



The gallery was established in 2015 as the result of a private collection of East Christian icons. During the 7 years of existence the gallery has collected about 300 icons from Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Cyprus, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria, North Macedonia or Albania. The icons are dated from the 14th until the beginning of the 20th century. The current exhibition called The Mysterious Face of Jesus Christ is the fifth in a row after the exhibitions dedicated to the themes of The Old Testament Prophets, The Church Feasts, The Icons of the Mother of God, and Wisdom Hidden in Icons.

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Greeks in Central Europe between the 15th and 20th Century

21 - 23 September 2022

Venue: OZ IKONY, M.R. Štefánika 33, Žilina, Slovakia







Day 1 (21st September) Morning Session at the Gallery of Icons

11:00 - 12:00 Registration

12:00 - 13:00 Welcome greetings from the organisers

Milan Urbaník and Jozef Matula (OZ IKONY) – presentation to be delivered in person

Project "Greeks in Central Europe between the 15th and 20th Centuries" (Paylina Šípová and Jozef Matula)

Tereza Rehorčíková, Visegrad Fund – presentation to be delivered in person

Eva Lehečková, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Charles University – pre-recorded video

Presentations by

John Chrysoulakis,

(Secretary General for Greeks Abroad and Public Diplomacy, Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs) – pre-recorded video

Georgios Dimitriadis,

Ambassador of Greece in Bratislava – pre-recorded video

Athanassios Paressoglou,

Ambassador of Greece in Prague - online presentation

Antonios Theocharous,

Ambassador of Cyprus in Prague – online presentation

Lucie Kuligiová,

Czech Centre in Athens – online presentation

13:00 - 14:15 Lunch on the First Floor

14:15 - 15:00 Project Hellenopolonica

(Gosćiwit Malinowski)

15:00- 15:15 Break

Afternoon Session on the First Floor

Greeks and Greek sources in Central Europe between the 15th and 19th centuries

15:15 - 16:30 chair Gosćiwit Malinowski

Greeks and Greek sources in Hungary, 15th century (Péter Ekler) Greek manuscripts in the National Library of the Czech Republic (Renáta Modráková ONLINE)

Greek traces in Prague of the 15th and 16th century (Pavlína Šípová)

Greeks and Greek sources in Slovakia (Jozef Matula, Ivan Modoroši)

Discusion

19:00 Dinner

Day 2 (22nd September)Morning Session on the First Floor

Greeks and Greek sources in Central Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries

10:00 - 11:30 chair Kostas Tsivos, Nicole Sumelidou

Greeks in Vienna (18th–19th centuries) (Anna Ransmayr ONLINE) Greek Refugees in Yugoslavia 1945–1950 (Milan Ristović ONLINE)

Discussion

Break 11:30-11:45

11:45-13:00 chair Pavlína Šípová

Arrival, settlement, integration on the reception and integration process of Greek political refugees in Hungary (Nikosz Fokasz) Modern Greek Literature in Czech Translation (Nicole Sumelidu) Greek communities in Czechoslovakia from 1948 to the present day (Kostas Tsivos)

Discussion

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

Afternoon Session on the First Floor

14:00 - 16:00

Discussion and conclusions

Dinner

Day 3 (23rd September) Morning Session at the Gallery of Icons

Greeks in Central Europe between the 15th and 20th Centuries

10:00 - 13:30 chair Pavlína Šípová, Jozef Matula

The Greek Diaspora in Central Europe and The Medici Archive Project (Vasileios Syros)

Round table:

- a) Greeks and Greek sources in Central Europe between the 15th and 20th centuries – What next?
- b) Evaluation of current research in each Visegrad Country, and Austria, i.e. Most important research projects, research centers, research facilities, state / private support, teaching modern Greek at local universities etc.
- c) Study in Greece (SiG): a short presentation (Theodoros Papaioannou ONLINE)

The project "Greeks in Central Europe between the 15th and 20th Centuries" seeks to understand the 500 years of coexistence between the Greeks and the peoples of Central Europe (including Serbia and Austria) and its role in the transformations of the world, paying particular attention to the relationship of the Greek minority or diaspora across different historical contexts, linguistic areas, cultures, and religions. The project provides a key to a comprehensive understanding of the Greek presence, identity and influence in Central Europe from the Fall of Constantinople (1453), through the outbreak of the Greek War of Independence (1821) and the subsequent establishment of the Greek state until the fall of totalitarian regimes in Central Europe in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

The project was put together by a team of experts comprised primarily of Modern Greek and Classical philologists and historians from the V4 countries, Serbia, Austria and Italy, with the aim of discussing the "Greek question" as comprehensively as possible in the appropriate historical and cultural context. One of its long-term objectives is to establish a research exchange network across Central European countries in order to share the results of the research and enable effective cooperation between academic and cultural centres.

A joint workshop held from 21st to 23rd September 2022 at the OZ IKONY Gallery Centre in Žilina, Slovakia, will be the very first event, post 1989, at which experts in the field of post-Byzantine and Modern Greek studies from academic institutions of the V4 countries, Serbia, Austria and Italy will be able to exchange their experience and insights. The organisers have invited scholars to exchange information on the state of research in each country and draw up an initial outline of a future major joint international publication, teaching strategies and common research, and to inform the general public about the results of the research.

The main goal of the project is to develop and consolidate cooperation within the V4 and other countries and strengthen awareness of a common history in Central Europe.