit public policy lab that aims at promoting innovation and extroversion in the local public life. The mission of NN is to address the challenges of the new era, including those pertaining to globalization, European integration and economic development, through research and collective action. NN’s agenda bridges theory with practice and nourishes interest in public service.

The NN believes strongly in the potential of Thessaloniki and its untapped resources that have a lot to do with its multi-cultural history, favorable geographical location and large, young and diverse population. The NN actively contributes to the better representation of Thessaloniki abroad by cooperating with foreign institutions, mainly from Europe and the Balkans.

The NN hosts regular seminars and discussions on current affairs, conducts specific studies on public policy problems, including migration and the Greek economic crisis, and, organizes the annual Olympia Summer Academy (www.olympiasummeracademy.org) in politics and international studies, as well as the Thessaloniki International Symposium in world affairs (www.thessalonikisymposium.org).

For further information, please visit our website:
www.navarinonetwork.org
and join us in our facebook group:
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Founded in 1997 as a private non-profit institution, Kadir Has University (KHAS) is one of the leading mid-size universities in Turkey. In the first year, the university began with an enrollment of just four students, in contrast to the more than 5,000 strong student body today. With an exceptional academic staff and a wide range of educational opportunities, as well as high levels of cooperation, interaction, and research capabilities coupled with strong international connections and a dedication to development, Kadir Has University has become a highly respected academic institution.

KHAS is located on the shores of the Golden Horn on the historical peninsula of Istanbul, which was once the capital city of the Byzantine Empire and the Ottoman Empire. KHAS is a city university with an award-winning campus. The historical Tekel Cibali building, which was initially built as a state tobacco depot and cigarette factory in 1884, was later restored and outfitted as the central campus of the university with the latest in infrastructure. The restored building was awarded the prestigious Europa Nostra Award, which is given to only the best restoration projects.

While the campus is itself a hub of education and research, its historical museum and exhibition halls provide easy access to the cultural activities that Istanbul offers. The university, which has five faculties, namely Engineering and Natural Sciences; Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences; Communication; Law; and Art and Design, in addition to its three vocational schools, is dedicated to becoming a leader in university education in Turkey and neighboring areas. The university’s five faculties are home to 25 departments, while the vocational schools have a total of 15 departments. As a non-profit institution, the university focuses on quality rather than quantity and offers a wide range of scholarships for students in all departments.

Kadir Has University continues to provide education for students even after graduation from undergraduate programs. The university offers 23 masters and 8 doctoral degree programs in its graduate schools of social sciences and engineering. The Graduate School of Social Sciences was launched in 2001 with two masters programs. It currently offers nineteen programs, five of which

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are doctoral and fourteen are masters programs in different areas of the social sciences. The Graduate School of Science and Engineering has nine masters and three PhD programs. MS programs, offered with thesis and non-thesis tracks, are also offered so that students have an option for either a future in academics or a technical field.

The Department of International Relations and the Department of Political Science and Public Administration were established under these institutional principles and have been among the centers of academic activities in the university. While these departments offer undergraduate and graduate education, close collaboration with research centers such as the Center for International and European Studies and the Middle East and Africa Research Center provides wide research options for both students and professionals. At Kadir Has University we strongly believe in the importance of scientific and technical research and dissemination of knowledge, in addition to education, so that we can become an internationally competitive institution. To facilitate the realization of this vision, KHAS is making all efforts to increase its research potential and activities. With the launch of a strategy report in 2006, a historical decision was taken to shift the university’s orientation from teaching to research. Since then, over 110 projects of which 62 are funded by sources other than KHAS, have been logged in our current research portfolio.

We believe that the dissemination of the results of research is just as important as the research itself. For this reason, scholarly data, findings, methods, processes of research, and ideas resulting from research and events organized by academic units and research centers at KHAS are regularly shared with members of the general public for the benefit of the country and beyond. In this regard, it should be pointed out that among universities in Turkey, the faculty members at KHAS are the most frequently consulted by domestic and foreign media, as indicated in the University Entrepreneurship and Innovation Index List, which was announced for the first time in 2012 by Turkey’s Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology. KHAS was ranked 6th among foundation universities in the categories of “Cooperation and Interaction” and “Scientific and Technological Research Capability”.

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THE FRIEDRICH NAUMANN FOUNDATION FOR FREEDOM

The Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom is an independent, non-profit and non-governmental organization from Germany working for adult civic education on an international scale. According to our mission, we are committed to promoting the values of liberalism: Individual freedom, democracy, the rule of law, and market economy. Tolerance, the full respect for human rights, and a secular state, which respects the religious beliefs of every citizen, are crucial for our understanding of liberalism.

NATO'S PUBLIC DIPLOMACY DIVISION

The Public Diplomacy Division plays a pivotal role in engaging with multiple audiences to explain NATO’s policies and activities through the media, digital communications, seminars and conferences. Through our public diplomacy activities, both in NATO nations and in partner countries, we ensure regular dialogue with influential think tankers, security experts, commentators, academics, NGOs and civil society organisations. We support public diplomacy projects through our grant programme, which focus on NATO’s priorities, including collective defence, deterrence and dialogue, and projecting stability. We increasingly support projects with a digital component, including social media and other on-line platforms, aiming to effectively reach a younger audience of opinion formers.

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Kavala, the capital and main port of the Kavala prefecture is amphitheatrically built on the slopes of Mt. Symvolo forming one of the most picturesque cities in Greece. The city’s breeze sweeps through its historic buildings, which perfectly reflect the city’s modern character.

Neapoli, Chrysoupoli, Kavala: according to archaeological finds, the city’s history dates back to the Prehistoric times. Initially the city’s core was restricted to the district of Panayia, which has been uninterruptedly inhabited since the 7th century BC. After 2500 years though, at the beginning of the 16th century, Kavala expanded maintaining these new borders until 1870; it was only after 1928 that it began to shape its today structure. Its strategic and economic importance over the centuries is attributed to its strategic position in Via Egnatia, which traversed the city connecting East and West, to its port and to the natural fortification of the peninsula, on which the old city was built.

Seven important buildings

- **Tokos Hall** (1879). The residence of tobacco farmer D. Tokos which had hosted the consulate of Italy for two years (1879-80) and features Ottoman, Neoclassical and Baroque elements. Today it is the seat of the 12th Department of Byzantine Antiquities.
- The old **Girls’ School**, a neoclassical building, which today houses the 10th Primary School.
- **Megali Lesxi** (Big Club), (1910). A neoclassical mansion that now houses the Municipal Library.
- The **City Hall** (1890), the former residence of the Hungarian tobacco trader Pierre Herzog.
- **Wix Hall** (1898-1900), which used to be the residence of the German Baron Adolf Wix von Zsolna until 1925. From 1989 on it houses the municipal authorities.
- The **Catholic Mission** (1888-92), a building that housed the French consulate as well as a school of French language.
- The **Municipal Tobacco Warehouse** (built around 1900) featuring Ottoman, Neoclassical and Baroque elements.
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