

**Athanasios (Sakis) Gekas,  
Assistant Professor  
Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair elect in Modern Greek History**

**Work address**

Assistant Professor, York University  
Department of History, 2120  
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**Degrees**

- 2004            PhD in History, University of Essex  
Dissertation: *The Commercial Bourgeoisie of the Ionian Islands under British rule, 1815-1864. Class formation in a semi-colonial society.* Supervisors: Geoffrey Crossick, Kevin Schurer
- 1999            MA in Social History, University of Essex
- 1998            BA in History, Ionian University, Corfu

**Employment History**

- 2009-present    Assistant Professor, Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair elect in Modern Greek History
- 2008-09        Teaching Fellow in History of Globalization, University of Manchester
- 2006-08        Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow, European University Institute, Florence
- 2005-06        Research Fellow, Global Economic History Network - Economic History Department, London School of Economics & Political Science
- 2003-05        Teaching Fellow, Economic History Department, London School of Economics & Political Science
- 2001-02        Teaching Assistant, Department of History, University of Essex

**Honours and Awards**

- 2006-08        Max Weber Fellowship for Postdoctoral Research, European University Institute, Florence

- 2005-06 Economic History Research Network Post-doctoral Fellowship, University of Warwick. Project: ‘Pan-European Economic Development’, Jagellonian University, Krakow (awarded but turned down)
- 2003-04 Economic History Society/Institute of Historical Research Anniversary Fellowship
- 1999-2002 UK Economic and Social Research Council Tuition Fees award

## A. SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

### Summary of publications

- 1 Book
- 2 Edited books and special issues of journals
- 3 Chapters in books
- 10 Articles in refereed journals
- 7 Papers in refereed conference proceedings
- 3 Working papers
- 2 Book reviews

### Publications: Scholarly Books

*Δαμασκησιά - Βιντελούστι. Ένα χωριό στο χώρο και στο χρόνο* [Damaskinia – Videlousti. A village in space and time] (with A. Antoniadou and S. Zikas), Thessaloniki: Erodios, 2011, 254 pages, ISBN: 978-960-454-122-5.

### Publications: Edited books and special issues of journals

A Colonial Sea: the Mediterranean, 1798–1956, *European Review of History: Revue Européenne d' Histoire*, 19, 1, 2012 (with Manuel Borutta).

*Ο Μακεδονικός μήνας 2009. Διαλέξεις που δόθηκαν στο Μακεδονικό Πολιτιστικό Κέντρο, Τορόντο τον Οκτώβριο 2009* [Macedonian month 2009. Lectures delivered at the Macedonian Cultural Centre, Toronto], edited book (with Yianis Pyrgos), Pan-Macedonian Association of Ontario, 2011.

### Publications: Book Chapters

‘Εκχρηματισμός και νομισματοποίηση περιοχικών βαθμίδων. Εκχρηματισμός υπό δυτική κυριαρχία. Η Ιονική Τράπεζα’ [Money and currency expansion to regional units. Monetization under western rule. The Ionian Bank] in Θ. Καλαφάτης, Ευάγγελος Πρόντζας (eds.). *Οικονομική Ιστορία του Ελληνικού Κράτους* [Economic History of the Greek State], Vol. 1. Αθήνα: Πολιτιστικό Ίδρυμα Ομίλου Πειραιώς, 2011, 211-249.

‘Trade, Politics and City Space(s) in Mediterranean Ports’ (with Mathieu Grenet) in Carola Hein (ed.), *Port Cities. Dynamic Landscapes and Global Networks*. London: Routledge, 2011, 89-103.

‘Introduction’, in translation of the book by Gerard Delanty. *Επινοώντας την Ευρώπη. Ιδέα, ταυτότητα, πραγματικότητα* [Inventing Europe. Idea, Identity, Reality], Athens: Asini 2010, 7-16.

### **Publications: Articles in refereed journals**

‘The Crisis of the Long 1850s and Regime Change in the Ionian State and the Kingdom of Greece’. *The Historical Review/La Revue Historique*, [S.l.], 10, (2013): 57-84.

‘Global history in the age of crisis: metanarratives of material progress and the rise of Asia.’ *Historiein*, 13 (2013): 8-17.

‘A Colonial Sea: the Mediterranean, 1798-1856. Introduction’, in *European Review of History: Revue Européenne d' Histoire*, 19, no. 1 (2012): (with Manuel Borutta), 1-13; within top twenty most downloaded articles from the journal in 2012.

‘Colonial migrants and the making of a British Mediterranean’, in *European Review of History: Revue Européenne d' Histoire*, 19, no. 1 (2012): 75-92.

‘Class and cosmopolitanism: the historiographical fortunes of merchants in Eastern Mediterranean ports’, *Mediterranean Historical Review* 24, no. 2 (2009): 95-113.

‘Θεσμοί και Εξουσία στην πόλη της Κέρκυρας στα μέσα του 19ου αιώνα’ [Institutions and Power in Corfu town in the mid-nineteenth century], *Ιστορ* 15 (2009): 107-144.

‘Migrants, merchants and philanthropists; hierarchies in nineteenth-century Greek ports’ in *Research Series in Maritime History* 38, (2008): 109-126.

‘Από την Ιστορία του Κόσμου στην Παγκόσμια Ιστορία ή από τον Ηρόδοτο στη Μεγάλη Απόκλιση’ [From the History of the World to Global History or from Herodotus to the Great Divergence], *Μνήμων* 29 (2008): 243-273.

‘Public Health in Crete under the rule of Mehmed Ali in the 1830s’, *Egypt/Monde Arab* 4, no. 3, (2007): 35-54 (with Panagiotis Krokidas).

‘The Port Jews of Corfu and the ‘Blood Libel’ of 1891: A Tale of Many Centuries and of One Event’ in *Jewish Culture and History* 7, 1-2 (2004) 171-196, in D. Cesarani, G. Rommain (eds), Special issue, *Jew and Port Cities, 1590-1990. Commerce, Community and Cosmopolitanism*.

### **Publications: Papers in refereed conference proceedings**

‘Colonial Governmentality in the Ionian Islands under British rule’, in Πρακτικά 1ου Συνεδρίου Οικονομικής και Κοινωνικής Ιστορίας, Θεωρητικές Αναζητήσεις και Εμπειρικές Έρευνες, Πέθυμνο 10-13.12.2008 [Proceedings of the First Conference of Economic and Social History, ‘Theoretical Quests and Empirical Research’]. Αθήνα: Αλεξάνδρεια, 2012, 303-324.

‘Banking Expansion, Success and Failure in the British Mediterranean; the Ionian Bank, 1840s-1930s’ (with A. Apostolides) in John A Consiglio et al. (eds.), *Banking in the Mediterranean: A Historical Perspective*, Ashgate 2012, 175-196.

‘Class and national identities in the Ionian Islands under British rule’ in R. Beaton and D. Ricks (eds.), *The Making of Modern Greece: Nationalism, Romanticism, and the Uses of the Past (1797-1896)*, Ashgate, 2009, 161-174.

‘Credit, Bankruptcy and Power in the Ionian Islands under British Rule, 1815’, in K. Gratzner, D. Stiefel (eds.), *History of Insolvency and Bankruptcy from an International Perspective*, Södertörn academic studies 38, Huddinge, 2008, 83-118.

‘Οι Βρετανοί μέτοχοι της Ιονικής Τράπεζας απέναντι στις ιδέες του Ι.Α. Βαλαωρίτη’ [The British shareholders of the Ionian Bank and the ideas of I.A. Valaoritis], in T. Kalafatis, Z. Sinodinos (eds.), *Η ζωή και το έργο του Ιωάννη Α. Βαλαωρίτη υποδιοικητή και διοικητή της Εθνικής Τράπεζας της Ελλάδας, 1895 – 1914* [The life and work of Ioannis A. Valaoritis, Governor of the National Bank of Greece, 1895-1914]. Athens: University of Pireaus, 2007, 123-143.

‘Μετανάστευση και Επιχειρηματικά Δίκτυα σε πόλεις-λιμάνια το 19ο αιώνα. Ιστορία, ιστοριογραφία και συγκρίσεις’ [Migration and Business Networks in port cities in the 19th Century. History, Historiography and Comparisons], in L. Sapounaki-Drakaki (ed), *Ελληνικές Πόλεις στην Ιστορία* [Greek Cities in History], Athens: Dionikos and European Association of Urban Historians, 2005, 192-208.

‘The merchants of the Ionian Islands between East and West. Forming local and international networks’ in M.S. Beerbuhl and J. Vogele (eds), *Spinning the Commercial Web. International Trade, Merchants, and Commercial Cities, c. 1640-1939*. Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 2004, 43-63.

### **Publications: Working Papers**

‘A sector ‘most beneficial to commerce’: Marine insurance companies in nineteenth-century Greek port cities’, *Entrepreneurial History Discussion Papers*, 001, 2008  
<http://www.ehdp.net/p001.html>

‘A global history of Ottoman cotton textiles, 1600-1850’, *European University Institute, Max Weber Working Paper*, MWP2007/25, 2007. <http://cadmus.eui.eu/bitstream/handle/1814/8132/MWP-2007-30.pdf?sequence=1>

‘Business Culture and Entrepreneurship in the Ionian Islands under British Rule, 1815-1864’, *LSE Working Papers in Economic History*, No 89, 2005. <http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/22332/1/WP89.pdf>

### **Publications: Book / Conference Reviews**

‘Different because worse’, Review of *This Time Is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly*, by Carmen M Reinhart & Kenneth S Rogoff. *Dublin Review of Books*, 16, 2010 [http://www.dr.b.ie/more\\_details/10-12-09/Different\\_Because\\_Worse.aspx](http://www.dr.b.ie/more_details/10-12-09/Different_Because_Worse.aspx)

‘The South Asia Textiles Industry in a Globalizing World; 8th GEHN Meeting, Pune, India, 18-20 December 2005.’ Conference review in *Textile History*, 37, 2, 2006, 203-04.

Ina Baghdiantz McCabe, Gelina Harlaftis, and Ioanna Pepelasis Minoglou (editors) *Diaspora Entrepreneurial Networks: Four Centuries of History*. *Economic History Net*, 2005, URL : <http://www.eh.net/bookreviews/library/0960.shtml>

### **Publications: Forthcoming**

“Thalassiovioti” - Living off the Sea: the Corfu suburb of Manduki in the Nineteenth Century’. In Anthony Hirst and Patrick Sammon (eds.). *The Ionian Islands: Aspects of their History and Culture*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 2014.

*The Jews of Corfu* (translated in Hebrew), in Eyal Ginio (ed.), *The Jews of Greece*, Ben Zvi Institute and Ministry of Education, Jerusalem, 2014 (in press).

*Πληθυσμός και Αγροτική Οικονομία στη Δυτική Μακεδονία, 1500-1700* [Population and Agricultural Economy in Western Macedonia, 1500-1700] (with A. Antoniadou, M. Tsetlaka and S. Zikas), Thessaloniki: Erodios, 2013 (in press).

‘Global History in the age of crisis. Meta-narratives of material progress and the rise of Asia’, *Historein* 13 (2013) (in press).

‘Οικονομική ανάπτυξη και αποικιακή εξάρτηση στα Επτάνησα το 19ο αιώνα’ [Economic development and colonial dependence in the Ionian Islands during the 19th century], *Proceedings of the 10<sup>th</sup> Panionian Conference*, Athens, 2013 (in press).

## Conference Papers

‘*Colonial and Postcolonial Subjects. Can the Historian speak?*’, American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Toronto, April 4-7, 2013.

‘*Association and colonial governmentality in the Ionian Islands under British rule*’, European Urban History Association Conference, Prague, 29 Aug-1 Sept 2012.

‘*Liberalism in the Mediterranean; Ionian merchants, free trade ideas and British commercial expansion*’, Third European Congress in World and Global History, London, April 14-17, 2011.

‘*I will not tell French schoolchildren that the borders of Europe extend to Syria and Iraq. Blurring the history of Europe with the European Union*’, European Consortium for Political Research, Fifth Pan-European Conference on EU Politics, Porto, 23-26 June, 2010.

‘*The trade-minded entrepreneurs*’ (with Maria Christina Chatziioannou), International Workshop, Entrepreneurship and Culture, Haifa, June 5-6, 2008.

‘*Merchants into businessmen. Ionians before the ‘Ionian phase’ of Greek merchant networks*’, in *Moving Frontiers. Mediterranean Entangled Histories (15th-21st centuries)*, Volos, April 25-26, 2007.

‘*Criminalization and the development of a criminal justice system in the Ionian State, 1815 – 1864*’, SOLON Partnership Conference on Crime, Violence and the Modern State, Rethymno, March 9-11, 2007.

## Work in Progress

Book Project: *Failing Protection. A history of the Ionian State and the making of a Greek middle class in the British Mediterranean.*

‘Law and Order in the British Mediterranean. Building a semi-colonial state in the Ionian Islands (1810s-1840s)’; submitted to the *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*.

‘Liberalism in the Mediterranean; Greek merchants, free trade ideas and British commercial expansion’; article to be submitted to the *Journal of Global History*.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Senior editor, *Journal Scripta Mediterranea* (September 2013 onwards).

Modern Greek Studies Association, Executive Board Member (2011-Present) and Chair of Program Committee for 2015 Symposium

Greek Canadian History Project Co-ordinator (with Chris Grafos) at the Clara Thomas Archives, York University Library (2012-Present).

<http://archives.library.yorku.ca/exhibits/show/gchp>

York University EU Centre of Excellence affiliated Faculty (2012-present)

### **Conferences and sessions organized**

*'The Revolutionary 1820s: revolution, liberalism and empire in Southern Europe'* (with Adrian Shubert), York History Department, October 18, 2012.

*'From Revolution to Regress; The history of the Greek State and economy from the nineteenth century to the age of global crisis'*, International Conference, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, April 7, 2012.

*'Some Debts Are Bigger Than Others. Non-economic Approaches to a Very Political Crisis'*, panel organized at the Modern Greek Studies Association Symposium; paper presented *'Sisyphus and the Middle Class. The Greek Bourgeoisie during the Economic Crises of 1890s and 1930s'*, New York University, October 13-16, 2011.

Roundtable discussion: *'The European Union in crisis?'*. European Union Centre of Excellence, York University, Lecture series *'Whose (de)fault is it anyway?'* organized with Peer Zumbansen and the EU Centre of Excellence, York University, March 1, 2011.

Co-organiser, Session M30, Tenth European Association of Urban History Conference, *'Migrant Communities and Urban Space in the Mediterranean ports, 17th-19th centuries'*, Ghent, August 31-September 2, 2010.

Co-director, Workshop in Tenth Mediterranean Research Meeting, on *'A Colonial Sea: The Mediterranean, 1798-1956'*, Montecatini, March 25-27, 2009.

Co-organiser, Conference *'Bourgeois Seas: Revisiting the Middle Classes of Eastern Mediterranean Port Cities'*, European University Institute, Florence, September 19-20, 2008.

### **Reviewer**

*Economic History Review*

*European Review of History*

*Urban History*

*Mediterranean Historical Review*

*Journal of Modern Greek Studies*

*Journal of Mediterranean Studies*

## Invited Lectures

‘Vanished States. A regional approach to the history of the Greek State in the long nineteenth century (1798-1912)’, Yale University, Hellenic Studies Program, 27 January 2014.

‘*The Colonial Mediterranean and its place in European History*’, Conversations of Europe series, Centre for European Studies, University of Michigan, November 1, 2012.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hUW5ScMg4hA>

‘*The Colonial Mediterranean and its place in European History*’, Canadian Institute of Mediterranean Studies, St Michael’s College, University of Toronto, October 25, 2012.

‘*Debtocracy: a history of the Greek sovereign debt crises, 1820s-2010*’, lecture at the Hellenic Canadian Lawyers’ Association Annual General Meeting, May 26, 2011.

‘*Global History, Regional Integration and the Politics of Exclusion in the case of Turkey’s accession to the EU*’. Keynote Lecture at Graduate Student Conference: Europe in Troubled Waters’, York University EU Centre of Excellence, Glendon, March 11, 2011.

‘*Sisyphus in the market: Greek capitalism from the revolution loans to the 2010 sovereign debt crisis*’, Lecture at the Hellenic Canadian Academic Association of Ontario annual get-together dinner, January 30, 2011.

‘*Global History, Regional Integration and the Politics of Exclusion in the case of Turkey’s accession to the EU*’, Second lecture in the series “EUROPEAS: EUCE Seminars in European History, Culture and Society”, York University EU Centre of Excellence, November 17, 2010.

‘*A History of Corfu: the making of a Mediterranean city on a Greek island*’, lecture at the Canadian Institute for Mediterranean Studies, Toronto, April 2010.

‘*Failing Protection. Commissioners, Merchants and Intellectuals in the Ionian Islands under British rule*’, Centre for Hellenic Studies, King’s College, London, November 2008

## Media appearances

### Television and radio:

CBC Radio 1, Metro Morning, 12 October 2011, June 18, 2012

<http://www.cbc.ca/metromorning/episodes/2012/06/18/close-election/>

TVO – The Agenda, April 12, 2010

<http://theagenda.tv.org/episode/129358/monday-april-12-2010>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UbXFNSUjtOY>

CTV News, May 24, 2012 <http://www.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=685615>



CTV News, September 13, 2012 <http://www.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=760307>

OMNI TV–Greek language program

ERT 3 (Greece). February 14, 2012.

### **Memberships**

- Modern Greek Studies Association, Executive Board Member and Chair of Program Committee for 2015 Symposium
- Canadian Institute for Mediterranean Studies (Toronto Chapter), Executive Board
- Member (2012-Present); editor of the CIMS journal, *Scripta Mediterranea*
- Hellenic Canadian Academic Association of Ontario, Vice-President (2011-Present)
- Greek Economic History Society (2008-Present)
- European Network in Universal and Global History (2006-Present)
- Mediterranean Studies Association (2005-Present)
- World History Association (2005-Present)

### **Research Support: Grants**

York Seed Grant for International Collaboration: ‘The Colonial Mediterranean in European History, 1800-1960s’ (value \$3,000), January 2013.

SSHRC Small Grant, (value \$2,550). Project: ‘A Levantine community: Italians in Istanbul, 1860-1920’, May 2011.

York Ad-Hoc conference grant for European Network of Global History, April 2011, (value \$450), April 2011.

## **B. TEACHING**

### **Undergraduate Teaching**

2009-10	3355 / 6.0. A History of Modern Greece. From Regions to the Nation-State
Eastern	4375 / 6.0. Topics in Modern Greek History: ‘Economy and Society in the Mediterranean’.
2010-11	3355 / 6.0. A History of Modern Greece. From Regions to the Nation-State

- 4375 / 6.0. Topics in Modern Greek History: 'Economy and Society in the Eastern Mediterranean'.
- 2011-12      3355 / 6.0. A History of Modern Greece. From Regions to the Nation-State  
4375 /6.0 Topics in Modern Greek History: 'Greeks in the World: From Communities to Diaspora'.  
3385 / 3.0. 'Empires and Colonial Rule in the Modern Mediterranean'
- 2012-13      3355 / 6.0. A History of Modern Greece. From Regions to the Nation-State  
4375 /6.0 Topics in Modern Greek History: 'Greeks in the World: From Communities to Diaspora'.  
3385 / 3.0. 'Empires and Colonial Rule in the Modern Mediterranean'

### **Graduate Teaching**

- 2011-12      5300 / 3.0. 'A Colonial Sea: The Mediterranean, 1800-1960'

### **Graduate Supervision and Committee Membership**

Committee Membership for two students, one in History (Chris Grafos) and one in Sociology (Katherine Pendakis).

### **Courses taught at other institutions**

- 2008-09      Teaching Fellow in History of Globalization University of Manchester  
Courses: 1<sup>st</sup> year: 'History of Globalization', 'History in Practice', 'The Mediterranean; a History', 2<sup>nd</sup> year: 'European Economic History',  
Graduate Teaching: 'Topics in Economic and Social History'
- 2006-08      Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow, European University Institute, Florence  
Graduate Seminar Teaching: 'The History of Seas and World History' (with Professors Conrad, Curto and Molho)
- 2003-05      Teaching Fellow, Economic History Department, London School of Economics  
Courses: EH 245 'Foundations of the Industrial Economy' (2<sup>nd</sup> year) and  
EH 275. 'The Integration of Europe's Economy, 1815-1990'(2<sup>nd</sup> year)  
Supervision of MSc students
- 2001-02      Teaching Assistant, Department of History, University of Essex  
Courses: 1<sup>st</sup> year, 'The Making of the Modern World 1789-2000' and 'From Disunity to Unity: An Introduction to the History of Europe in the 20th century'.

## C. UNIVERSITY SERVICE

### 1. Department Service

History Department International Coordinator (2012-14)

History Department, Tenure and Promotion Committee (2012-13)

History Department Graduate Program Executive (2011-13)

History Department Curriculum Committee (2011-12)

Hiring Committee for Tenure-Track position in U.S. History (2011-12)

### 2. Faculty Service

Hellenic Heritage Foundation Scholarships Adjudication Committee (2012-present)

Representative of History Department to Faculty Council (2009-13)

Faculty of LA&PS Petitions Committee (2009-11)

### Lectures and Events organized as HHF Chair elect

Costas Douzinas, Birkbeck College, London: '*Between catastrophe and resistance: Greece and the future of Europe*', Munk School of Global Affairs, April 4, 2013.

Andrew Horton, University of Oklahoma, '*A Tribute to Theo Angelopoulos and his "Cinema of Contemplation"*', University of Toronto, March 8, 2013.

Vassilis Gounaris, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki: '*Clio meets Alexander the Great: Reassessing the Historiography of the Macedonian Question (19th-20th centuries)*', York University History Department, January 31, 2013.

Stan Draenos, book presentation, '*Andreas Papandreou: The making of a Greek democrat and political maverick*', Canadian Institute of Mediterranean Studies, St Michael's College, University of Toronto, December 10, 2012.

Constantina Zanou, New York University, '*Between Two Patriae: Trnasnational Patriotism in Ionian Islands and the Adriatic, 1800-1830*' York University, History Department, December 6, 2012.

Demetra Sfendoni-Mentzou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki: '*Aristotle, the Philosopher for all Sciences*', York University, Founders College, October 17, 2012.

Panos Hatziprokopiou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki: '*From the "fenceless vineyard" to the "sinking boat": Migration and social change in Greece at times of crisis*', with the York European Union Centre of Excellence, April 11, 2012.

Nikos Skoutaris, Maastricht University, '*On Sovereign Debt Crisis and Sovereignty: A Constitutional law perspective*', York University EU Centre of Excellence, March 8, 2012.

Nikos Skoutaris, Maastricht University, '*Federalism: The European Union's Uncommon Principle*', York University EU Centre of Excellence, March 6, 2012.

Michalis Psalidopoulos, Fletcher School of Diplomacy, Tufts University, '*Financial Crises in History: Any Relevance for Greece?*', York University EU Centre of Excellence, December 1, 2011.

Paris Papamichos-Chronakis, University of Crete, '*Living together in late Ottoman and post-Ottoman Salonica. Greeks, Jews and Muslims and the transformation of middle-class sociality, 1900-1922*'; in association with the Centre for Jewish Studies, April 27, 2011.

Michael Herzfeld, Harvard University: '*The Corruption of the Past: Greek Heritage Politics in Global Perspective*', York University, April 7, 2011.

Dimitrios Pantermalis, Director of Acropolis Museum, Athens, '*The Acropolis Museum in Athens: Architecture and Collections*', in association with the Hellenic Canadian Academic Association of Ontario, Royal Ontario Museum, March 25, 2010.