



HELLENIC LINK-MIDWEST
A SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL LINK WITH GREECE
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ
P.O. Box 3, Park Ridge, IL 60068-0003
Phone 630-790-2939
www.helleniclinkmidwest.org
[Hellenic Link Midwest on FaceBook](#)

The Real OXI Day: Freeing the Greco-Italian War of 1940-1941 from Myth and Misunderstanding

On Sunday, November 13, 2022, at 3:00 pm US Central Standard Time, Hellenic Link-Midwest presents Professor Alexandros K. Kyrou in an online lecture titled *The Real OXI Day: Freeing the Greco-Italian War of 1940-1941 from Myth and Misunderstanding*.

Please click the link below to join the webinar: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82176834379>
The Webinar ID is 821 7683 4379. Further information on how to join this webinar lecture is provided on page 2.

Savvas Koktzooglou
President
Constantine Tzanos
Vice President
Angelo Dalageorgas
Treasurer
Thomas Mantzakides
Recording Secretary
Stefanos Sakellarides
Corresponding Secretary

Greece was forced to enter World War II on October 28, 1940, when an Italian army launched an invasion of the country from positions in Albania. The Greco-Italian War of 1940-1941 would have significant strategic, moral, and ideological implications for the course of the wider, gargantuan conflict throughout Europe and the Mediterranean. Although the rout of Italy's army by the Greeks in late 1940 marked the first Allied victory in Europe and at the time became a world sensation that crystallized global perceptions of the war, its importance has been largely omitted from mainstream Western historical writing and memory of the war.

The English-language histories of World War II, dominated largely by British authors and uncritically reproduced by American scholars, have led to a distorted view of the war, one which elevates Britain's role in the conflict and largely ignores the contributions and importance of smaller Allied powers. Because of this tendency, most histories treat Greece as merely a peripheral theater of operations for a minor British expedition culminating in an interesting but tangential German airborne assault against Crete. In this common account, the Greco-Italian War is often entirely omitted from the historical record. Conversely, in reaction to such treatment, a fantastical, hyperbolic counter-narrative has emerged among some circles who claim that Greece's successful resistance against the Italians—which provoked the subsequent German invasion of the country in 1941—was the decisive determinant factor in the outcome of the Axis war against the Soviet Union, and hence the ultimate Allied victory.

This lecture will present a corrective to these competing approaches, will discuss and make clear the actual significance and major consequences of the Greco-Italian War of 1940-1941 for the wider World War.

Dr. Alexandros Kyrou is Professor of History and Director of the Program in East European and Russian Studies at Salem State University, in Salem, Massachusetts, where he teaches on the Balkans, Byzantium, and the Ottoman Empire. Professor Kyrou's many book chapters, journal articles, and review essays focus on famine relief in Axis-occupied Greece, Greek America and Balkan Diasporas, Orthodox Christianity and the origins of international humanitarianism, war and peace in Byzantium, and US foreign policy in Southeastern Europe.

Dr. Kyrou has written more than eighty essays, commentaries, and book reviews on Greek history, Byzantine civilization, and Ottoman history and Turkish politics, as well as the Armenian and Greek Genocides for cultural, civic, and popular publications. He has guest lectured at Harvard, Princeton, Yale, and Oxford Universities, and has been interviewed and quoted in several major media publications, including *The New York Times* and *Vanity Fair*. He holds a Ph.D. in East European History from Indiana University.

Committees
Membership Committee
Program Committee
Dinner Dance Committee
Scholarship Committee
Audit Committee
Election Committee
Newsletter Committee

DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR JOINING HLM'S ONLINE LECTURE ON NOVEMBER 13, 2022 AT 3:00 PM CST, ON EITHER ZOOM OR FACEBOOK.

1) If you already have the Zoom application ("Zoom Client") installed on your machine, then you go through the following steps:

A. Click on the webinar link <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82176834379>

A small "Launch Application" screen will appear. The screen will show the following: "Choose Other Application" and "Open Link" and "Cancel"

B. Click "Open Link"

A new screen will appear asking for your **email and name**.

If the system asks you to also provide the **Webinar ID**, enter the following: **821 7683 4379**.

C. Once you enter the required information, click "Join Webinar"

Once you have joined the webinar, familiarize yourself with the set of buttons above or below the screen. One in particular, the "Q&A" button allows you to type questions for the speaker during or after the presentation.

2) If you don't have the Zoom application installed, clicking the above link will take you through an installation process first but since that is rather complicated, we recommend that you install Zoom first on your PC, laptop or tablet.

To **install Zoom** go to the following link:

<https://zoom.us/support/download>

Opening that link points to a download file (see down arrow pointing to the .exe file at the bottom of your screen) that you will have to accept (click on the "Keep" button) and then open (click on the file name) in order to download the Zoom client IF YOU ARE WORKING ON A PC OR LAPTOP.

IF YOU ARE WORKING ON A TABLET, the same page provides a link to **Apple Store** (button named "Download in App Store") for installation on iPad or to **Google Play** (for tablets other than iPad: in that case click on the "Download in Google Play" button)

Once you succeed installing Zoom (we recommend doing that before the event) then you can proceed with steps A, B, and C in the previous paragraph (1), right before the webinar, in order to attend.

3) If Zoom installation fails, either because you are running an old machine with an operating system that does not support Zoom (e.g. Windows Vista or any Windows OS earlier than Windows 7) or an earlier version of your browser, then you can instead attend the lecture that will also be **broadcast live on Facebook**. For that, please go to the Hellenic Link-Midwest Facebook page at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/helleniclinkmidwest>

at the scheduled time of the event and scroll down as needed until you see the live broadcast underway (it may be at the very top). In order to ask questions on Facebook enter them as a comment in the Comments section underneath or next to the live screen.