

**Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Institute of Modern Greek Studies
[Manolis Triandaphyllidis Foundation]**

International Conference "50 years since the official end of the Greek diglossia: New approaches on the occasion of an anniversary"

1st Call for Papers

The **Institute of Modern Greek Studies** [Manolis Triandaphyllidis Foundation] of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, within the framework of the annual international conferences on the study of the Greek language across its historical and geographical range, organizes **on November 5-7, 2026, in Thessaloniki, the 11th International Conference** entitled:

"50 years since the official end of the Greek diglossia: New approaches on the occasion of an anniversary"

The Conference, which is part of the events commemorating the centennial anniversary of the establishment of the University of Thessaloniki, will be held in-person, but there will also be the option of attending it online.

The Institute of Modern Greek Studies (M. Triandaphyllidis Foundation), as an integral part of the Faculty of Philosophy of AUTH, was instrumental in ending diglossia and in upgrading and establishing Demotic Greek as the official language of the state. With its prestige and most notably with its work, the Institute contributed in multiple ways to the adoption of Demotic Greek and to the implementation of the principles of the 1976 language-in-education reform: the two major codification works of Standard Modern Greek following the end of diglossia are directly linked with the Institute and its founder, Manolis Triandaphyllidis. The first school grammar (1976) was based on Triandaphyllidis's *Concise Modern Greek Grammar*; at that time also, the Ministry of Education commissioned to the Institute the compilation of the first dictionary of Standard Modern Greek.

In a country in which often ephemeral assessments determine the stock market of national values, one thing must be stated clearly: M. Triandaphyllidis is one of the few historical figures to whom the nation is really indebted.

Fifty years after the 1976 reform, the Institute's Board of Directors feels it is its self-evident obligation to organize a conference that will foster reflection on and new approaches to the issues related to this historic change. We shall try to set the framework of the conference by means of twelve questions, but this number could easily increase:

- Relations between pre- and post-diglossia Greek: to what extent does the pre-diglossia past affect the post-diglossia reality?
- Delineating the limits of Standard Modern Greek: ring-fencing or necessary limit setting?
- Post-diglossia Greek and the history of Modern Greek: to what extent does our ignorance, practically, of the history of Modern Greek affect our attitudes in the pre- and post-diglossia period?
- Post-diglossia Greek and chronolect contact: what is the role of vertical contacts in shaping Standard Modern Greek?
- Post-diglossia Greek and dialect contact: what is the role of the constituent dialects in shaping the Demotic koine, which forms the basis of Standard Modern Greek?
- Post-diglossia Greek against the new background of interculturalism, gender equality and multilingualism?
- Post-diglossia Greek and anglicisation: how do we respond to the dilemma "xenelasia or equality", in its most recent and urgent form?
- Post-diglossia Greek and LLMs: designation of an arbitrary hyper-judge of correct writing or emergence of an unbiased partner in accomplishing the historical trends of the language?
- Post-diglossia Greek as a subject of teaching: how can you teach an undefined language (in the sense of lack of definition and lack of defined limits) that has not consolidated itself?

- Post-diglossia Greek and top-down interventions: what is the role of the scientific community, linguists in particular, in shaping and consolidating a post-diglossia variety?
- Relations between pre-diglossia, diglossia and post-diglossia Greek with the minority languages in Greece.
- Stages of development of the Greek diglossia compared to relevant developments in other diglossic countries, most notably Arab countries and Norway.

The first two days (November 5-6) will be devoted to the conference topic. Keynote speakers:

Richard Hudson (University College London, Great Britain), and
Abdulkafi Albirini (Utah State University, United States).

leading scholars on issues related to diglossia.

On the third day morning (Saturday, November 7) we are planning to host: (a) three speeches on the Institute's contribution to the end of diglossia and the adoption of Standard Modern Greek as the official language (delivered by G. Papanastassiou, A. Tsangalidis, and L. Varelas), and (b) a panel discussion entitled "Reflections on and new approaches to the historic 1976 reform, with a focus on education" (panelists: E. Karantzola, D. Koutsogiannis, S. Moschonas, Chr. Tzitzilis, moderated by Th.-S. Pavlidou).

If you wish to participate in the conference with a paper, kindly submit two copies (Word and pdf format) of your abstract as attachments to greek-language-conference@phil.auth.gr by **May 31, 2026**. Notification of acceptance will be communicated by June 30, 2026.

Participation fees:

For in-person participants: **40€**, to be paid on the first day of the Conference at the Teloglion.
 For online participants and students: **20€**.

The Organizing Committee

Chr. Tzitzilis, Professor Emeritus, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, President of the Institute's Board of Directors

Th.-S. Pavlidou, Professor Emerita, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, member of the Institute's Board of Directors

G. Papanastassiou, Professor of Historical Linguistics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Director of the Institute