

**16th Conference of the
Modern Greek Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand**

Wed 3rd- Fri 5th February 2027

Call for Papers

The international, biennial conference of the Modern Greek Studies Association of Australia and New Zealand (MGSAANZ) is an opportunity to create and sustain critical conversations and collaborations across the transdisciplinary field of Modern Greek Studies.

Greek Discourses, Destinies, and Dialogues Across Borders

Hosted in 2027 by La Trobe University's Greek Studies Program, and in partnership with The University of Melbourne and the Greek Community of Melbourne, our gathering will focus on exploring and navigating the concepts of discourses and destinies, and how they relate to Greece, its peoples, heritages, and cultures.

Much attention – locally, regionally and globally – continues to be placed on Greece and Greek people. Whether it is being contested through geopolitical renderings of *East* and *West*, to celebrating ancient heritage or cultural productions emanating from digital diasporic spheres, Greece – as an imagined and real territory, and as a set of ideas – is no stranger to border crossings. However, who determines how Greece is understood in our hyper-connected border crossing age? Is it the cultural institutions that hold ancient Greek artefacts that control these narratives, or the many diasporic practitioners who generate alternative depictions of Greece? Is it political leaders that exercise diplomatic prowess, or kinship networks and wisdoms that cross generational and geographic divides? This conference strives to explore these various tensions, whilst also showcasing how Greek cultures, heritages, and identities negotiate underlying discourses that fashion the possible destinies of Greece across and beyond borders.

In doing so, we wish to draw attention to competing discourses, multiple destinies, and active dialogues that circulate today in, on, around, and about Greece. We aim at inclusivity and diversity in speakers and audiences and at stimulating interdisciplinary exchange that will take scholars, writers, educators and thinkers outside the comfort zones of the fields of their expertise. In doing so, we encourage cross-disciplinary discussions, provoking participants to be mindful of how their disciplinary perspectives and practices interact with the layered complexities of Greek discourses, destinies and dialogues that circulate beyond rigid border regimes.

We welcome any topic engaging with contemporary Greece and Greekness of the 19th-20th-21st centuries, but we specifically encourage approaches that integrate a self-critical understanding of their methodology, social relevance and institutional framing, as well as a reflection on the field of Modern Greek studies today.

The research questions and topics we aim to explore in this conference include – but are not limited to – the following:

- decolonising Greek language curricula (in primary, secondary and higher education); decolonial approaches and versions of Greekness
- practices of bilingualism; multilingualism; code-switching; translanguaging; the politics of translation; Greek as a plural language
- methodological questions in Modern Greek language and culture studies
- spaces of contestation; regional particularisms; transformative digital public spheres
- major historical events / disasters and social mobilisations
- struggles for justice, law and representation
- social, political and protest movements in Greece and its many diasporas
- Greece and the Global South; Greece and the Mediterranean; Greece, Cyprus and the Middle East; Greece and Asia
- ecological imaginaries and ecocritical perspectives
- temporalities and Hellenic futurisms
- intersectionality; politics of age, gender, sex and queerness
- migration, mobility, and multiculturalism, past and present
- race/racialisation in the Greek world
- cultural productions in literature, cinema, the arts, and public discourse
- narratives of resilience, resistance and reconstruction

Conference format: In person

Languages of Conference: English and Greek

Length of individual papers: 20 minutes. We also welcome and encourage submissions for panels, roundtables, workshops, posters or creative performances.

Please send a title, abstract (200 words) and bio (100 words) by **1 August 2026** to the following address: 2027mgsaanz@gmail.com

Notification of acceptance: 1 October 2026

Presenter registration deadline: 1 November 2026

Conference Organising Committee

Dr. Stavroula Nikoloudis, Greek Studies Coordinator, La Trobe University

Dr. Andonis Piperoglou, Hellenic Senior Lecturer in Global Diasporas, The University of Melbourne

Dr. Peter Pantazis, Lecturer in Greek Studies, La Trobe University

Dr. Melina Mallos, Faculty of Education, The University of Melbourne

Dr. Nick Dallas, Greek Community of Melbourne/The University of Macedonia

Dr. Spiridoula Demetriou, Greek Community of Melbourne

Olympia Nelson, PhD Candidate, The University of Sydney

Daphne Arapakis, PhD Candidate, The University of Melbourne

Sofia Chaniotaki, PhD Candidate, La Trobe University