

École Française d'Athènes || Institut Français d'Études Anatoliennes || Orient Institut

When Villains write their history
Political Banditry in the Balkans and Asia Minor through Ego-
documents

4th Meeting: On the Turkish War of Independence

27-28 October 2025

First Day | 27 October, 9:30-16:30

Welcome and Introduction 9:30-10:30

1st panel 10:30-13:30

The social fabric of banditry

İsmail Keskin, University of Crete:

Mapping the Society, Çetes, and Çetecis in Northwest Anatolia through Çerkes Ethem's Ego Documents

Tasos Kostopoulos, Institute for Mediterranean Studies-FORTH:

Between traditional rebellion and collective self-defense: the diary of Kostas Kourtidis on the activities of the Greek-Orthodox guerillas in Santa, 1918-1924

Seda Altuğ, Koç University:

Yousef al-Sa'doun and Political Banditry at the Turkish–Syrian Interface (1919–1921)

Light lunch 13:30-14:30

2nd panel 14:30-16:30

Fighting on post-imperial fronts

Yaşar Tolga Cora, Boğaziçi University:

Kalusd Surmenyan: Memoirs of a former Ottoman Officer in the Armenian Army

Charalampos Minasidis, Yale University:

The diary of Emmanouil Georgakakis: Fighting in Northern Epirus

Second Day | 28 October, 10:00-16:30

1st panel 10:00-12:00

Political Banditry and Nation Building

Ümit Kurt, University of Newcastle:

Long Time Bearer of Ittihadist's Spirit: A Self-Made Komitaji Celal Bayar aka Galip Hoca

Bülent Bilmez, Istanbul Bilgi University:

Deconstructing Nutuk as an Ego-Document by a 'Rebel', 'Insurgent', or 'Villain of the Time'

Light Lunch 12:00-13:00

2nd panel 13:00-15:00

On Bandit Leaders

Alexandre Toumarkine, INALCO:

Anzavur and the taking of Biga (February 1920) according to the testimony of a young teacher

Nikos Sigalas, Institute for Mediterranean Studies-FORTH:

"Therefore, a guerrilla front supporting the Entente forces was formed behind the Ottoman lines" – The Pontic Memoirs of Metropolitan Germanos Karavangelis

Roundtable: Defining the Common Features of Political Banditry in the Turkish War of Independence 15:00-16:30

Organisation

Nikos Sigalas, (Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH): nikos.sigalas@gmail.com

Alexandre Toumarkine, (INALCO/ Paris): alextoumark@yahoo.com

With the support of INALCO

Venue : Orient-Institut Istanbul

Şahkulu Mah. Galip Dede Caddesi No. 65, Beyoğlu, Istanbul