2015 Olympia Summer Academy

Short Report

July 13-23, 2015

The Olympia Summer Academy and the European International Studies Association are pleased to present their 2015 summer program, offering a wide range of courses in Politics and International Studies. Join us and benefit from:

A program with a tremendous social dynamic, where longstanding intellectual bonds are formed

A faculty at the cutting edge of academic research

A picturesque seaport venue where the ancient meets the modern

Antonio Barros, Teneo Intelligence • Richard English, University of St Andrews • Effie Fokas, Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy • Andreas Gafas, Panteion University • John M. Hobson, University of Sheffield • Stathis Kalyvas, Yale University • Dimitris Keridis, Panteion University • Charles King, Georgetown University • Paschalis Kitermillides, University of Athens • Janet I. Lewis, US Naval Academy • Daniel H. Nexon, Georgetown University • Harry Papasotiriou, Panteion University • Wolfgang Piccoli, Teneo Intelligence • Rashmi Singh, University of St Andrews • Plamen Tonchev, Institute for International Relations

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Overview
For the 14th consecutive year, the Olympia Summer Academy (OSA) was a resounding success.

The Academy, which as of 2014 is co-organized with the European International Studies Association (EISA), was held in Nafplion, Greece, from July 13 to 23. This year was a particularly difficult one for Greece. Indeed, the OSA took place during the imposition of capital controls and the shutdown of the banking system. However, due to the stellar reputation that OSA has acquired internationally since its establishment in 2002 and the measures undertaken by the Organizing Committee to ensure a problem-free event, the Academy managed to attract 15 professors, from both sides of the Atlantic, and 78 qualified participants and professionals from more than 25 countries from around the world.

The Olympia 2015 faculty comprised of academics from Yale University (Prof. Stathis Kalyvas), St. Andrews University (Prof. Richard English and Dr Rashmi Singh), London School of Economics (Prof. John Breuilly and Dr Effie Fokas), Georgetown University (Professors Charles King and Daniel H. Nexon), University of Sheffield (Prof. John M. Hobson), US Naval Academy (Prof. Janet I. Lewis), University of Athens (Prof. Paschalis Kitromilidis) and Panteion University of Athens (Professors Dimitris Keridis, Harry Papasotiriou and Andreas Gofas), as well as 2 highly recognised experts in political risk analysis (Dr Wolfgango Piccoli, Mr Antonio Barroso).
The Academy was an 8 working days high-level teaching activity where six carefully defined conflict and international studies related areas were treated in depth. The teaching cycles/programs that comprise the OSA were:

- Conflict & Political Violence (8 working days)
- The History, Philosophy, and Sociology of IR (4 working days)
- Religion & International Politics (4 working days)
- Terrorism & Counterterrorism (4 working days)
- Political Risk Analysis (4 working days)
- Nationalism and Ethnic Politics (4 working days)

The majority of the participants were Ph.D. candidates and graduate students (83.4%), and 16.6% were advanced under-graduate students:
Geographical diversity of the participants:

Indicative list of the Participants' home universities

✓ Yale University
✓ Tufts University
✓ University of Cambridge
✓ University of St Andrews
✓ King's College London
✓ ETH Zurich
✓ Sorbonne University
✓ University of Mannheim
✓ SAIS
✓ Duke University
✓ University of Copenhagen
✓ Sciences Po Paris
✓ Centre for European Integration Studies (ZEI)
a) Satisfaction Rates:

*How satisfied are you with the Olympia Summer Academy in general?*

![Satisfaction Rates Pie Chart]

*How would you assess the assistance provided to you before you came to Olympia and during your stay here?*

![Assistance Assessment Pie Chart]

*OSA’s website traffic (since January 1st, 2015) according to Google Analytics*

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<tr>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Users</th>
<th>Pageviews</th>
<th>Pages / Session</th>
<th>Avg. Session Duration</th>
<th>Bounce Rate</th>
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<td>36,256</td>
<td>2.51</td>
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</table>

% New Sessions: 72.19%
b) Plenary Sessions:

Mycenae

Epidaurus

Winery

Greece & Europe: Where next?

c) Day Trip:

Mycenae

Æ Epidaurus

Æ Winery
d) Testimonials:

“I would start by saying that, as everyone, I naturally had expectations and a vague idea of what it would be like to spend ten days at the Olympia Summer Academy, thanks to a friend’s testimony from last year’s OSA. However, I was surprised in a positive way. Any modest expectations I had before arriving to one of the most beautiful cities I’ve ever been to, were greatly exceeded in all respects. This amazing human team that represents the soul and core of the organization, managed to find the perfect balance that every student dreams of: lectures with high academic level and fun social extracurricular activities. Somehow and for some reason, the organizers were able to gather an incredible and diverse group of students from different parts of the world, backgrounds, ages, but with the same interests and positive energy. As a result, I avail myself to affirm that this has been one of the most enriching experiences, not only academically speaking but also personally.”

**Fabian Ybarra**, M.A. cand., King’s College London

“OSA was a truly worthwhile experience. What a fantastic networking and knowledge sharing opportunity in a beautiful setting! The lecturers are very passionate about their fields of expertise and the OSA team did a great job at taking care of us (and were loads of fun too). I would definitely recommend attending the OSA to International Relations enthusiasts.”

**Viki Ferreira**, Practising Attorney, Notary & Conveyancer, South Africa

"Wonderfully organised and with perfectly tailored academic cycles, the 2015 Olympia Summer Academy provided great insights that challenged established conceptions. It also served as a wonderful platform for exchange of ideas between participants and faculty in a friendly atmosphere and at the picturesque setting of Nafplio!"

**Olesia Kompaniiets**, Ph.D. cand., Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

“The OSA 2015 has been an amazing academic, intellectual and cultural experience. The academic standards are of the highest level, the quality of the lectures is simply superb, and the faculty is outstanding. The exchange of ideas and the academic debate were original, unique and invaluable, whereas the extracurricular activities were exceptional and included a visit to the ancient theatre of Epidaurus in order to watch Ajax by Sophocles, which was a breathtaking experience. The truly multicultural character, the diverse backgrounds of the participants, and the friendships that are established, are just some of the numerous "weapons" of OSA. The picturesque and historical town of Nafplio, the first capital of modern Greece, constitutes an ideal venue, while the overall organization was just perfect. The OSA is definitely a huge "winner", and overall has been a stunning experience I will never forget!!”

**Efstathios Tsirmpas**, M.Sc. cand., Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh
“Take a group of well qualified students from across the world. Combine with political scientists and historians who are leaders in their various fields. Add intensive classes, cultural visits and enjoyable leisure. Set it all within the beautiful and historic Nafplio, first capital of modern Greece. Result: a remarkable educational experience known as the Olympia Summer Academy”.

John Breuilly, Professor of Nationalism and Ethnicity, London School of Economics.

“The OSA is a unique educational and academic experience. Excellent students, from a wide range of countries, engaging with faculty whose expertise and backgrounds are richly varied. The beautiful setting, the stimulating programmes, and the intellectual and social exchanges are all memorable and truly valuable”.

Richard English, Director of the Handa Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence (CSTPV) and Bishop Wardlaw Professor of Politics in the School of International Relations, University of St Andrews.

The 2015 Academy has been generously sponsored by

A.G. Leventis Foundation  Paul & Alexandra Canellopoulos Foundation  Konrad Adenauer Stiftung  Alpha Bank