



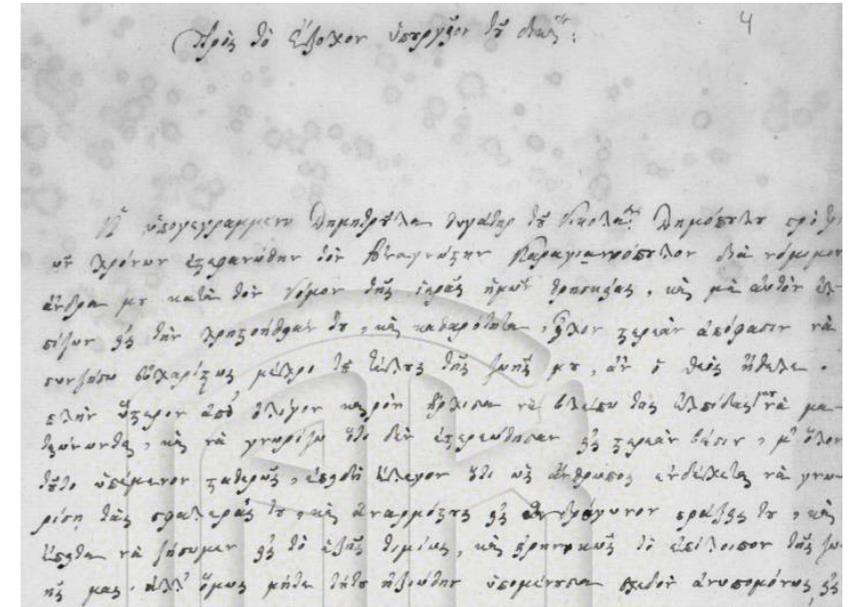
H.F.R.I.
Hellenic Foundation for
Research & Innovation

Description of funded project
1st Call “Science & Society”
“200 years from the Greek Revolution”

Technical Specifications

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**Title of the project: Institutions and society in revolutionary Greece:
The testimonies of the police and court archives (1822-1827)**

Project Coordinator: Vaso Seirinidou

Host Institution: NKUA



Budget: 100.000 Euros

Duration: 36 Months

Project Synopsis

The research explores the formation of state institutions during the Greek Revolution of 1821 and their social reception, through the paradigm of two emblematic institutions, such as the justice system and the police. Apart from a detailed view of state formation processes that take place in the “central” stage, the research in the Archives of the Ministry of Justice (1822-1827) and the Ministry of the Police (1822-1826) brings into light a considerable volume of documents concerning the communication of the new institutions with the citizens of the revolutionary Greece. This kind of material (criminal files, interrogation documents, police reports, complaints and litigations) prompt us to study the formation of the state during the Revolution also “from the bottom-up”: In other words, to explore how the new institutions were accommodated and acquired their existence by a society in revolution and war. Approaching the court and police archives as privileged fields to trace major political and social changes in the microhistorical level, the research also aspires to follow continuities and ruptures brought about the Revolution in social relations and the everyday life.

Expected results & Project Impact

The research contributes to the renewal of the historiography of the Greek Revolution, both at a conceptual and a thematic and interpretative level. Its findings are already being used by the Coordinator and the members of the Research Team in scientific events and publications on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the Revolution.

By creating a database with all the police and court cases of the revolutionary period, the project offers the academic public a rich documentary material, which in a retrospective way can be used for a deeper understanding of the pre-revolutionary Greek society, and it provides a pool for master's and doctoral dissertations. In addition, the creation of an interactive website with sources and information about everyday life in revolutionary Greece is expected, both because of the originality of the subject and the sharpness and vividness of the stories to be chosen, to attract the interest of the general public, given the prominent position of the Greek Revolution in public history.

Finally, the monograph under publication "Institutions and society in revolutionary Greece. The testimonies of the judicial and police archives" aspires to be a reference work in the historiography of the Greek Revolution.

The importance of this funding

The H.F.R.I. funding made it possible to carry out a research on voluminous archival material, the access of which requires many months of work of specialized personnel in palaeography. The project employs a postdoctoral scholar with special knowledge in the critical publication of archival texts and two doctoral candidates in modern history. The funding also enabled the technical support of the project and the creation of a digital infrastructure for the storage of resources. The project employs a computer scientist, a graduate of the SECE Department of NTUA. The funding finally offers the coordinator the safe environment for the production of a study that aspires to be an important contribution to the historiography of the Greek Revolution.



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