

NIKOS
KAZANTZAKIS



EUROPEAN
ROUTES
ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟΙ
ΔΡΟΜΟΙ
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EUROPÉENS

INTERNATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis

From the Heraklion of Yesterday
to the Europe of Today and Tomorrow

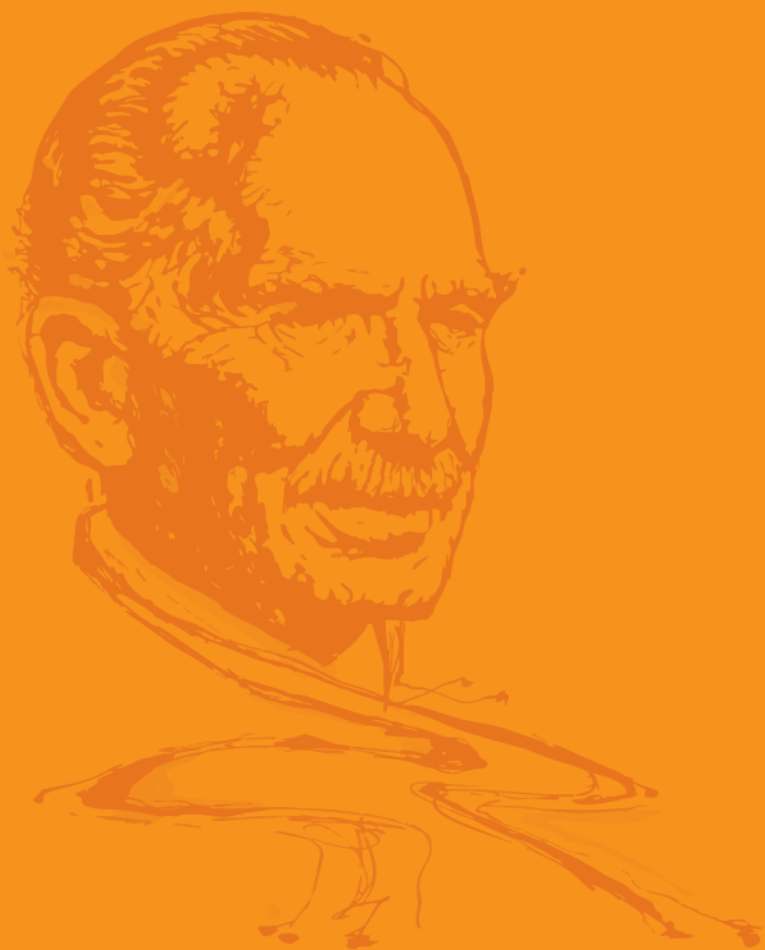
Heraklion, Crete
22–25 October 2026

PROGRAMME

Heraklion Chamber
of Commerce
9 Koroneou Street

Organization:
European Routes
of Nikos Kazantzakis





Programme Coordination and Editing

Katerina Zografistou, Nikos Chrysos, Sofia Ntalampeki, Eva Kokkinidi

Design – Printing

Typokreta - www.kazanakis.gr

COVER

The Tomb of Nikos Kazantzakis at the Martinengo Bastion, Heraklion

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Under the Auspices of



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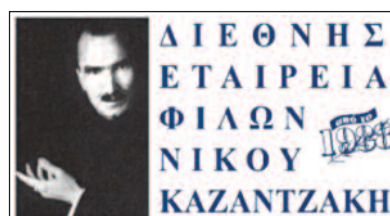


Chair on Threats to Cultural Heritage
and Cultural Heritage-related Activities

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INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

European Routes
of Nikos Kazantzakis:
From the Heraklion
of Yesterday to the Europe
of Today and Tomorrow

PROGRAMME

Heraklion Chamber of Commerce
9 Koroneou Street, Heraklion, Crete,
22-25 October 2026

Under the Auspices of

- Hellenic Ministry of Culture
- The Municipality of Heraklion
- The Municipality of Archanes-Asterousia
- UNESCO Chair – Ionian University
- Interdepartmental Postgraduate Programme in “Management & Technologies in Cultural Heritage” – University of the Peloponnese

With the Support and Collaboration of

- The International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

With the Support of

- The Region of Crete - Regional Development Fund of Crete
- The Kazantzakis Museum
- The Heraklion Chamber of Commerce
- The Institute of Computer Science – Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH)

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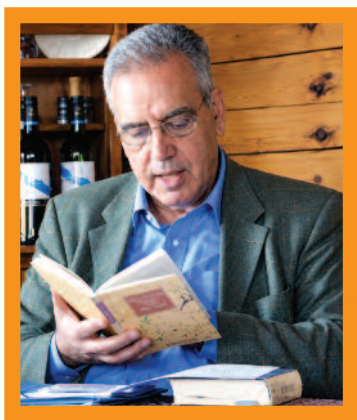
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- Pyramis News



Nikos Kazantzakis (1883-1957) is regarded as one of the most important European writers and thinkers. His work and thought have achieved universal resonance and attracted a worldwide readership. His education, travels, the personalities he encountered, the countries in which he lived and wrote, as well as his philosophical reflections, were shaped in close dialogue with the European intellectual and cultural environment of the 20th century.

The scientific conference, taking place in Heraklion, Crete, the writer's birthplace, from 22 to 25 October 2026, under the title "European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis: From Yesterday's Heraklion to the Europe of Today and Tomorrow," seeks to explore, from an interdisciplinary perspective, aspects of the European dimension of his thought and work, highlighting their enduring relevance to issues of cultural identity, freedom, otherness, sustainability and innovation that concern European countries today. The conference is organized as part of the activities of the newly established international association "European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis," based in Heraklion, whose aim is to obtain certification for the writer's European route from the European Institute of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe.

The significant number of papers presented at the conference demonstrates the strong scholarly and research interest in Nikos Kazantzakis.

From Geneva, where I reside, I extend my warmest thanks to the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, the Region of Crete, the Heraklion Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which is hosting the conference proceedings, the University of the Peloponnese, the UNESCO Chair at the Ionian University, the Municipality of Heraklion, the Municipality of Archanes-Asterousia, the Kazantzakis Museum, the Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH), and the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK).

My special thanks go to Aikaterini Zografistou, Nikos Chrysos, Sofia Ntalampeki and Eva Kokkinidi, to the Scientific and Organizing Committees of the conference, and especially to Ioanna Spiliopoulou, Emerita Professor at the University of the Peloponnese and Scientific Adviser to the European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis; to all the speakers; to the Metaxa Hotels for their hospitality towards our invited guests; and to all the participating hotels.

Finally, I would like to thank all the print and digital media that have promoted the conference, and in particular our media partners, as well as the members and friends of the European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis and the SIANK, who are following the proceedings of the conference either online or in person.

Giorgos Stassinakis

President of European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis
Ambassador of Hellenism

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF FRIENDS OF NIKOS KAZANTZAKIS (ISFNK)



The International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK) is an independent, non-profit, global, cultural association, founded in 1988 at the University of Geneva, at the request and with the participation of Eleni Kazantzakis and Giorgos Anemoyannis, founder of the Nikos Kazantzakis Museum in Myrtia (Crete), who were both honored as honorary members. Its main purpose is to promote –through various means, and especially through academic research and studies– the work and thought of the great writer, poet, and philosopher Nikos Kazantzakis (1883-1957).

Today, the own headquarters of the ISFNK are located in Heraklion, Crete, 35 Kornarou Square. It is governed by a nine-member Global Council, which is elected every three years by the Global General Assembly. The ISFNK is organized into chapters. Its resources come from subscriptions and donations. Its members residing in 131 countries.

Throughout its 38 year history, the Society has organized lectures, conferences, seminars, reading clubs, literary cafés, cinema, theater, poetry, exhibitions, travels, musical events, audiovisual material, and competitions in schools and universities.

For the past 28 years, it has published the annual quadrilingual review *Le Regard crétois* in English, French, Greek, and Spanish, and the quarterly newsletter *Synthesis* in English, French, Greek, Italian, Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese, Russian, and Arabic.



KAZANTZAKIS MUSEUM, MYRTIA, HERAKLION, CRETE



The Kazantzakis Museum is a contemporary cultural institution and a museum officially recognised by the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, with a strong scholarly, educational, and social mission. Founded in 1983 by Giorgos Anemogiannis, the Museum has been operating ever since in Myrtia, Heraklion, Crete, the ancestral village of Nikos Kazantzakis.

Today, the Museum has evolved into a modern architectural complex and a dynamic centre of culture, knowledge, and creativity. Through its collections and exhibits, as well as its scholarly and educational programmes and cultural initiatives, the Museum explores the enduring relevance and universal character of Nikos Kazantzakis's thought from a contemporary perspective.

At the same time, it has developed an extensive network of collaborations with cultural, educational, and academic institutions in Greece and abroad, strengthening its international outreach and presence.

The Museum is a vibrant space for encounters and exchange, offering visitors a fascinating journey through the life, words, and reflections of the author.

www.kazantzaki.gr



HERAKLION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

The Heraklion Chamber of Commerce and Industry is one of the principal institutional bodies representing and supporting the business community of the Prefecture of Heraklion. With a long-standing presence and an active role in the local economy since 1924, the Chamber supports business development, internationalisation, and competitiveness by providing its members with information, advisory support, and a range of modern business services.



INSTITUTE OF COMPUTER SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY – HELLAS (FORTH)



The Institute of Computer Science (ICS), one of the ten research institutes of the Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH), conducts fundamental and applied research, advances education and training, and plays a leading role in the development of the Information Society at both national and international levels.

The Institute is distinguished by its research excellence, interdisciplinary approach, and sustained commitment to the transfer and application of its research outcomes and technological innovations in industry and society at large. Since its establishment in 1983, the Institute has maintained a strong international profile and has made a significant contribution to the economic, social, and technological development of Greece.



FOREIGN RIGHTS DEPARTMENT KAZANTZAKIS PUBLICATIONS

The works of Nikos Kazantzakis shine as beacons of light, connecting different eras and cultures. By 2010, however, the quality and international distribution of translations of his works had significantly declined. In 2011, Niki Stavrou established the Foreign Rights Department of Kazantzakis Publications, with the aim of addressing issues concerning the quality and international distribution of Kazantzakis's works.

Since then, more than 190 new works and editions—including books, e-books, audiobooks, translations, and theatrical productions—have been published or presented internationally. The Department's goal is to make Kazantzakis's works available in as many languages as possible, building cultural bridges between Greece and the rest of the world.

Niki Stavrou

Copyright holder of the works of Nikos Kazantzakis
and Founder of the Foreign Rights Department
of Kazantzakis Publications





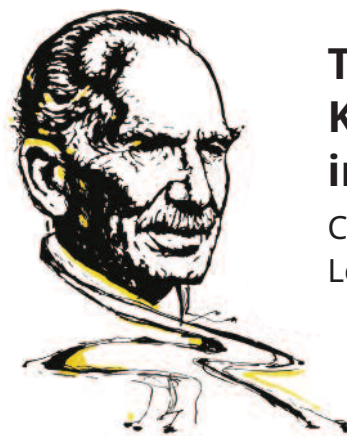
Kryoneri (Assyrotoi), Mylopotamos, Rethymno

In the regional unit of Rethymno, within a landscape of exceptional natural beauty, lies Kryoneri, the ancestral village of Margi Christodoulaki, the mother of Nikos Kazantzakis. In recent years, the Cultural Association of Kryoneri, "Oi Assyrotoi," has played a significant role in promoting the village as an important site of cultural heritage, closely associated with the family origins and memory of the great Cretan writer.

Nikos Kazantzakis held a profound affection for his mother and her family. In *Report to Greco*, he recalls: "She had the patience, the endurance, and the sweetness of the earth."

He remembers his maternal grandfather with equal warmth and affection:

"I remember him, and my heart is strengthened by the feeling that one can overcome death. I have never encountered a man whose face radiated such a light –quiet and benevolent– as the light of a little lamp."



The Figure of Nikos Kazantzakis in the Logo

Created by the painter
Loula Metaxa

The European journey of Nikos Kazantzakis represents more than a geographical itinerary; it is a deeply human journey. It is a journey that begins in a particular place and leads to a process of transformation.

The line tracing the journey symbolises movement, exploration, and transcendence. As it unfolds, it undergoes a transformation—from a simple path into a human figure, reflecting the inner evolution of the individual.

The logo expresses the interconnectedness of Europe's cultures through the journey of a man who never ceases to explore, question, and transform himself. For Nikos Kazantzakis, travel was an inner adventure and a struggle.

Key Ideas

1. Travel as a way of discovering oneself.

We travel to discover who we are within the world, but also to avoid remaining unchanged—to grow and transform.

2. Travel as struggle.

Travel is not a matter of ease or comfort; it is a confrontation with ideas, cultures, and oneself. Wherever we go, we carry our soul with us, and the struggle takes place within.

3. The journey never ends.

We never truly "arrive." Even when the geographical journey comes to an end, the real journey continues through inner transformation and the ongoing search for meaning. Ultimately, we realise that the journey was within us from the very beginning and can never be completed.

- The line = the road

- The human figure = transformation

- The subtle continuation of the line at the end of the figure = the journey remains unfinished

The journey leads, each time, to a different self.

Text edited by Loula Metaxa

The Journey of the Soul

Displayed in the foyer of the "Kastellaki" Hall at the Heraklion Chamber of Commerce and Industry, *The Journey of the Soul* is a porcelain sculpture adorned with gold inlays and evocative of the form of a cushion. Inspired by Nikos Kazantzakis's *Report to Greco*, the work was created by visual artist Dr Ioannis Stathogiannis.

Thursday, 22 October 2026

9:00-9:20 Registration of Participants

OPENING SESSION

"European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis" and their Potential as a Contemporary Tool for Cultural Development

Chairs:

Nikolaos Skenteris, Retired Associate Professor of Social and Developmental Paediatrics, Department of Medicine, University of Thessaly; Second Vice-President of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)
Nikos Chryssos, Author and Vice-President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

- 09:20-9:40 **Elena Avramidou**
Executive Director of the Hellenic Center for Sinology and Member of the Steering Committee of the UNESCO Chair, Ionian University; Professor of Philosophy, Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU); Member of the Board of Directors of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)
 "The European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis": From Memory to Lived Experience and Cultural Democracy
- 9:40-10:00 **Akrivi Vagena**
Researcher of Tourism Development and Founding Member of 3win Action
Manolis Lygerakis
Hotel Director, Sustainable Development Consultant, and Co-founder of 3win Action
 "Via Querinissima" and "European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis": Towards a Transnational Dialogue of Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe
- 10:00-10:20 **Paraskevi Vasileiadi**
PhD in Modern Greek Philology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; Curator of Collections – Deputy Director of the Kazantzakis Museum
 Mapping European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis through the Nikos Kazantzakis' Letters – Digital Collection of the Kazantzakis Museum
- 10:20-10:40 **Ekaterini Zografistou**
President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK); PhD in Modern Greek Philology, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3
 "European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis", "The St Francis' Way", and the "Leonardo da Vinci Route": Connections and Prospects for Dialogue in the Contemporary European Context
- 10:40-11:00 **Discussion**

SESSION II

"European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis" as a Platform for Education, Dialogue, and Cultural Exchange

Chairs:

Marilena Milathianaki, Director of the Kazantzakis Museum
Maria Chatzaipostolou, Educator, PhD in Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

- 11:00-11:20 **Athanasia Drakouli**
Lecturer in Italian Language and Terminology at the University of Crete, the Hellenic Open University, and the Higher School of Tourism Education of Crete
 From Cultural Routes to Language and Intercultural Learning: The Case of the "European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis"
- 11:20-11:40 **Kleomenis Kalogeropoulos**
Assistant Professor of Geoinformatics, University of West Attica
Spyros Ntzouropanos
PhD in Human Geography, Laboratory Teaching Staff, University of West Attica



(French)



(English).

Andreas Tsatsaris

Professor of Geoinformatics, University of West Attica

Ioannis Katsios

Assistant Professor of Geoinformatics/Cartography, University of West Attica

Kazantzakis's Intellectual Dialogue with Writers during his Travels in Spain: A Cartographic Representation of These Encounters

11:40-12:00

Chadia Haddad

Professor of English Language and Literature – AEFE Network (French Education Abroad), President of the Tunisian Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

 The Trans-Mediterranean Continuum: Francophone Relays and Existential Responsibility in Kazantzakis's European Journeys

12:00-12:20

Georgia Kakourou-Chroni

Former Curator of the National Gallery of Greece, Board Member of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

A Teenager talks with Nikos Kazantzakis among the Reed of the Eurotas River

12:20-12:40

Discussion

AFTERNOON SESSION

SESSION III

Kazantzakis's Travels as a Reflection of the European, Philosophical, and Historical Context of his Era - Part I

Chairs:

Paraskevi Vasileiadi, PhD in Modern Greek Literature, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; Curator of Collections – Deputy Director of the Kazantzakis Museum

Georg Gstrein, President of Hephaestus Wien, Vice President of the Federation of Greek Associations in Austria, President of the Austrian Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

17:10-17:30

Edith-Adriana Uncu

Assistant Professor, University of Bucharest

Travel as a Symbol of Friendship between Nikos Kazantzakis and Panait Istrati through the lens of Emotional Geography

17:30-18:20

Evanthia Voutsas-Papaioannou

Historian and Author, Board Member of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

Nikos Kazantzakis: "I must go back to Spain just for El Greco". The Cretan Traveler's Journeys in Spain in Pursuit of Art: An Open Dialogue with European Culture.

Kyriakos Panagiotou

Philologist and Researcher, Deputy Secretary of the Board of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

After the Magic of Greco and the austere face of Spain, comes smiling Italy. The paths of the Cretan traveller in Italy in pursuit of Art; a valuable dialogue with European culture

18:20-18:40

Michał Bzinkowski

Professor of Classical and Modern Greek Literature, University of Krakow

Light as the Protagonist of the Greek Landscape in "Travelling: The Morea" by Nikos Kazantzakis

18:40-19:00

Discussion

SESSION IV

“European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis” and Their Connection to Sustainable Development: Promoting Cultural Heritage and Transnational Cooperation

Chairs:

Elena Avramidou, *Executive Director of the Hellenic Center for Sinology and member of the Steering Committee of the UNESCO Chair, Ionian University; Professor of Philosophy at BLCU; Member of the Board of Directors of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*

Spyros Ntzouropanos, *PhD in Human Geography, Laboratory Teaching Staff, University of West Attica*

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

19:00-19:50 **Welcome Addresses**

Evangelos Karkanakis, *President of the Heraklion Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Georgios Stasinakis, *President of the “European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis”*

Rui Gomes, *Director, European Institute of Cultural Routes, Council of Europe
Representative of the Ministry of Culture*

Georgia Milaki, *Deputy Regional Governor for Culture and Equality, Region of Crete*

Rena Papadaki-Skalidi, *Deputy Mayor for Culture of the Municipality of Heraklion*

Manolis Kokosalis, *Mayor of Archanes - Asterousia*

Stavros Katsios, *Professor, Director of the UNESCO Chair, Ionian University*

Maria Kouri, *Associate Professor of Cultural Management and Local Development, University of the Peloponnese*

Ioanna Spiliopoulou, *Professor Emerita of History and Cultural Management, University of the Peloponnese; Scientific Advisor to the “European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis”*

Ekaterini Zografistou, *President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*

Andreas Metaxas, *President of the Kazantzakis Museum*

Konstantinos Stefanidis, *Professor Emeritus of Computer Science at the University of Crete, Head of the Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) Laboratory and the Ambient Intelligence Programme at the Institute of Computer Science, Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH)*

Niki Stavrou, *Copyright holder of Nikos Kazantzakis's Works*

Eleni Lygeraki-Vertoudou, *President of the Cultural Association of Kryoneri “OI ASSYROTOI”*

Nicolas Christodoulou, *President of the Association of Members of the Order of Academic Palms of France in Greece – Member of the National Board*

Sara Tagliagalamba, *Director of the International Association “Le Vie di Leonardo da Vinci”, Professor at the University of Urbino*

19:50-20:10 **Marianthi Anastasiadou**

Head of the Department of International Relations, Hellenic Ministry of Culture

Fotis Vlachos

*Public Officer, Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Directorate of International Relations and EU,
Department of International Relations*

The Importance of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe for the Sustainable Development of Local Communities: The Case of the Cultural Route “European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis”

20:10-20:30 **Georg Gstrein**

*President of Hephaestus Wien, Vice President of the Federation of Greek Associations in Austria,
President of the Austrian Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)
Nikos Kazantzakis and Vienna: From Salvatores Dei to the International Peace Prize and the role
of the Greek Diaspora*

20:30-20:50 **Discussion**

Friday, 23 October 2026

MORNING SESSION

SESSION V

The Notion of Europe as a distinct cultural domain in the early explorations of Nikos Kazantzakis

Chairs:

Georgia Gialessaki, *MSc in Cultural Unit Management, Hellenic Open University; Member of the Audit Committee of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
Ilias Giokaris, *Full Professor, Université Côte d'Azur, CTELA – UPR 6307*

- 9:30-9:50 **Konstantinos Kalaitzakis**
PhD Candidate in Modern Greek Literature, University of Crete
Nikos Kazantzakis and his early ambition for European recognition and literary establishment (1929-1939)
- 9:50-10:10 **Basilus J. Groen**
Visiting Professor at the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome
Nikos Kazantzakis's school years on Naxos
- 10:10-10:30 **Chrysoula Melissinaki**
Founder and President of the Hellenic Museum of Adelaide; Philologist and Greek Language Teacher; Representative of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK) in Adelaide
At the threshold of two worlds: Kazantzakis' England between discipline and freedom
- 10:30-10:50 **Allain Glykos**
Assistant Professor of Philosophy of Science at the University of Bordeaux; Author
  Kazantzakis, Science and Progress
- 10:50-11:10 **Discussion**

SESSION VI

The Global Resonance of the Work of a European Intellectual

Chairs:

Fotini Eleftheriou, *Journalist, Head of the Press Office of the Heraklion Chamber of Commerce and Industry*
Kleomenis Kalogeropoulos, *Assistant Professor of Geoinformatics, University of West Attica*

- 11:10-11:30 **Filimon Patsakis**
Author, Publishing Design Manager at Dioptra Publishing
What Defines the Timeless Relevance of Great Writers? The Example of Nikos Kazantzakis
- 11:30-11:50 **Hans-Ulrich Seifert**
PhD, University of Trier
  1933-1938 – A European Five-Year Period in Aegina: German, English, Spanish, French, Hungarian, Dutch, Polish, and Romanian Visitors to the home of Nikos and Eleni Kazantzakis
- 11:50-12:10 **Antonis Nikolopoulos (Soloup)**
Cartoonist, PhD in Cultural Communication, Department of Cultural Technology and Communication, University of the Aegean
Rendering the Ideas of N. Kazantzakis through Images: Auguste Rodin's Forms as Visual Metaphors in the Graphic Novel *Zorbas – Green stone of beauty*
- 12:10-12:30 **Ioannis Stathogiannis**
PhD in Cultural Technology and Communication, Visual Artist, Educator
Visual Artwork: "The Journey of the Soul" (2026)
- 12:30-12:50 **Dimitris Kokoris**
Professor of Modern Greek Literature, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Echoes of European Literature in Nikos Kazantzakis's "What the poppies tell me"
- 12:50-13:10 **Discussion**

SESSION VII

Otherness, Identity, and Inclusion: Contemporary Approaches to the Work of Kazantzakis

Chairs:

Agathi Markati, PhD in Philosophy, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; University Professor;
Honorary Member of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

Filimon Patsakis, Author, Publishing Design Manager at Dioptra Publishing

13:10-13:30 **Marilena Piperides Triandafillou**

Lecturer in the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Applied Linguistics, University of Johannesburg



Otherness and intellectual freedom in Kazantzakis' novel *Christ Recrucified*

13:30-13:50 **Sotirios Gousopoulos**

Physical Education Teacher, 8th General Lyceum of Trikala

Marianna Apostolou

French Language Teacher and Principal, 8th General Lyceum of Trikala

Zoi Gousopoulou

Sociology Teacher

Gender, Identity, and Inclusion in the Work of Nikos Kazantzakis: Contemporary Readings

13:50-14:10 **Konstantinos Pettas**

PhD Candidate in Modern Greek Literature, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Homoeroticism and Homosexuality: The building blocks of a Masculine Ideal in N. Kazantzakis's tragedy *Kouros or Theseus*

14:10-14:30 **Manolis Zacharioudakis**

Senior Police Officer (Ret.), Instructor of "Foreign Nationals Affairs" at the Police Academy / School for Police Constables in Rethymno; President of the International Police Association / Heraklion Branch; Board Member of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

Homelands of the Soul and Places of Displacement: The Experience of Migration and Refugeedom through the life and work of Nikos Kazantzakis, and its relevance to Contemporary Europe

14:30-14:50 **Discussion**

14:50-17:00 **Coffee Break**

AFTERNOON SESSION

SESSION VIII

"European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis" as a Driving Force for the Development of Literary Tourism in Greece and Abroad

Chairs:

Eva Kokkinidi, PhD in Philology, King's College London; Member of the Audit Committee of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

Anna Kyriakaki, Associate Professor, Chair of the Department of Tourism Economics and Management, University of the Aegean

17:00-17:10 **Ioanna Spiliopoulou**

Professor Emerita of History and Cultural Management, University of the Peloponnese; Former Chair of the Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources Management in Kalamata; Board Member of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

Maria Kouri

Associate Professor of Cultural Management and Local Development, University of the Peloponnese

Introduction

17:10-17:30 **Ioanna Manthakou**

Archaeologist

Nikos Kazantzakis's "Travelling – The Morea" and the Reinstatement of the Historic Peloponnese Railway Line: Designing a Literary Route following the Journey of the Cretan Traveller through the Northeastern Peloponnese

17:30-17:50 **Maria Tsoulakou**

Archaeologist, MSc in Cultural Management, Ministry of Culture, Ephorate of Antiquities of Messenia; PhD Candidate, Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources Management in Kalamata, University of the Peloponnese

Ioanna Spiliopoulou

Professor Emerita of History and Cultural Management, University of the Peloponnese; Former Chair of the Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources Management in Kalamata; Board Member of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

Tangible and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Synergy: Protecting and Promoting the Identity of a Place (Place Branding) through the Case of Stoupa in the Messenian Mani

17:50-18:10

Agathi Markati

PhD in Philosophy, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA); University Professor; Honorary Member of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

"Skoutelovarísko se...": Taste in Kazantzakis

18:10-18:30

Anna Kyriakaki

Associate Professor, Chair of the Department of Tourism Economics and Management, University of the Aegean

Ekaterini Zografistou

President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK); PhD in Modern Greek Literature, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3

Sofia Ntalampeki

MSc in Tourism Business Management, Hellenic Open University; Secretary-General of the Board of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

Harnessing the literary works and correspondence of Nikos Kazantzakis for cultural and tourism development through the design of sustainable literary trails. Case Study: France – Germany

18:30-18:50

Georgia Dalla

Secondary Education Teacher and PhD Candidate, Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources Management, University of the Peloponnese

Kazantzakis meets Kapodistrias: A Literary Tourism Route from Nafplio to Corfu

18:50-19:10

Iliana Zioga

Museologist – Cultural Heritage Management Consultant, PhD Candidate in Museology and Science Communication

From Literary Heritage to Cultural Experience: A Museological Approach to the "European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis"

19:10-19:30

Discussion**SESSION IX****Modernity, Ethics, Theology, and Philosophy: Cultural Perspectives on the Work of Kazantzakis****Chairs:**

Marina Detoraki, *Professor of Byzantine Literature, Department of Philology, University of Crete*

Ioanna Spiliopoulou, *Professor Emerita of History and Cultural Management, University of the Peloponnese;*

Former Chair of the Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources Management in Kalamata; Board Member of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

19:30-19:50

Ilias Giokaris

Full Professor, Université Côte d'Azur, CTCLA – UPR 6307

A Reconfiguration of Christian Philosophy: The Use of Figurative Language in *The Last Temptation*

19:50-20:10

Nikos Kagkellaris

Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Philology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

The Reception of André Breton's *L'amour fou* by Nikos Kazantzakis

20:10-20:30

Alexandros Dediliaris

PhD Candidate in Modern Greek Literature, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Rhythm and Modernity: Examining the Translation Project "Contemporary Spanish Lyric Poetry"

20:30-20:50

Dionysios Psilopoulos

Professor of English Literature, American College of Greece



The collapse of old values, the Emergence of New Ethics, and the Search for a New Divinity

20:50-21:10

Nikos Chrysos

Author and Vice-President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

Distorting Kazantzakis: The Misappropriation of his Combative Asceticism in the name of Contemporary Self-Improvement

21:10-21:30

Discussion

Saturday, 24 October 2026

MORNING SESSION

SESSION X

Kazantzakis's Travels as a Reflection of the European, Philosophical, and Historical Context of His Era - Part II

Chairs:

Ekaterini Zografistou, *President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK); PhD in Modern Greek Literature, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3*

Michał Bzinkowski, *Professor of Classical and Modern Greek Literature, University of Krakow*

- 9:20-9:40 **Lampros Kouloubaritsis**
Professor Emeritus, Université libre de Bruxelles; Member of the Royal Academy of Belgium
The two phases of Nikos Kazantzakis's life on the streets of England
- 9:40-10:00 **Rozmi Tzanos-Pahlish**
Public Relations and VIP Reception Officer, World Council of Churches (WCC); Member of the United Nations Women's Guild (UNWG); President of the Swiss Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)
Thought, Planning, Implementation, Outcome: The Human Being at the Center. Nikos Kazantzakis in Switzerland before the Surprises
- 10:00-10:20 **Apostolos Poullos**
Philologist-Linguist, MSc & PhD in Linguistics, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
The Russian-European Route of the demoticist Kazantzakis and his remarks on the parallel struggles of Russian demoticists
- 10:20-10:40 **Angeliki Taligarou Gialidou**
Professor and Philologist, PhD in Philosophy
Report to Greco: Nikos Kazantzakis's Journey through Life
- 10:40-11:00 **Ramazon Rajabovich Bobokalonov**
Doctor of Philology (DSc), Professor at the University of Bukhara, Uzbekistan
Odilchoh Ostonovich Bobokalonov
PhD in Philology, Professor
 Nikos Kazantzakis's Journey to Central Asia
- 11:00-11:20 **Oksana Snigovska**
PhD in Education Sciences; Chair of the Department of Public Communication and Regional Studies, I. I. Mechnikov Odesa National University
Andrii Malakhiti
Assistant Professor, Department of Public Communication and Regional Studies, I. I. Mechnikov Odesa National University
Nikos Kazantzakis's Odesa: The Cradle of the "Filiki Eteria" and the Formation of his Political Thought
- 11:20-11:40 **Jean Claude Schwendemann**
Classical Philologist; President of the French Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)
 Gunsbach-Freiburg: In the Footsteps of two Friends
- 11:40-12:00 **Spyros Katsarapidis**
MSc, MA, PhD Candidate in Political Science
Nikos Kazantzakis and the deadlock of European Civilization
- 12:00-12:20 **Discussion**

SESSION XI

Reflective Approaches to Kazantzakis's Worldview

Chairs:

Chadia Haddad, *Professor of English Language and Literature – AEFE Network (French Education Abroad); President of the Tunisian Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*

Velichka Simonova-Grozdeva, *Permanent Lecturer in Modern Greek Studies, University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski"*

12:20-12:40 **Georgios Dritsas**

PhD Candidate, Department of Philosophy, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
Kazantzakis's *Odyssey* as a Poetic Expression of His Worldview

12:40-13:00 **Juri-Petri Valtanen**

Postdoctoral Researcher, Faculty of Education and Culture, University of Tampere, Finland

Eleni Berki

Assistant Professor of Software Quality and Formal Modelling, Faculty of Information Technology, University of Jyväskylä, Finland

Jose Canas-Bajo

Film Director, Producer, and Screenwriter



Crucifying and Resurrecting an Adapted Story – Reflecting on the Means of Storytelling Surviving

13:00-13:20 **Spyridon Tsirigas**

Ministry of Culture – Directorate of International Relations and European Union Affairs, PhD from Panteion University – History of the European Rhetorical Tradition
Kazantzakis and the European Rhetorical Tradition: Nietzsche, Perspectivism, and Classical Antiquity

13:20-13:40 **Aikaterini D. Vergetaki Peirasmaki**

PhD in Modern Greek Literature, Paul Valéry University Montpellier 3 and University of Thessaly; Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Thessaly

 Reconsidering Nikos Kazantzakis's *Report to Greco* through the Lens of Third-Wave Ecocriticism:
A Dialogue with Matthew Arnold's *Dover Beach*

13:40-14:00 **Mauro Rivera**

Professor of Humanities and Researcher in Philosophy and Religious Studies, Head of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK) in Spain
The sanchification of Don Quixote: Nikos Kazantzakis, *Travelling: Spain*, and the Crisis of the Spanish myth Today

14:00-14:20 **Adizova Obodon Istamovna**

Doctor of Philological Sciences (DSc), Professor, Bukhara State University

Xamidova Muborak Hafizovna

Doctor of Philological Sciences (DSc), Professor, Bukhara State University



Characteristics of Nikos Kazantzakis's Work

14:20-14:40 **Discussion**

14:40-15:30 **Coffee Break**

AFTERNOON SESSION

SESSION XII

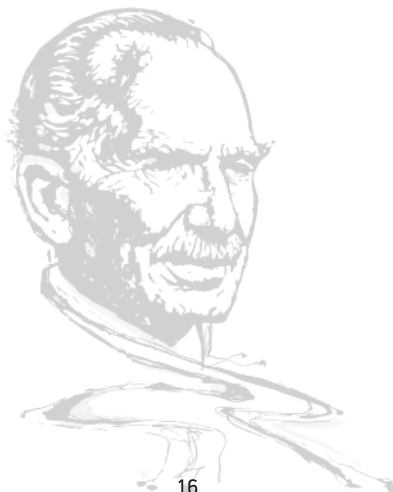
Freedom, Rights, and Existential Responsibility in the Works of Kazantzakis

Chairs:

Marilena Piperides Triandafillou, *Lecturer in the Department of Languages, Cultural Studies and Applied Linguistics, University of Johannesburg*

Iliana Zioga, *Museologist – Cultural Heritage Management Consultant, PhD Candidate in Museology and Science Communication*

- 15:30-15:50 **Theofanis Malkidis**
PhD, Panteion University
Vasileios Spokos
Consultant in Sustainable Tourism and Tourism Marketing
Freedom, Human Rights, and the Individual Confronted with Power and Ideologies: Nikos Kazantzakis as a Member of the “Central Committee for the Investigation of Atrocities in Crete”
- 15:50-16:10 **Marina Detoraki**
Professor of Byzantine Literature, Department of Philology, University of Crete
Pessimism and Pragmatism in Kazantzakis’s Conception of Justice
- 16:10-16:30 **Athanasios I. Kalamatas**
PhD in Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; Model General Lyceum of Mytilene, University of the Aegean
Ethical Struggle and Ethical Transcendence in Nikos Kazantzakis: Ethical Paths in *Salvatores Dei* and *The Last Temptation*
- 16:30-16:50 **Georgios Maglis**
Founding Member of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)
The Dialectic of Freedom, the Ontology of Human Rights, and the Idea of European Integration in the Work of Nikos Kazantzakis
- 16:50-17:10 **Lisa Karimian**
Associate Professor at the Faculty of Theology, Yerevan State University; PhD Candidate in History
The Conquest of Freedom as the Foundation of Human Dignity in the Work of Nikos Kazantzakis: From Existential Anxiety to Moral Responsibility
- 17:10-17:30 **Nikos Paparoidamis**
Associate Dean of Research, Institut Supérieur de Gestion (ISG), Paris
France and French Existentialism in the Work of Nikos Kazantzakis: Influences, Affinities, and Limits
- 17:30-17:50 **Maria Chatziapostolou**
Educator, PhD in Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
The Concepts of Freedom and Human Rights in the Work of the Cretan Author
- 17:50-18:10 **Discussion**



Sunday, 25 October 2026

SESSION XIII

Intercultural Dialogues and Influences: Attempts to Remap Kazantzakis's Work

Chairs:

Maria Zachariaki, *Agronomist, MSc in "Applied Science and Technology in Agriculture", Special Secretary of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*

Nikolaos Skenteris, *Retired Associate Professor of Social and Developmental Paediatrics, Department of Medicine, University of Thessaly; Second Vice President of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*

12:30-12:50 **Tongxin Fang**

PhD Candidate, Department of Modern Greek Literature, University of Crete

The Image of Europe in Kazantzakis's Works: Travel Writing and Intercultural Translation Reception

12:50-13:10 **Spyros Ntzouropanos**

PhD in Human Geography, Laboratory Teaching Staff (EDIP), University of West Attica

Kleomenis Kalogeropoulos

Assistant Professor of Geoinformatics, University of West Attica

Kazantzakis's meetings with local Writers and Intellectuals during his travels in Europe, as an Occasion for Intercultural Dialogue

13:10-13:30 **Velichka Simonova-Grozdeva**

Permanent Lecturer in Modern Greek Studies, University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski"

Freedom, Human Rights, and Existential Responsibility: Poets from Bulgaria engage with the Works of Nikos Kazantzakis

13:30-13:50 **Eva Kokkinidi**

PhD in Philology, King's College London; Member of the Audit Committee of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

In Shakespeare's Footsteps: The Influence of the English Dramatist on Nikos Kazantzakis's Literary Creations and Travelogues

13:50-14:10 **Dragana Tkalac Popović**

Professor, Department of Modern Greek Studies, University of Belgrade

The Image of Nikos Kazantzakis in the Serbian Cultural Sphere (1958–2022): Translations, Critical Reception, and University Research

14:10-14:30 **Ioannis Andronoglou**

PhD in Musicology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; Classical Guitar Soloist

Nikos Kazantzakis in the musical works of Kalomiris, Theodorakis, and Hadjidakis: Hellenicity and Cultural Development

14:30-14:50 **Fotini Kallianteri**

Professor of French Literature, PhD, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3

Kazantzakis as a European Intellectual

14:50-15:10 **Discussion**

CLOSING SESSION

Chairs:

Ekaterini Zografistou, *President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK); PhD in Modern Greek Literature, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3*

Sofia Ntalampeki, *MSc in Tourism Business Administration, Hellenic Open University; Secretary-General of the Board of Directors of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*

15:10-16:00 **Elena Avramidou**

Executive Director of the Hellenic Center for Sinology and member of the Steering Committee of the UNESCO Chair, Ionian University; Professor of Philosophy at BLCU; Member of the Board of Directors of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)

Concluding Remarks and Conference Outcomes

CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE

Scientific Committee

- Elena Avramidou, *Executive Director of the Hellenic Center for Sinology and member of the Steering Committee of the UNESCO Chair, Ionian University; Professor of Philosophy at BLCU; Member of the Board of Directors of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- Françoise Boussard, *Classical Philologist (holder of the Agrégation); Honorary Professor in Preparatory Classes for Higher Education Institutions; Lecturer and Literature Instructor at the Open University of Nantes since 2015*
- Nikos Chryssos, *Author and Vice-President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- Giannis Dimitrakakis, *Associate Professor of Modern Greek Literature, Department of Philology, University of Crete*
- Basilius Bert Groen, *Visiting Professor at the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome*
- Nikolas Karachalis, *Assistant Professor, University of the Aegean – Sustainable Tourism and Cultural Development / City and Tourism Destination Marketing*
- Eva Kokkinidi, *PhD in Philology, King's College London; Member of the Audit Committee of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- Lambros Kouloubaritsis, *Professor Emeritus, Université libre de Bruxelles; Member of the Royal Academy of Belgium*
- Anna Kyriakaki, *Associate Professor, Chair of the Department of Tourism Economics and Management, University of the Aegean*
- Hans-Ulrich Seifert, *PhD, University of Trier*
- Ioanna Spiliopoulou, *Professor Emerita of History and Cultural Management, University of the Peloponnese; Former Chair of the Department of History, Archaeology and Cultural Resources Management in Kalamata; Board Member of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- Edith-Adriana Uncu, *Assistant Professor, University of Bucharest*
- Paraskevi Vasileiadi, *PhD in Modern Greek Philology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; Curator of Collections – Deputy Director of the Kazantzakis Museum*
- Giannis Zaimakis, *Professor of Sociology of Culture, Sport and Community, University of Crete – Department of Sociology*
- Ekaterini Zografistou, *President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK); PhD in Modern Greek Literature, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3*

Organizing Committee

- **Nikos Chryssos**, *Author and Vice-President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Georgia Gialessaki**, *MSc in Cultural Unit Management, Hellenic Open University; Member of the Audit Committee of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Georg Gstrein**, *President of Hephaestus Wien, Vice President of the Federation of Greek Associations in Austria, President of the Austrian Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Georgia Kakourou-Chroni**, *Former Curator of the National Gallery of Greece, Board Member of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Eva Kokkinidi**, *PhD in Philology, King's College London; Member of the Audit Committee of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Sofia Ntalampeki**, *MSc in Tourism Business Management, Hellenic Open University; Secretary-General of the Board of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Kyriakos Panagiotou**, *Philologist and Researcher, Deputy Secretary of the Board of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Nikolaos Skenteris**, *Former Associate Professor of Social and Developmental Pediatrics, Department of Medicine, University of Thessaly; Second Vice-President of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Christos Solakis**, *Theologian; Secondary Education Teacher; Member of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Georges Stassinakis**, *President of the "European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis"*
- **Evanthia Voutsas-Papaioannou**, *Historian and Author, Board Member of the Greek Branch of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Maria Zachariaki**, *Agronomist, MSc in "Applied Science and Technology in Agriculture", Special Secretary of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Manolis Zacharioudakis**, *Senior Police Officer (Ret.), Instructor of "Foreign Nationals Affairs" at the Police Academy / President of the International Police Association / Heraklion Branch; Board Member of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK)*
- **Ekaterini Zografistou**, *President of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (ISFNK); PhD in Modern Greek Philology, Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3*

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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- The Conference will be held in a hybrid format.

Participation is free of charge.

Certificates of participation will be provided.

The conference may be followed via YouTube on the channel:

European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis

- **Website:**

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At the link, <https://amis-kazantzaki.gr/europeanroutes/> you will find the speakers' brief biographical notes, as well as the abstracts of their presentations, available in Greek, English, or French.

- **Facebook:**

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- **SECRETARIAT**

The Conference Secretariat will operate from Thursday, 22 October 2026, at 9:00 a.m., and throughout the duration of the Conference.

- **Certificates of participation** will be issued after 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, 25 October 2026. For online participants, the certificate will be sent upon request to the email address: **european.routes.nikos.kazantzakis@gmail.com**

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