

STAMATIS ZOCHIOS

Principal Researcher | Folkloristics, History of Religions & Slavic Studies

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RESEARCH PROFILE

Principal Researcher at the Hellenic Folklore Research Centre of the Academy of Athens. His work examines lived and vernacular religion in Orthodox worlds, visionary journeys to the afterlife, exorcism and possession, demonological traditions, and the scholarly and contemporary construction of Slavic mythologies. His research brings together folkloristics, anthropology of religion, cultural history, Slavic studies, and the analysis of texts and images. His forthcoming monograph, *Le voyage de l'âme. Récits visionnaires, topographie de l'au-delà et traditions orthodoxes dans les mondes russe et grec modernes*, will be published by Brepols in the *Bibliothèque de l'École des hautes études, Sciences religieuses* series.

01 Current appointments

- 2022–present** Principal Researcher (permanent appointment), Hellenic Folklore Research Centre, Academy of Athens.
- 2026–present** Adjunct Professor, Greek Civilisation programme, Hellenic Open University.
- 2024–present** Editor-in-Chief, *Études balkaniques – Cahiers Pierre Belon*.

02 Research profile and projects

AREAS OF RESEARCH

1. Modern construction of Slavic mythologies, fakelore and pseudomythology
2. Lived, popular and vernacular religion in Orthodox worlds
3. Exorcism, possession and apotropaic practices
4. Visionary narratives, near-death experiences and topographies of the afterlife
5. Greek, Russian and Slavic folklore; supernatural beliefs and narratives
6. History of magic
7. Cultural history of Russia and Greek–Slavic relations

CURRENT AND PLANNED PROJECTS

2024–present Habilitation à diriger des recherches (HDR), 'Exorcism and Possession in the Modern and Contemporary Orthodox Church', EPHE–PSL; supervised by Vassa Kontouma. Dossier submitted; defence scheduled for 7 December 2026.

2026 'Inventing the Pagan Past: Czech Folklore Scholarship and the Formation of Modern Slavic Pseudo-Mythology', supported by the Josef Dobrovský Fellowship of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

2026–present MYTHMAKERS – Inventing the Slavic Gods: The Construction of Pagan Pasts from Medieval Chronicles to Contemporary Religious Revivals (1000–2030). ERC Synergy Grant 2027 proposal in preparation; Principal Investigator with Jiří Dynda. Selected in 2026 for the Czech Academy of Sciences' ERC Incubator (ERC-in) Programme (scientific mentoring and proposal-development support).

03 Education and qualifications

2024–present Habilitation à diriger des recherches (dossier submitted), EPHE–PSL, Religious Sciences Section; defence scheduled for 7 December 2026.

2008–2012 PhD, Université Grenoble III, Faculty of Literature and Arts, 'Recherches sur l'Imaginaire'. Dissertation: 'Le cauchemar mythique : étude morphologique de l'oppression nocturne dans les textes médiévaux et les croyances populaires', supervised by Philippe Walter. Committee: Claude Lecouteux (chair), Marie-Agnès Cathiard and Galina Kabakova.

2007–2008 Master 2, Université Grenoble III, Faculty of Literature and Arts, 'Recherches sur l'Imaginaire'.

2002–2006 Bachelor's degree and Master 1, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Faculty of Philology; Byzantine and Modern Greek literature and Modern Greek folklore.

FRENCH NATIONAL COUNCIL OF UNIVERSITIES (CNU) QUALIFICATIONS

- Qualified for appointment as maître de conférences, Section 13 – Slavic and Baltic Studies (qualification no. 23213259217).
- Qualified for appointment as maître de conférences, Section 15 – Languages, Literatures and Cultures of Africa, Asia and Other Linguistic Areas (qualification no. 20215259217).

04 Academic appointments

RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

2022–present Principal Researcher, Hellenic Folklore Research Centre, Academy of Athens.

2018–2022 Postdoctoral Researcher, EPHE, Religious Sciences Section. Project: 'The Journey of the Soul in Modern Russia and Greece: Near-Death Experiences in the Light of Religion'.

2015–2016 Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Strasbourg. Edition, translation from Latin and commentary on Leon Allatios's *De Graecorum hodie quorundam opinionibus*.

2013–2014 Postdoctoral Researcher, EHESS, Centre for Byzantine, Modern Greek and South-East European Studies. Project: 'Demonology in Byzantium and South-Eastern Europe'.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

2023–2026 Lecturer, EPHE–PSL, Religious Sciences Section.

2026–present Adjunct Professor, Greek Civilisation programme, Hellenic Open University.

2020–2024 Adjunct Professor, Greek Civilisation programme, Hellenic Open University.

2020–2022 Adjunct Professor, Department of Russian Language and Literature and Slavic Studies, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

2017–2019 Adjunct Professor, Hellenic Open University, Greek Civilisation and European Civilisation programmes.

2015–2016 Lecturer, Department of Modern Greek Studies, University of Strasbourg.

2014–2015 Temporary Teaching and Research Assistant (ATER), Department of Modern Greek Studies, University of Strasbourg.

05 Teaching

COURSES TAUGHT

EPHE–PSL, Religious Sciences Section (2023–2026)

- 2025–2026 – ‘Exorcism in Orthodoxy: Rites, Texts and Perceptions’.
- 2024–2025 – ‘The Orthodox Afterlife as a Rhetorical Tool in Visionary Narratives’.
- 2023–2024 – ‘Introduction to Popular Orthodoxy: The Example of Visionary Narratives’.

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (2020–2022)

- Ethnography of Russia (second-year undergraduate).
- Russian Scholarly and Popular Culture (third-year undergraduate).
- The Imaginary of the Soviet Union and Contemporary Russia (Master 1).

University of Strasbourg (2014–2016)

- Popular civilisation, cultural history, literature, literary theory, Greek language and translation, at undergraduate and Master’s levels.

Hellenic Open University (2017–2024; 2026–present)

- Popular culture and modern Greek folklore.
- Byzantium and the Western World.

06 Fellowships, research stays and fieldwork

FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH STAYS

2026 Josef Dobrovský Fellowship, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague (15 August–5 September; completed). Project: ‘Inventing the Pagan Past: Czech Folklore Scholarship and the Formation of Modern Slavic Pseudo-Mythology’.

2023 Research stay in Warsaw under the Erasmus+ programme (mobility for higher-education teaching and administrative staff).

2015 Two-month postdoctoral research stay in Saint Petersburg, funded by the Centre d’études franco-russe de Moscou. Project: ‘Interactions in Greek and Slavic Popular Beliefs’.

2009–2012 Doctoral scholarship, Greek State Scholarships Foundation (IKY), ‘Comparative Literature and Civilisation’.

FIELDWORK

2025 Karpenisi, Greece (1–8 December): fieldwork on exorcism.

2024 Mount Athos (4–10 December): fieldwork on monastic vocation narratives.

2023 Mount Athos, Simonopetra Monastery (26–31 December): fieldwork on monastic vocation narratives.

2023–present Monastery of Saints Cyprian and Justina: regular visits for research on exorcistic practices.

07 Affiliations and academic service

AFFILIATIONS

2026–present Member, Folklore Commission of the International Committee of Slavists.

- 2025–present** Associate Member, EUR'ORBEM, UMR 8224.
- 2024–present** Associate Member, Groupe Sociétés, Religions, Laïcités (GSRL), UMR 8582.
- 2007–2014** Associate Member, Centre de recherche sur l'imaginaire, Grenoble (CRI, EA 610).

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2024–present** Editor-in-Chief, *Études balkaniques – Cahiers Pierre Belon*.
- 2018–2023** Member of the scientific and editorial boards, *Études balkaniques – Cahiers Pierre Belon*.
- 2023–present** Co-director, 'Laographie: Interpretative and Methodological Approaches' series, Institut du livre – A. Kardamitsas.

PEER REVIEW

- Peer review of articles and manuscripts for *Slavia*, *Arxiu de Folklore* and *Revue des études slaves*.

08 Publications

MONOGRAPHS AND SCHOLARLY EDITIONS

- 2024.** With Georgios Tserpes, *Οι παροιμίες του Ρωσικού λαού του Β. Ι. Νταλ (1862) σε μετάφραση Αδ. Αδαμαντίου και επιλογή Ν. Γ. Πολίτη. Από τα χειρόγραφα του Κέντρου Ερεύνης της Ελληνικής Λαογραφίας της Ακαδημίας Αθηνών* [The Proverbs of the Russian People by V. I. Dahl (1862), translated by Ad. Adamantou and selected by N. G. Politis: From the Manuscripts of the Hellenic Folklore Research Centre of the Academy of Athens], Athens: Academy of Athens.
- 2023.** *Cain sur la Lune : contes et légendes étiologiques de la Grèce moderne* [Cain on the Moon: Aetiological Tales and Legends from Modern Greece], Lisieux: Lingua.

FORTHCOMING BOOKS

- Le voyage de l'âme en Russie et en Grèce modernes : récits visionnaires, topographies de l'au-delà et traditions orthodoxes* [The Journey of the Soul in Modern Russia and Greece: Visionary Narratives, Topographies of the Afterlife and Orthodox Traditions], Bibliothèque de l'École des Hautes Études, Brepols (manuscript accepted for publication).
- Leon Allatios, *De Graecorum hodie quorundam opinionibus*, Greek translation, introduction and commentary, Athens: Academy of Athens.
- Périple de Mélétiou Konstamonitis en Russie de 1862 à 1869* [The Journey of Meletios Konstamonitis through Russia, 1862–1869], Translation, Introduction, and Commentary, EurORBem éditions – Sorbonne Université, Paris.
- With Stavros Grimanis, *Magical and Exorcistic Texts from Greek Manuscript Collections: MIET, the Hellenic Folklore Research Centre, and the Gennadius Library*, critical edition, introduction and commentary, Athens: Academy of Athens, forthcoming

EDITED VOLUMES AND THEMATIC ISSUES

- 2025.** With Nikolaos Papastratigakis and Panos Sophoulis (eds), *Revolution, War, Immigration: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Aspects of Greek–Russian Relations during 1917–1924*, Athens: National and Kapodistrian University of Athens / Herodotos, 2025.
- 2024.** With Nikolaos Papastratigakis and Panos Sophoulis (eds), *Slavs and the Greek Revolution*, Athens: National and Kapodistrian University of Athens / Herodotos, 2024.
- 2024.** Editor, *Anabases, catabases et autres représentations de l'au-delà en Europe de l'Est et du Sud-Est, Études balkaniques – Cahiers Pierre Belon*, 26 (2022), published 2024.
- 2023.** With Patrice Lajoie (eds), *New researches on the religion and mythology of the Pagan Slavs*, vol. 2, Lisieux: Lingua, 2023.

FORTHCOMING EDITED VOLUMES

- With Alfonsina Bellio, Vassa Kontouma and Michel-Yves Perrin (eds), *Letters Fallen from Heaven in Christian Modernity: Traditions, Transformations, and Contemporary Uses*, Bibliothèque de l'École des Hautes Études, Sciences religieuses, EPHE, forthcoming 2027.

With Jiří Dynda, Evelina Mineva and Panos Sophoulis (eds), *Aspects of Interpretatio Christiana in the Slavic World*, forthcoming 2027.

With Patrice Lajoie (eds), *New researches on the religion and mythology of the Pagan Slavs*, vol. 3, Lisieux: Lingua, forthcoming 2027.

PUBLISHED ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

2026. 'Voyager en pèlerin au Mont Athos : dévotion russe et émergence du nationalisme religieux au XIXe siècle' [Pilgrimage to Mount Athos: Russian Devotion and the Emergence of Religious Nationalism in the Nineteenth Century], in *Du Grand Tour à l'Orient*, Paris: Classiques Garnier, pp. 143–161.

2026. With Aphrodite-Lidia Nounanaki, 'Orthodox Apocalyptic Discourse and the "Mark of the Beast": Authority, Technology, and Conspiracy Transmission', *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1525/jrpc.2026.2737150>

2026. 'Εξορκισμός και μικροϊστορία : η περίπτωση του Αρχιμανδρίτη Σάββα Αχιλλέως του δαίμονοδιώκτη' [Exorcism and Microhistory: The Case of Archimandrite Savvas Achilleos], in *Stories of the Metaphysical*, Athens: National Hellenic Research Foundation, pp. 61–86.

2025. 'La (pseudo)mythologie slave : un aperçu' [Slavic (Pseudo-)Mythology: An Overview], *Iris*, 45. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.35562/iris.4087>

2025. 'Translating the Russian Vision: The Scribe as Intersemiotic Mediator Between Orality and Religious Text', *Ethnologia Online*, 15.

2025. 'Messages for the Afterlife: The Next World in Funerary Inscriptions of Early Modern Russia', *Intersections: Interdisciplinary Studies in Early Modern Culture*, Brill, pp. 390–430.

2025. 'Σχέσεις υποταγής και εξουσίας στον ορθόδοξο εξορκισμό: Μια ανάγνωση υπό το πρίσμα της βιωμένης θρησκείας' [Relations of Submission and Power in Orthodox Exorcism: A Reading through the Lens of Lived Religion], *Ethnologia*, 20, pp. 97–140.

2025. 'Ο Προμηθέας στη Μόσχα : η πρόσληψη της Αρχαίας Ελλάδας στα χρόνια της Επανάστασης' [Prometheus in Moscow: The Reception of Ancient Greece during the Revolution], in *Revolution, War, Immigration*, Athens, pp. 287–321.

2025. 'Αναλύοντας αφηγηματολογικά τις επιθανάτιες οπτασίες με τη μεσολάβηση της νευροφαινομενολογίας: ρωσικά και ελληνικά παραδείγματα' [A Narratological Analysis of Deathbed Visions through Neurophenomenology: Russian and Greek Examples], Athens: Academy of Athens, p. 405-435.

2024. With Georgios Tserpès, 'Introduction', in *Οι παροιμίες του Ρωσικού λαού του Β. Ι. Νταλ (1862)* [The Proverbs of the Russian People], Athens: Academy of Athens, pp. 19–108.

2024. 'The Legend as Fact in Greek and Eastern European Traditions: Reality Factors and the Example of Visions', in *From Homer to Hatzi-Yavrouda: Aspects of Oral Narration in the Greek Tradition*, Aarhus: Aarhus University Press, pp. 173–186.

2024. 'Introduction', *Études balkaniques – Cahiers Pierre Belon*, 26, pp. 7–11.

2024. 'Faire un aller-retour édifiant dans l'au-delà : la formation de la rhétorique du jugement et du châtement post mortem dans les visions russes et grecques modernes' [An Edifying Return Journey to the Afterlife], *Études balkaniques – Cahiers Pierre Belon*, 26, pp. 177–203.

2023. 'Kupala and Koliada: Two (More) Examples of Slavic Pseudom mythology', in *Religion and Mythology of the Pagan Slavs*, vol. 2, Lisieux: Lingua, pp. 159–198.

2023. 'Sakharov, Kireevsky, Afanasyev and Others: Stravinsky in the Context of Russian Folkloristics', *Muzikologija–Musicology*, 34, pp. 19–31.

2023. With Evangelos Karamanès, 'Pour une ethnographie des pratiques ethnographiques pendant la pandémie de Covid-19 : notes de journal' [Towards an Ethnography of Ethnographic Practices during the Covid-19 Pandemic], *EtnoAntropologia*, 11, pp. 105–117.

2023. 'Περί της καταγωγής των δαιμόνων : η πτώση των αγγέλων ως αιτία προέλευσης των στοιχειών του τόπου' [On the Origin of Demons: The Fall of the Angels as the Origin of Local Spirits], *Επετηρίς του Κέντρου Ερεύνης της Ελληνικής Λαογραφίας*, 38, pp. 158–234.

2023. 'À propos des sorcières masquées : une hypothèse à partir des termes slaves provenant de larva et masca' [On Masked Witches], in Julien d'Huy, Frédérique Duquesnoy and Patrice Lajoie (eds), *Le gai savoir : mélanges en hommage à Jean-Loïc Le Quellec*, Archaeopress, pp. 456–468.

- 2021.** ‘Обмирания и околосмертные переживания : схождения и расхождения в свете фольклора и нейронауки’ [Obmiraniya and Near-Death Experiences: Convergences and Divergences in the Light of *Folklore* and Neuroscience], *Кунсткамера*, 11, pp. 174–192.
- 2021.** ‘Μια επωδή για την σωτηρία της ψυχής : το Όνειρο της Παναγίας στα Βαλκάνια και την Ρωσία’ [An Incantation for the Salvation of the Soul: The Dream of the Virgin in the Balkans and Russia], *Επετηρίς του Κέντρου Ερεύνης της Ελληνικής Λαογραφίας*, 35–36.
- 2021.** ‘Η προετοιμασία του νεκρού σώματος για την ενσωμάτωση στην χωρική απεικόνιση του Άλλου Κόσμου στην Ελλάδα και την Ανατολική Ευρώπη’ [Preparing the Dead Body for Incorporation into the Spatial Representation of the Other World in Greece and Eastern Europe], *Εθνογραφικά*, 15A, pp. 153–170.
- 2021.** ‘L’herbe qui pleure et qui fait pleurer : une plante magique (plakun-trava) dans les croyances populaires russes’ [The Herb that Weeps and Makes One Weep], in *Poisons et philtres d’amour*, Université de Cergy-Pontoise, pp. 144–159.
- 2020.** ‘La souveraine du lac gelé : variantes et altérations du mythe d’Hérodiade dans les croyances populaires européennes’ [The Sovereign of the Frozen Lake], *Féeries*, 16.
- 2019.** ‘Slavic Deities of Death: Looking for a Needle in the Haystack’, in *Religion and Mythology of the Pagan Slavs*, Lisieux: Lingua, pp. 69–98.
- 2018.** ‘Interprétation ethnolinguistique de termes mythologiques néo-helléniques d’origine slave désignant des morts malfaisants’ [An Ethnolinguistic Interpretation of Modern Greek Mythological Terms of Slavic Origin Denoting Malevolent Dead], *Revue des études slaves*, 89/3, pp. 305–319.
- 2016.** ‘Η μυθολογία ως ένδειξη της ελληνικής ιστορικής συνέχειας’ [Mythology as Evidence of Greek Historical Continuity], in *Ταυτότητες : Γλώσσα και Λογοτεχνία*, University of Thrace, pp. 685–699.
- 2016.** ‘La nourriture des entités surnaturelles dans les croyances populaires néo-helléniques : le cas de Kali ton Oreon’ [The Food of Supernatural Beings in Modern Greek Popular Beliefs], *Cahiers balkaniques*, special issue, pp. 481–498.
- 2016.** ‘Ο Ιπποκράτειος δράκος και η ενάλιος μέδουσα : θέματα ελληνικής λαογραφίας στο έργο του Άγγλου περιηγητή John Mandeville’ [The Hippocratic Dragon and the Sea Medusa], *Επετηρίς του Κέντρου Ερεύνης της Ελληνικής Λαογραφίας*, 33–34, pp. 497–521.
- 2016.** ‘Baba Yaga, les sorcières et les femmes démoniaques de l’Europe orientale’ [Baba Yaga, Witches and Demonic Women of Eastern Europe], *Revue Sciences/Lettres*, 4.
- 2014.** ‘The Nightmare, the Felices Dominae and the Punitive Actions of the Twelve Days of Christmas’, *Proceedings of the 15th ISFNR Congress*, vol. III, Athens: Academy of Athens, pp. 453–468.
- 2013.** ‘Lamia: A Sorceress, a Fairy or a Revenant?’, expanded version, *Tric Trac: Journal of World Mythology and Folklore*, 4, pp. 96–112.
- 2013.** ‘Ο λόγιος βρικόλακας : θέματα της μεταθανάτιας επιστροφής στη νεοελληνική λογοτεχνία’ [The Scholarly Vampire: Posthumous Return in Modern Greek Literature], in *Λαϊκός πολιτισμός και έντεχνος λόγος*, vol. I, Athens: Academy of Athens, pp. 413–424.
- 2013.** ‘Treasure Spirits and Guardians: Between Dream and Illusion’, *Caietele Echinox*, 23, pp. 59–68.
- 2012.** ‘The Chauche-Vieille in French Literature and Oral Narrations’, in *Carnevali e folclore delle Alpi*, pp. 177–186.
- 2012.** ‘Lamia: A Sorceress, a Fairy or a Revenant?’, *Caietele Echinox*, 21, pp. 20–31.

ENCYCLOPAEDIA ENTRIES

- 2024.** ‘Gnomes, Language of (Medieval Greek)’ and ‘Gnomes, Language of (Modern Greek)’, *Encyclopedia of Greek Language and Linguistics*, Brill.
- 2024.** ‘Names of Months (Medieval Greek)’ and ‘Names of Months (Modern Greek)’, *Encyclopedia of Greek Language and Linguistics*, Brill.
- 2014.** Fifteen entries: ‘Alp’, ‘Bilwiz’, ‘Cynocephali’, ‘Empusa’, ‘Will-o’-the-Wisp’, ‘Frau Holle’, ‘Gello’, ‘Hippopodes’, ‘Ichthyophagi’, ‘Lamia’, ‘Nix’, ‘Onoskelis’, ‘Perchta’, ‘Saracen’, ‘Schrat’, in *Bestiaire fantastique des voyageurs*, Paris: Arthaud.

FORTHCOMING ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

- ‘От церковного листа к религиозному самиздату: редакторская биография текста К. Иксуля’, submitted to *Текст. Книга. Книгоиздание* [Text. Book. Publishing] [in Russian].

- ‘Как удостоверяется иной мир: производство достоверности в русских рассказах о путешествии души XVII–XX веков’, submitted to *Антропологический форум* [Forum for Anthropology and Culture] [in Russian].
- ‘Afterlives Are Not Origins. Mediated Evidence and the Reconstruction of Pagan Slavic Religion’, *New researches on the religion and mythology of the Pagan Slavs*, vol. 3, Lisieux: Lingua, forthcoming 2027.
- ‘Inventing Pagan Rus’? Interpretatio Christiana, Salvation History, and the Construction of Slavic Mythology in Schleusing’s *Universa Religio Ruthenica sive Moscovitica* (1694)’, *Paleobulgarica*, forthcoming.
- ‘Concluding Remarks: Towards a New Understanding of Interpretatio Christiana’, in the special issue *Aspects of Interpretatio Christiana in the Slavic World*, *Paleobulgarica*, forthcoming 2027.
- ‘Produire l’autorité en régime d’incertitude : télévision, édition et plateformes dans la divination postsoviétique’ [Producing Authority under Uncertainty: Television, Publishing and Platforms in Post-Soviet Divination], *Sociétés & représentations*, 63 (accepted for publication; forthcoming).
- ‘Reconstructing the Russian Pagan Past: A Historiography of Slavic Myth-Making from the Middle Ages to the Post-Soviet Era’, *Numen*, special issue ‘Understanding Slavic Paganism’, forthcoming.
- ‘Réinterpréter les dieux des Slaves : mythologie, idéologie et mémoire du paganisme dans la culture soviétique et post-soviétique’ [Reinterpreting the Gods of the Slavs], in *Mythes et Folklore*, Paris: Classiques Garnier, forthcoming.
- With Jiří Dynda, ‘From Olympus to the Steppes: Mapping the Greco-Roman Influence on the Creation of Slavic Mythology’, in *Recherches sur les réceptions de l’Antiquité*, Brepols, forthcoming.
- ‘Les épîtres célestes au cœur du pouvoir politique : dynamiques et stratégies d’influence à partir de la Lettre de Jésus-Christ’ [Heavenly Epistles at the Heart of Political Power], in *Letters Fallen from Heaven in Christian Modernity*, EPHE, forthcoming.
- ‘Introduction’, in *Letters Fallen from Heaven in Christian Modernity*, EPHE, forthcoming.
- With Patrice Lajoie, ‘Louis Leger, folkloriste de salon ?’ [Louis Leger, an Armchair Folklorist], in Sylvie Archambault, Olga Artyushkina and Hélène Mélat (eds), collective monograph for the Centenary of the Institute of Slavic Studies, forthcoming 2026.
- ‘Les recherches de l’Institut d’études slaves sur la petite mythologie et la démonologie populaire’ [Research at the Institute of Slavic Studies on Minor Mythology and Popular Demonology], in Sylvie Archambault, Olga Artyushkina and Hélène Mélat (eds), collective monograph for the Centenary of the Institute of Slavic Studies, forthcoming 2026.
- ‘Forgiveness beyond Death: Prayer, Intercession, and Eschatological Openness in Orthodox Visionary Narratives’, in Emanuela Timotin, Ovidiu Olar and Nikolaos Chrissidis (eds), *Forgiveness (Please?): Strategies and Practices of Absolution in Eastern Orthodoxy in the Early Modern and Modern Periods*, forthcoming.

SUBMITTED / UNDER REVIEW

- ‘From Mummeries to the Sublime: French Travellers and Russian Lived Orthodoxy (1760–1870)’, submitted to *Studies in Travel Writing*.
- ‘Fakelore after Authenticity: Attribution, Traditionalization, and the Politics of Provenance’, submitted to *Journal of American Folklore*.
- ‘From Refrain to Deity: Miloš S. Milojević and the Manufacture of a Serbian Mythological Archive’, submitted to *Folklore*.
- ‘When Misfortune Needed a Body: Witch-Finding, Causal Proof, and Jurisdiction in Medieval Rus’’, submitted to *Magic, Ritual, and Witchcraft*.
- ‘When the Dead Seem Alive: Natural Philosophy, Orthodox Authority, and the Causal Reframing of the Vrykolakas in Mark the Monk of Serres’, submitted to *Preternature: Critical and Historical Studies on the Preternatural*.
- ‘Écrire contre la fièvre : la gramota no 1022 et la compression du texte thérapeutique à Novgorod médiéval’ [Writing against Fever: Birchbark Document No. 1022 and the Compression of the Therapeutic Text in Medieval Novgorod], submitted to *Revue des études slaves*.
- With Nikolaos Chrissidis, *Modern Orthodoxy as Lived Religion: Authority, Practice, and Negotiation*, special issue proposal submitted to the *Journal of Orthodox Christian Studies*.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2024.** Review of Page Herrlinger, *Holy Sobriety in Modern Russia: A Faith Healer and His Followers*, *History: Reviews of New Books*, 52/4, pp. 69–71. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/03612759.2024.2362094>

TRANSLATIONS

Georgi Chulkov, *On Mystical Anarchism*, Greek translation, introduction and notes, Athens: Firebrand, 2026.

Aleksei Konstantinovich Tolstoy, *The Family of the Vourdalak / The Meeting 300 Years Later*, Greek translation, Athens: Roés, 2020.

With G. Kostakiotis, *Histoires faciles à lire : la mer. Méthode d'apprentissage du grec moderne, niveau B*, Paris: Ophrys, 2019.

Vladimir Fyodorovich Odoevsky, *Gothic novels*, Greek translation, Athens: Roés, forthcoming.

09 Scientific event organisation

2027 Co-organiser, with Daniel Baric and Panos Sophoulis, international conference 'The Reception of Antiquity in the Slavic World: Classical Heritage and Slavic Pasts from the Middle Ages to the Twenty-First Century', National and Kapodistrian University of Athens / Department of Slavic Studies, Sorbonne University / École française d'Athènes, 28–30 October 2027 (provisional dates; in preparation).

2025 Co-organiser, with Jiří Dynda, Evelina Mineva and Panos Sophoulis, international conference 'Aspects of Interpretatio Christiana in the Slavic World', National and Kapodistrian University of Athens / Czech Academy of Sciences, 30–31 October.

2024 Co-organiser, with Vassa Kontouma, Alfonsina Bellio and Michel-Yves Perrin, international conference 'Letters Fallen from Heaven in Christian Modernity', EPHE / GSRL / AELAC, 21–23 October.

2024 Co-organiser, with Vassa Kontouma and Vera Chentsova, study day 'Eastern Orthodoxy as Lived Religion: Modern and Contemporary Case Studies', EPHE / Sorbonne University, 27 March.

2023 Co-organiser, with Galina Kabakova and Olessia Koudriavtseva, study day 'Popular Culture at the Institute of Slavic Studies', Sorbonne University, 26 October.

2022–2023 Co-organiser, with Georgios Tserpès, online lecture series of the Hellenic Folklore Research Centre, Academy of Athens.

2021 Co-organiser, with Nikolaos Papastratigakis and Panos Sophoulis, international conference 'Revolution, War, Immigration: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Greek–Russian Relations, 1917–1924', University of Athens, 17–18 December.

2021 Co-organiser, with Nikolaos Papastratigakis and Panos Sophoulis, international conference 'The Slavs and the Greek Revolution: Historical, Ideological and Cultural Approaches', University of Athens, 4–5 June.

2019 Organiser, study day 'The Costakis Collection and the Russian Avant-Garde', Hellenic Cultural Centre / Russian Orthodox Spiritual and Cultural Centre.

2019 Co-organiser, with Pierre Gonneau, Olessia Koudriavtseva and Vassa Kontouma, study day 'Anabasis/Katabasis in Byzantine–Slavic Cultures', EPHE.

2019 Organiser, study day 'Myths, Paramythes and Legends', Hellenic Cultural Centre / Hungarian Institute.

2016 Co-organiser, with Maria Zerva and Iro Tsamadou, international conference 'Popular, Scholarly and Pseudo-Scholarly Etymologies', University of Strasbourg.

10 Invited lectures, seminars and conference papers

2026 The Oxford Symposium of Occult Studies: Grimoires as Scholarship, Scholarship as Grimoires, University of Oxford, 19–20 November — 'Names, Seals, and Signs: Manuscript Dossier 05223 (α–γ) as Vernacular Scholarship'.

2026 An Extraordinary Substance: A History of Blood and Demons Across Time, online, 3 October — "'To the Dark-Visaged Master of the Hellish Abyss": Blood Contracts with Demons in Orthodox Russia and Ukraine'.

2026 Gennadius Library, Athens, symposium 'Magic Spells, Divinations, and Exorcisms: A Cultural and Textual Tradition' — 'Between Liturgy and Magic: Exorcistic and Apotropaic Texts in Modern Greek Religious Practice'.

2026 European Association of Biblical Studies Annual Conference, Leuven — 'From Apocryphon to Vision: Slavonic Afterlife Narratives as Parabiblical Archives'.

- 2025** International conference 'Aspects of Interpretatio Christiana in the Slavic World', University of Athens / Czech Academy of Sciences — 'Reconfiguring the Sacred: New Forms of Interpretatio Christiana after Communism'.
- 2025** ORTHPOL workshop 'Forgiveness (Please?): Strategies and Practices of Absolution in Eastern Orthodoxy in the Early Modern and Modern Periods', Bucharest, 9–10 October — 'The Fate of Souls: Witnessing the Intermediate State and the Transformative Power of Prayer in Orthodox Visionary Narratives'.
- 2025** 17th International Congress of Slavists, Sorbonne University — 'Суеверия, ряжения, фанатизм, странности: православие народной России глазами французских путешественников XVIII и XIX веков' [Superstitions, Mummings, Fanaticism and Oddities: Russian Popular Orthodoxy through the Eyes of French Travellers].
- 2025** 17th SIEF Congress, 'Unwriting' — 'Dialogues in the Afterlife: Contact with the Dead in Orthodox Visions'.
- 2025** European Academy of Religion — 'Navigating the Afterlife: The Preparation of the Deceased for Integration into the Topography of the Otherworld'.
- 2025** Association française d'études sur les Balkans Congress, 'Balkan Matters!' — 'Objects and Rituals of Exorcism: Material Culture as a Vector of Religious Power in the Orthodox Balkans'.
- 2025** Third Annual Workshop, Historical and Palaeographic Archive / Cultural Foundation of the National Bank of Greece — 'Exorcism as a Technique of Social Control: Power, Submission, and Normativity in Orthodoxy'.
- 2025** INALCO research and doctoral seminar 'La fabrique de l'authenticité' — 'Thinking about the Authenticity of Myths: The Example of Slavic Mythology'.
- 2025** University of Nantes seminar 'Réécritures et transmission culturelle des mythes fondateurs' — 'Reinterpreting Slavic Pagan Mythology in Soviet and Post-Soviet Culture'.
- 2025** Sorbonne University seminar 'Écrire le rêve au XVIII^e siècle' — 'Les Bains de la Porte Saint-Bernard: Popular Beliefs and Literary Representations'.
- 2024** EUR'ORBEM joint seminar, Institute of Slavic Studies — presentation of *L'au-delà en Europe de l'Est et du Sud-Est*, with Olga Koudriavtseva-Velmans.
- 2024** Study day 'Reflections on Music and Nation', Department of Music Studies, University of Athens — 'Vladimir Odoevsky, the Slavophiles, and the Quest for a Russian Musical Identity'.
- 2024** International conference 'Letters Fallen from Heaven in Christian Modernity', EPHE / GSRL / AELAC — 'Heavenly Epistles at the Heart of Political Power: Dynamics and Strategies of Influence through the Letter of Jesus Christ'.
- 2024** École française d'Athènes, 'The New Lives of Greek Deities in Europe from the Fourteenth to the Twentieth Century' — with Jiří Dynda, 'From Olympus to the Steppes'.
- 2024** Fourth National Conference of Folklorists, 'Contemporary Greek Folkloristics: Research and Education' — with A. Nounanaki, 'On the "Mark of the Beast": From Religious Texts to Conspiracy Theories'.
- 2024** Study day 'Eastern Orthodoxy as Lived Religion', EPHE — 'Power Dynamics and Submission in Orthodox Christian Exorcism'.
- 2024** Czech Academy of Sciences, 'Understanding Slavic Paganism' — 'Creating Myths through Modern Popular Beliefs: The Method of Reconstruction in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Russia'.
- 2024** Study day 'Spells and Charms: Incantations and Prophecies through Time in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe', Historical and Palaeographic Archive / Cultural Foundation of the National Bank of Greece — 'Possessed Women or Witches? The Case of Russian Klikushi' [in Greek].
- 2024** International conference 'Un/doing Masculinity: Wet Dreams from the Eighteenth Century to the Present' — 'Incubi, Succubi and the Theory of Artificial Insemination: A Medieval Concept in the Demonic Imaginary of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries'.
- 2024** INALCO, international conference 'Du Grand Tour à l'Orient-Express' — 'Russian Religious Pilgrimage in Greece between the Eighteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries'.
- 2024** Study day 'Slavic Studies in the Twenty-First Century', University of Athens — 'Heavenly Threats during the Russian Revolution: Christians and Bolsheviks under the Regime of Apocryphal Letters'.
- 2023** Institute of Slavic Studies, Sorbonne University — 'Research at the Institute of Slavic Studies on Minor Mythology'.
- 2023** Institute of Slavic Studies, Sorbonne University — with Patrice Lajoie, 'Louis Léger, an Armchair Folklorist'.
- 2023** University of Warsaw, inaugural lecture — 'Popular Religion as a Means of Establishing the Identity of the Greek State'.

- 2023** Forum of Foreign Cultural Institutes in Paris, 'Technological Acceleration vs. Slow Culture' — 'The Use of ChatGPT in the Humanities: Opportunities and Ethical Challenges'.
- 2023** 7th European Congress of Modern Greek Studies, Vienna — 'My Face Is Protected by a Transparent Mask: Analysis of a Popular Belief' [in Greek].
- 2023** Hellenic National Research Foundation lecture series 'Histories of the Paranormal' — 'Possession and Microhistory: Alternative Dimensions of Popular Religiosity and Locality in Modern Orthodoxy' [in Greek].
- 2023** SIEF Congress, Brno — with Evangelos Karamanès, 'Multiple Challenges in Ethnographic Practice in Uncertain Times'.
- 2023** GSRL seminar 'Religions and Societies in Asia' — 'The Possessed and Exorcists in the Orthodox World: A Preliminary Reading'.
- 2023** Hellenic Open University study day 'Questions of Popular Culture' — 'Methodological Issues in Popular Religiosity: Living Orthodoxy in the Twenty-First Century' [in Greek].
- 2023** Study day 'Pilgrimage Practices in the Eastern Mediterranean, Seventeenth–Nineteenth Centuries', Cultural Foundation of the National Bank of Greece — 'Visions, Hierophanies and Miraculous Icons' [in Greek].
- 2023** Hellenic National Research Foundation lecture series 'Aspects of the Slavic World' — 'The Minor Mythology of the Slavs: Spirits, Genii and Demons' [in Greek].
- 2022** University of Frankfurt, 'Funerary Inscriptions in Early Modern Europe' — 'Messages for the Afterlife'.
- 2022** Ohio State University, 'A Collective Address to Death' — 'An Exemplary (but Temporary) Death: Repentance as a Return from the Other World in Modern Russian Visions'.
- 2021** 7th International Scientific Conference 'Traditional Culture of Greece and Russia' — 'Maximus the Greek against the "German Delusion of So-Called Fate and Its Wheel"'.
- 2021** University of Athens, 'Revolution, War, Immigration' — 'The Reception of Ancient Greece during the Revolution'.
- 2021** University of Athens, 'Revisiting Stravinsky: Fifty Years On' — 'Myth and Nation in Early Stravinsky'.
- 2020** Lomonosov Moscow State University — 'The Magical Effects of the Apocryphal Dream of the Virgin'.
- 2020** EPHE Religious Sciences Research Day — 'The Moralistic Dimension of the Topography of the Afterlife in Modern Greek and Russian Sources'.
- 2020** INALCO / Musée du Quai Branly seminar 'Wakefulness and Sleep: Cultures of the Night' — 'Demonic Nightmare and Representations of Sleep Paralysis in Europe'.
- 2019** Russian Academy of Sciences, Saint Petersburg, Boris Putilov and Kirill Chistov Memorial Conference — 'The Genre of Obmiraniya between Folkloristics and Neuroscience'.
- 2019** EPHE, 'Anabasis/Katabasis in Byzantine–Slavic Cultures' — 'Crimes and Punishments in the Afterlife: The Journey of the Soul towards Judgement in Modern Russian and Greek Visions'.
- 2019** Lomonosov Moscow State University, 5th International Congress of Greek Studies — 'The Wandering of the Virgin Mary in Hell, a Russian Occult of Greek Origin'.
- 2019** Study day 'Myths, Paramythes and Legends', Hellenic Cultural Centre / Hungarian Institute — 'Myth and Legend: The Metamorphoses of Myth in Popular Beliefs'.
- 2019** University of Cergy-Pontoise, 'Poisons and Love Potions' — 'The Weeping Herb and the Book of the Dove'.
- 2018** 'From Homer to Hatzı-Yavrouda: Aspects of Oral Narration in the Greek Tradition' — 'The Legend as Fact in Greek and Eastern European Traditions'.
- 2018** EUR'ORBEM, Sorbonne University — 'The Topography of Orthodox Hells between Christian Faith and Popular Beliefs'.
- 2016** University of Athens, 'Greek–Russian Relations in the Modern and Contemporary Period' — with Ksenia Klimova, 'Greek Loans in the Vocabulary of Slavic Folk Mythology'.
- 2016** Moscow State University, 'Greek Popular Culture in the European Context' — 'Beliefs about the Underworld in Greek and Balkan Traditions: The Case of Aerial Toll Houses' [in Russian].
- 2016** University of Strasbourg, 'Popular, Scholarly and Pseudo-Scholarly Etymologies' — 'Ethnocentrism and Scholarly Etymology: The Case of Nineteenth-Century Folklorists'.
- 2015** University of Thrace, 'Identities: Language and Literature' — 'Tradition and Myth as Evidence of Greek Historical Continuity' [in Greek].

- 2015** University of Strasbourg, 'Asceticism, Fasting and Food Deprivation' — 'Dogmatic and Popular Fasting in the Greek World'.
- 2015** University of Strasbourg, 'Eating in Greece' — 'The Food of Supernatural Beings in Modern Greek Popular Beliefs'.
- 2015** École normale supérieure, 'Baba Yaga and Her Hut' — 'Baba Yaga and the Demonic Women of Europe'.
- 2014** ISFNR Belief Narrative Network, University of Zugdidi, 'Nature Spirits: Continuity and Change' — 'The Forests of Fear and Prosperity: Silvanus in Medieval Literature and Folk Traditions'.
- 2014** EHESS, 'Sacred Bonds! Studying Ties in the Social Sciences of Religion' — 'Links between the Bodies and Souls of Witches in John of Damascus and Ignatius the Deacon'.
- 2013** Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow, 'The Visual and the Verbal in Folk Culture' — 'A Demon's Confession: Apotropaic Names in the Service of Averting Evil' [in Russian].
- 2013** University of Warwick, 'E Byzantia Florentiam advolavit...' — 'The Demonology of Michael Psellos: A Cross between Ancient Philosophy, Christianity and Popular Beliefs'.
- 2011** University of Kent, 'Daimonic Imagination: Uncanny Intelligence' — 'Nightmare and Shamanism during the Middle Ages and the Renaissance'.
- 2011** Hellenic Folklore Research Centre, Academy of Athens, 'Folklore and Scholarly Culture' — 'The Scholarly Vampire: Posthumous Return in Modern Greek Literature' [in Greek].
- 2010** Institute of Russian Literature / European University at Saint Petersburg, 'Interpreting Belief Narrative' — 'The Hag, the Corn Spirit and the Nightmare: A Complicated Affinity'.
- 2009** 15th Congress of the International Society for Folk Narrative Research (ISFNR), 'Narratives across Space and Time' — 'The Nightmare and the Punitive Actions of the Twelve Days of Christmas'.

11 Languages and additional editorial experience

LANGUAGES

- Greek: native; French: C2; English: C2; Russian: C2.
- German: B1; Czech: B1, Serbian: A2; Bulgarian: A2, Japanese: A1.
- Ancient / Medieval Greek and Church Slavonic: scholarly reading proficiency.

ADDITIONAL EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

- 2018–2020** Editorial Secretary, Éditions de Boccard, Paris.
- 2012–2014** Production and scholarly editing, Librairie Droz and Éditions de Boccard, Paris / Geneva.