

VASILIKI PAPOULIAS
(22.11.1929 – 27.04.2014)

Professor Vasiliki PAPOULIAS has passed away at the end of April 2014.

Born in Tripoli, Arkadia, starting 1947 she read history, archeology and philosophy in the university of Athens being the student of Dionysios Zakythinis, Geogios Vlahos and Anastasios Orlandos. In 1956 she went to Munich to read turcology. There she was the student of Franz Dölger, Hans Georg Beck, Frank Babinger and Hans Joachim Kissling. In 1961 she passed her Ph. D with a thesis on the origin and structure of the forced recruitment by the Ottomans of young boys for the janissaries corps. Her thesis was published by the Südost Institut in Munich and won a prize from the Südosteuropa Gesellschaft.

Between 1966 and 1975 she was a researcher with the Greek National Research Foundation in Athens and in 1975 she was made professor for the history of the Balkan area in the Faculty for Philosophy of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Her main course was *The ideological and social premises of the political organization of the Balkan Peninsula*. Her PhD thesis was published in Greek in 2011 as *Καταγωγή και υφή του παιδομαζώματος στο Οθωμανικό κράτος* (Origin and structure of the forced recruitment of young boys for the janissaries corps in the Ottoman state), Thessaloniki, 2010. Her main contributions were *Από την αυτοκρατορία στο εθνικό κράτος. Ιδεολογικές και κοινωνικές προϋποθέσεις της πολιτικής οργάνωσης των χωρών της Χερσονήσου του Αίμου* (From the empire to the national state. Ideological and social prerequisites of the political organization of the countries of the Balkan Peninsula), Thessaloniki, 2003 and *Από το αρχαίο στον νεότερο πολυμερισμό* (From ancient to modern pluralism), Thessaloniki, 2002, with a second edition in 2006.

From among Papoulias' studies were remarked *Το έργο του Μεθοδίου και Κυρίλλου ως έκφραση του χριστιανικού ουμανισμού* (The work of Methodius and Kyrillus as an expression of Christian humanism) published in 1986, and the one dedicated to Rigas Fereos entitled *Η έννοια της λαϊκής κυριαρχίας* (The notion of popular sovereignty) published in a collective tome in 2007.

A main contributor and supporter of Balkan studies, she was the vice-president of the International Association for South-East European Studies since 1999 to the day of her death.

The professor tried her hand at drama producing *Εξιλέωση* (Expiation), Thessaloniki, 2011 and at prose, writing and publishing *Οι δύο πηγές* (The two sources) and *Περιμένοντας την ειρήνη* (Waiting for Peace), Thessaloniki, 2012, and even at poetry, the volume *Οδός Ανω και Κάτω Μία* (High and Low One Street), Thessaloniki, 2012, being a proof of her talent.

Vasiliki Papoulias will be remembered by the hundreds of students who attended her courses in Thessaloniki and by the international community of Balkan scholars.

Lia Brad Chisacof