ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
Εθνικόν και Καποδιστριακόν Πανεπιστήμιον Αθηνών

1837-2027 190 ΧΡΟΝΙΑ

ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΠΟΔΙΣΤΡΙΑΚΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ
ΤΜΗΜΑ ΤΟΥΡΚΙΚΩΝ ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΣΥΓΧΡΟΝΩΝ ΑΣΙΑΤΙΚΩΝ ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ

Σειρά διαλέξεων: Τουρκική κοινωνία και πολιτική

Τετάρτη, 4 Νοεμβρίου 2026 /
***Wednesday, Novemeber 4*, 2026**, 18.00 -20.00
Αίθουσα Χατζηδάκι, ΜΘΕ (Κτίριο Νομικής), Σόλωνος 57/ Hadjidakis Conference Hall, Law School Building, 57, Solonos Str.

From the Ottoman Empire to Contemporary Turkey: A History of Gender and Sexuality Norms, Transgressions, and Transformation

LİLİTH BARDAKÇI (National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)

This presentation examines the historical transformation of gender identities, sexual practices, and sexual norms from the Ottoman Empire to contemporary Turkey, situating these developments within broader processes of modernization, nation-building, and political change. Rather than projecting contemporary LGBTQ+ categories onto the past, it explores historically specific understandings of gender variance, same-sex desire, and sexual relations, attending to the social, cultural, and legal frameworks through which they were negotiated and regulated. The presentation then traces the changing visibility and social positioning of gender-variant communities, including trans women, sex workers, and other marginalized sexual subjects, while examining the tensions between historical continuities and ruptures.
The second part focuses on the emergence and development of LGBTQ+ organizing in Turkey, from early forms of collective resistance and the political mobilizations of the 1980s and 1990s to contemporary feminist, queer, and trans movements. Finally, it analyzes the current political climate, including increasing state repression, restrictions on freedom of assembly and expression, and anti-gender politics, alongside the resilience of LGBTQ+ communities and their struggles for recognition, rights, and collective survival.
By connecting historical analysis with contemporary political developments, the presentation highlights how gender and sexuality remain central sites of social contestation in Turkey.

Η διάλεξη αυτή συνδιοργανώνεται από το Τμήμα Τουρκικών Σπουδών και Σύγχρονων Ασιατικών Σπουδών και την Επιτροπή Ισότητας Φύλων της Σχολής Οικονομικών και Πολιτικών Επιστημών του ΕΚΠΑ/This lecture is co-organized by the Department of Turkish Studies and Modern Asian Studies and the Gender Equality Committee of the School of Economics and Political Science of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.