

2016 Olympia Summer Academy Report

11-21st
JULY 2016
Nafplio, Greece

When:

July 11-21, 2016

Where:

Nafplio, the first capital of modern Greece

Who should apply:

University students and Ph.D. candidates, researchers and practitioners.

Courses provided:

- Conflict and Political Violence
- The History, Philosophy, and Sociology of International Relations
- Religion and International Politics
- Terrorism and Counterterrorism
- Political Risk Analysis
- Nationalism and Ethnic Politics
- Europe's Shifting Political Order



OLYMPIA SUMMER ACADEMY in Politics and International Studies



"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.

Join us and benefit from:

- a faculty at the cutting edge of academic research;
- a student-centered approach, where faculty and students are actively engaged in the learning experience both inside and outside the classroom;
- a worldwide scholarly network that each year brings together a highly diverse and talented group of about 100 graduate students and professors from more than 30 countries;
- a program with a tremendous social dynamic, where the intellectual bonds and relationships formed during its course continue long after its conclusion;
- a picturesque venue where the ancient meets the modern.

Application deadline: April 30, 2016

For more information, visit:

www.olympiasummeracademy.org



NNNN Naxos Network
An initiative of the Northern Greece
Entrepreneurs Cultural Society

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Background Information

The Olympia Summer Academy (OSA) was established in 2002 with the dual purpose of creating a forum for high quality academic work and a platform for the creation and consolidation of scholarly networks of cooperation. This purpose has been served well. Since its establishment the Academy continues to grow both in size and reputation. Indeed, the OSA, which started with one programme/cycle only, it now offers seven. It has also acquired a stellar reputation not only for its high academic standards but also for its distinct identity that blends effectively the scholarly exchange with the friendly atmosphere, thus providing participants with the opportunity of a multicultural and holistic academic experience.

The Academy, which as of 2014 is co-organized with the European International Studies Association (EISA), was held in Nafplion, Greece, from July 11 to 21, attracting 15 professors and 81 qualified participants and professionals from 19 countries from around the world.

Academic Structure

The Academy was an eight working days high-level teaching activity where seven 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)
- Europe's Shifting Political Order (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)

Faculty

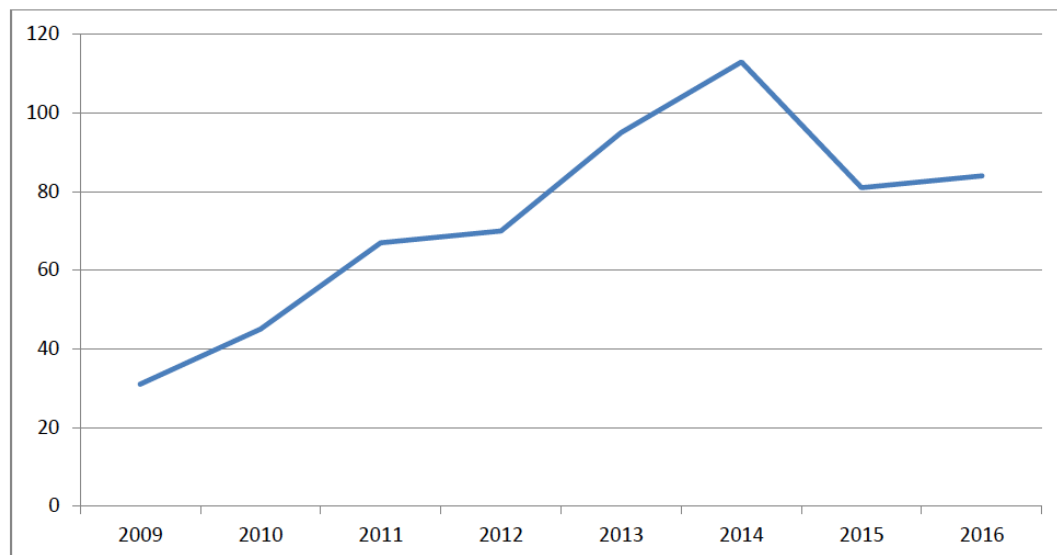
The Academy prides itself for its ability to attract, each year and from both sides of the Atlantic, a faculty at the cutting edge of academic research. The **2016 OSA faculty** comprised of the following academics and experts:

1. Antonio Barroso, Teneo Intelligence
2. Dimitar Bechev, Harvard University
3. Richard English, University of St Andrews
4. Andreas Gofas, Panteion University
5. Francesca Grandi, Yale University
6. Inanna Hamati, Aberystwyth University
7. Stathis Kalyvas, Yale University
8. Dimitris Keridis, Panteion University
9. Paschalis M. Kitromilides, University of Athens
10. Nicholas Onuf, Florida International University
11. Harry Papasotiriou, Panteion University
12. Wolfgang Piccoli, Teneo Intelligence
13. Elizabeth Prodromou, Tufts University
14. Andrew Wilson, University College London
15. Jason Wittenberg, University of California, Berkeley

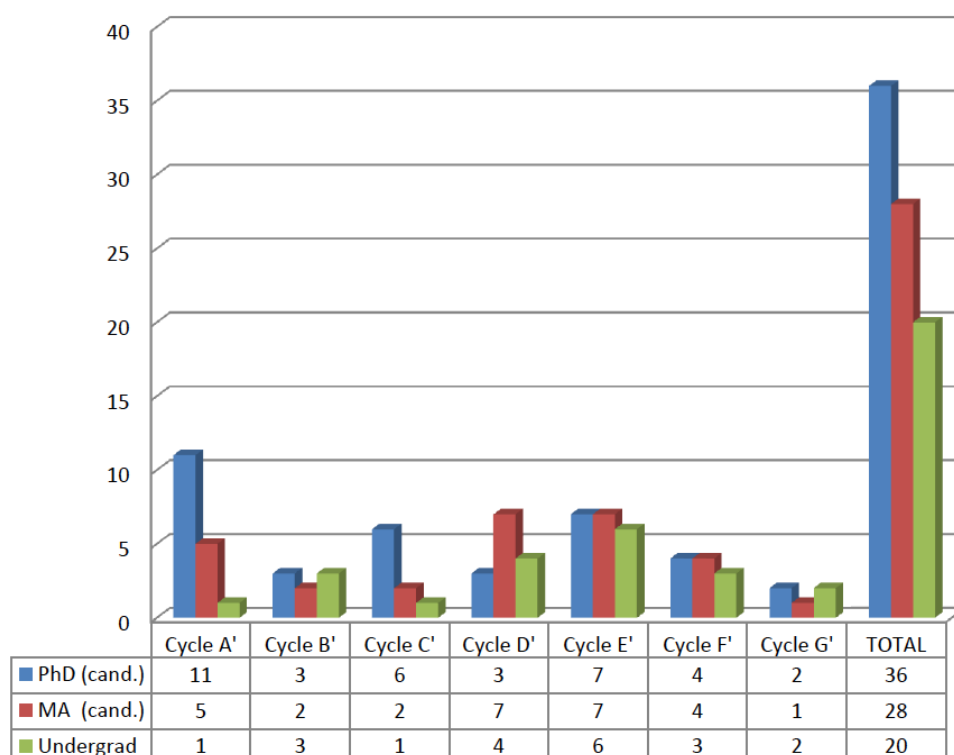
Participants

The course participants, selected through a competitive process, are an important component in the overall success of the Academy. With their rich and varied backgrounds, together with the highly interactive nature of the classes, the participants form strong intellectual and personal bonds, which continue long after the courses.

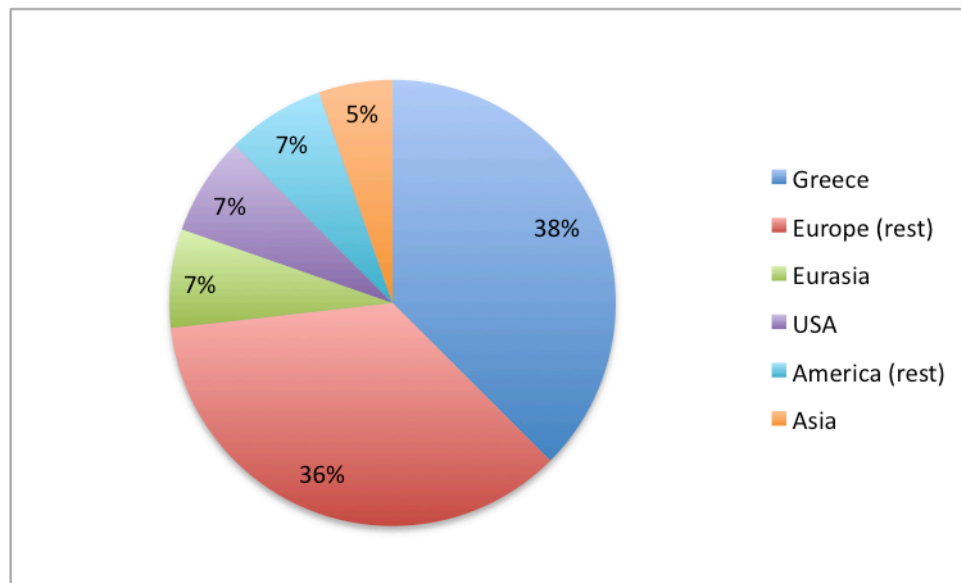
Evolution of participants' number during the last 8 years:



Level of Education



Geographical diversity of the participants

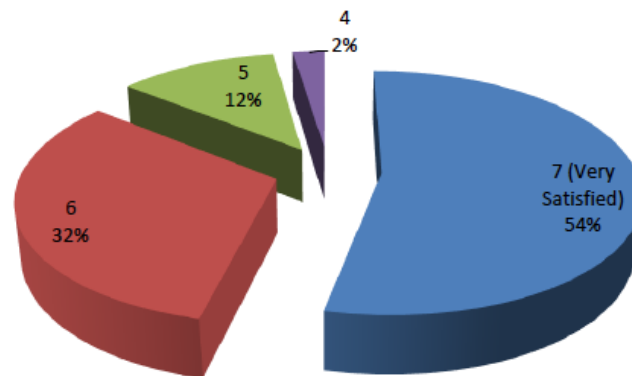


Indicative list of the participants' home universities

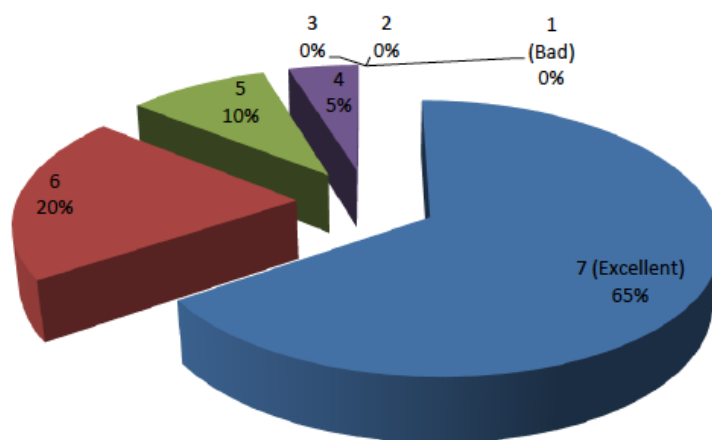
- ✓ George Washington University
- ✓ Tufts University
- ✓ University of Oxford
- ✓ Leiden University
- ✓ University of St Andrews
- ✓ Ghent University
- ✓ Syracuse University
- ✓ University of Bologna
- ✓ Moscow State University
- ✓ University of Pennsylvania
- ✓ University of Virginia
- ✓ University of Tampere
- ✓ Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- ✓ The University of Oslo

Satisfaction rates

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

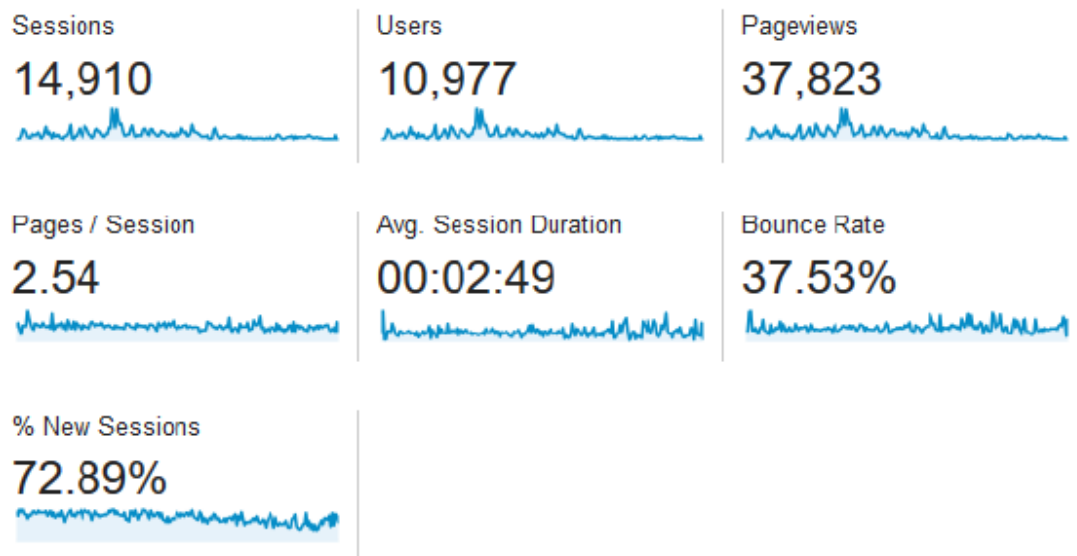


How would you assess the assistance provided to you before you came to Olympia and during your stay here?



* The participants were asked to rate on a scale from 1 (=bad / dissatisfied) to 7 (=excellent / very satisfied).

OSA's website traffic (since January 1st, 2016) according to Google Analytics



Day trip:

Mycenae ⇒





← Epidaurus



Semeli Winery ⇒

Testimonials:

The Olympia Summer Academy has been a wonderful learning and living experience for which I am utterly grateful. For two weeks, we had the opportunity to engage in vivid debates, network with well-established academics and practitioners, and meet talented peers from all over the world, while fully experiencing the Greek culture and lifestyle. I truly enjoyed every moment of it: all our classes and informal discussions, our lunches and dinners together, the breathtaking beauty of the natural landscapes in Nafplio, our exciting trips, our lazy afternoons at the beach, and many more! At the end of this eye-opening journey, I feel wiser, more knowledgeable about the world, others and myself, surrounded by a global circle of friends, full of joy and memories for a lifetime, and definitely eager to come back to the next OSA edition and to Greece! This wonderful experience would not have been possible without a dedicated organizing team and a well-thought schedule! So, thank you once again for your constant support!

Ruxandra Bosilca, PhD candidate, The University of Oslo

One could not imagine to find a place in the world where goofy dancing and intellectual rigor go as well together as in Nafplio's OSA. The OSA brings together students of all levels and backgrounds to discuss the aspects of social science they are most passionate about. The result is simply astonishing: a feast for the brain and memories to cherish. Once again, thank you!

Tim Stork, PhD candidate, Leiden University

Religion & International Politics were undoubtedly given a novel approach while Political Risk Analysis was outstanding beyond measure! Professors and lecturers were unquestionable top notch. OSA staff very friendly and attentive. As for fellow attendees, the most benevolent and cultivated people one could have the privilege to meet and converse with. Thank you so very much for the fine opportunity!

Christine Yannou, Associate to Ambassador, Taipei Representative Office in Greece

The Olympia Summer Academy is definitely one of a kind. The combination of top-notch academic staff, thought-provoking curricula and the beautiful town of Nafplio was more than enough to make this a highly inspiring and fun experience. Resting between ancient ruins and modernity, Nafplio was the ideal place for contemplating our ever-changing world.

Elli Palaiologou, MPhil candidate, University of Oxford



Olympia Academy provides a unique opportunity for graduate students and faculty to engage in debate on international politics across various sub-disciplines in the field. Attended by PhD/Master's candidates from top-ranked institutions in the U.S. and Europe, the course I convened on Europe's Shifting Order helped us jointly explore the multiple crises bedevilling the EU of today, from Brexit and the eurozone's troubles to the rise of revisionist Russia and the turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa. It was a week of intense and mutually enriching discussion, helping us learn from each other. I can truly say that my time in Nafplio was an inspiration for my work as researcher and educator.

Dimitar Bechev, Visiting Scholar, Center for European Studies, Harvard; Director, European Policy Institute, Sofia.

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 OSA is an extraordinary experience on all levels. It is incredibly intense and stimulating, and offers a unique environment where a researcher's pedagogical and intellectual qualities are both enhanced and challenged in all the right ways. The History, Philosophy & Sociology of IR seminars provide a refreshing alternative to the routinised format of everyday university teaching. The seminars are co-taught and bring teachers and students into a unique and unexpected conversation. This mix of good-old solid preparation and of creative, collective improvisation is at the heart of the OSA experience, and provides a great antidote to authoritative monologues in the classroom. The students are brilliant, genuinely interested, and remarkably engaged, and the diversity of their cultural and academic backgrounds sets valuable parameters for a discussion of the discipline's past, present, and future. All in all, the OSA is a truly rewarding endeavour, organised by a group of friendly and efficient administrators, in a most welcoming and gorgeous Mediterranean setting. The extra-curricular conversations and activities are an integral part of this experience that make it truly unique and memorable.

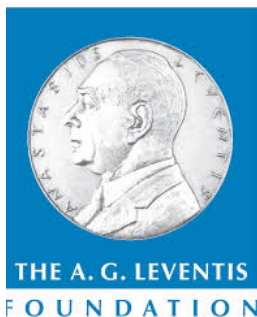
Inanna Hamati-Ataya, Reader in International Politics, Aberystwyth University.

Olympia Summer Academy doesn't just bring together students and professors from diverse backgrounds for intensive scholarly seminars and discussions. It creates an idyllic setting that facilitates interaction and learning outside as well as inside the classroom. The result was a truly memorable educational experience, for both professors and students.



Jason Wittenberg, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley.

The 2016 Academy has been generously sponsored by



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