

## Greek Parliamentary Elections in UK

*Saturday 20 May 2023*



- Greek parliamentary elections outside the Greek territory are taking place on Saturday 20 May 2023

- The voting period is set from 7.00 – 19.00, local time.

- 12 polling stations in the UK

- 8 polling stations in London, 1 in Edinburgh, 1 in Glasgow, 1 in Birmingham and 1 in Leeds.

- Voters will find out about their polling station from the 'Find out where to vote' app a few days before the election.

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ΕΠΙΣΤΗΛΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΕΜΒΑΣΣΗΣ ΣΤΟ ΛΟΝΔΙΝΟ  
EMBASSY OF GREECE IN LONDON



Greece in UK



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## Greek Easter Celebrations around the UK



This year Greeks around the world celebrated Easter between 14-17 April with Easter Day on Sunday 16 April 2023. Greek Easter is the most important religious and cultural celebration in Greece. Easter Sunday is the most significant Holy Day in Greece as the Greek Orthodox Church celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, along with the arrival of spring, when everything is reborn.

In the UK, Greeks celebrated Easter keeping our own traditions in the Greek Orthodox churches and at home. Members of the Greek communities organised feasts for the Easter Sunday while Orthodox churches celebrated the holy week with deserved esteem and glory.

In a festive atmosphere, His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain officiated at the Service of the Resurrection and celebrated the Paschal Divine Liturgy at the Church of St Andrew Kentish Town in London, in the presence of Greek Ambassador in the UK, Mr Ioannis Tsaousis.

### ***Archbishop's Paschal Message 2023***

In a message to the clergy Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain said: "Having traversed the sacred drama of Holy Week, we have witnessed for ourselves the transformation of the cross from a symbol of suffering and death into the Life-Giving Cross. Now is the time to celebrate together with hymns of praise, "For, in your Cross, we may all boast. To it we have nailed our hearts, that on it we may hang our instruments and sing to you, the Lord of all from the songs of Sion" (Victory of the Cross, Stanza 18, St Romanos). As I write these few words of reflection on this great feast, I convey to you my paternal love and blessings, with fervent prayers that each and every one of us may be filled with

the gladness of spiritual songs and hymns, so that the beauty, peace and grace of the Resurrection may permeate our whole lives, illuminating and sanctifying us for the Glory of God".

### ***Holy Week and Pascha in Wood Green, North London***

Both the Cathedral of the Dormition of the Theotokos (St Mary's) and the Church of St Barnabas were filled with Orthodox Christians throughout Holy Week and Pascha remembering the Lord's passion, sacrificial crucifixion and glorious Resurrection. His Grace Bishop Iakovos of Claudiopolis presided over the services, accompanied by the Very Rev. Fr Athanasios Melissaris, Professor of the National & Capodistrian University of Athens' Theological faculty and Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Throne. Fr Athanasios preached the word of God to the faithful at each of the services, offering encouraging messages of hope in the Resurrection, of faith in the Orthodox Church's liturgical and spiritual tradition and of repentance in our struggle to implement the Lord's will in one's life.

### ***Easter Celebration in Birmingham***

The Life-Bearing Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was commemorated with appropriate magnificence in the Greek Orthodox Communities of the Midlands. His Grace Bishop Maximos of Melitene visited the Communities of Nottingham, Leicester, Coventry, and Birmingham during the Holy Week. On Holy Saturday morning, he led the Divine Liturgy at the Church of Saint Luke in Erdington, while in the evening, he led the Resurrection Divine Liturgy at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew in Birmingham.

Photo Credit: Alexios Gennaris

## Greek parliamentary elections and exercise of the right to vote in the United Kingdom



Greek citizens who have chosen to exercise their right to vote in the United Kingdom and are registered on the special electoral rolls abroad are hereby informed that voting at all polling stations outside the Greek Territory will take place on Saturday 20 May 2023.

The voting period at all polling stations is set from 7.00 to 19.00, local time.

In the United Kingdom, 12 polling stations have been designated and will operate in London (8 polling stations), Edinburgh (1), Glasgow (1), Birmingham (1) and Leeds (1).

Voters will be able to find out about their polling station from the 'Find out where to vote' app a few days before the election.

Below are the addresses of the polling stations that will be operating in the UK by city:

### - **London:**

a) Embassy of Greece (1A Holland Park, W11 3TP) and

b) London Greek Nursery and Primary School (3 Pierrepoint Rd, W3 9JR West Acton).

- **Glasgow:** St Luke's Greek School Glasgow, (Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Saint Luke, 27 Dundonald Rd, Glasgow G12 9LL).

- **Edinburgh:** St Andrew's Greek School Edinburgh, on the site of the old Greek Orthodox Church of St Andrew (2 Meadow Ln, Edinburgh, EH8 9NR).

- **Leeds:** Greek Orthodox Community of Leeds, the Three Hierarchs Building, Leeds (57 Harehills Avenue, Leeds LS8 4EU).

- **Birmingham:** The Midlands Greek and Cypriot Association, (Magnet Centre, Park Approach, Birmingham B23 7SJ).

## 'In Conversation with Christos Stylianides' at London Business School



On April 20, Minister for Climate Crisis and Civil Protection of Greece, Christos Stylianides, was in London to speak at the London Business School (LBS) about Greece's climate action, the need for a collective response to the global challenge that is climate change and his Ministry's approach to disaster risk management.

In his remarks at the event, organised by the Wheeler Institute for Business and Development at LBS to mark this year's Earth Day, Minister Stylianides outlined the new reality caused by climate crisis and identified collective action as the only way to tackle the major challenges posed by it. To achieve that, he said that collective action must be grounded on realism and rationalism, characterized by pragmatic policies and to engage with society at large while also keeping the focus on the strategic goal that is to fully implement the global commitments under the Paris Agreement but also the ones identified in the European "Green Deal".

Highlighting the link between the climate crisis and Civil Protection, a link that, after all, lies at the heart of his current portfolio at the Hellenic Ministry for Climate Crisis and Civil Protection, Minister Stylianides moved on to set out Greece's approach to disaster risk management. "Our main goal" he stated "is to bridge the traditional approach to disaster risk management - which focuses on response - with three key pillars: Prevention, Preparedness, and Resilience. This is our new 'dogma', which guides all our actions and initiatives. A holistic approach aiming to enhance our adaptation efforts and strengthen our country's climate resilience. An approach which puts emphasis on collaboration and synergies. On a global, European, national, regional and local level".

In this context, he underlined in concluding his remarks the importance of the European Civil Protection Mechanism and rescEU in addressing the consequences of the climate crisis.

Image source: Greek Ministry for Climate Crisis and Civil Protection

## «The Penguin's Flight» by Stella Serefoglou at Leeds International Film Festival



The Greek Short Film «The Penguin's Flight» by Stella Serefoglou was proudly presented at Leeds International Film Festival, 20-21 April 2023, in the framework of the 5th edition of In Short Film Festival Europe.

The film is about Elli, a young girl whose parents are on the verge of divorce and she spends the summer with her dad, who seems to pay little attention to her. When at one point her cat runs off, she starts looking for the only source of affection she still has... A moving story about loneliness, the fear of abandonment, our need for love and affection and all shattered expectations of youth.

In Short Film Festival Europe is organised by EU National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) London in collaboration with the European Union Delegation to the UK, LEEDS 2023 and Leeds International Film Festival. This edition, entitled Awakening, is organised into four strands: Explore, Grow, Surround and Dream and invites the audience to imagine new beginnings, reflect on the past experiences and dare to dream of a brighter future. The programme has been curated by Ellie Hales, Film Programmer at Leeds International Film Festival.

After Leeds, the Festival is travelling in London on the 12-13 May 2023, and all films will be presented at Ciné Lumière, in the French Institute.

<http://europe.org.uk/event/in-short-europe-awakening-2/>

<https://www.institut-francais.org.uk/cine-lumiere/whats-on/festivals-series/in-short-europe-explore/>

## Maestro in Blue: the first Greek TV show on Netflix



Becoming the first ever TV show to be available worldwide on Netflix, the series 'Maestro in Blue' premiered on the streaming platform on March 17 and immediately made the top 10 in the list of the most watched non-English TV shows on Netflix during the first and second week of its international release.

The series is written and directed by Christoforos Papakaliatis, who also stars as Orestes, a music teacher who arrives at a small island in order to take over the local music festival, and soon finds himself confronted with the social dynamics and at times hard realities of small, closed communities. Can music cure

Blending romance with drama and mystery, Maestro in Blue is filmed on Paxos. The tiny, tranquil and scenic island of the Ionian Sea with its breathtaking landscapes, turquoise waters, limestone cliffs and lush vegetation is one of the true stars of the show.



## Piano concert @Hellenic Centre by the Greek pianist Christos Marantos



A beautiful piano concert performed by Greek pianist Christos Marantos took place at the Hellenic Centre, on Tuesday, April 20. Acclaimed pianist Christos Marantos presented the programme «Tradition and Vision», bridging various epochs and different composers, while depicting facets of human life such as grief, hope and joy. From Mozart and Beethoven to the music of the Lower Austrian composer Herbert Lauer mann and his Greek colleague Giorgos Koumendakis, the audience was taken on a journey through time from the Baroque to the present day.

The event was supported by the Embassy of Greece in London and the Austrian Cultural Forum London.

Christos Marantos spoke @GreeceinUK about the event in London and his future plans!

"I was very glad to give a concert in the Hellenic Centre in London after the invitation of the Director Dr. Yiakoumaki. I also thank the Austrian Cultural Forum London and the Embassy of the Hellenic Republic in the U.K. for their support. Everything was very well organized and it was a pleasure for me to perform this programme. Everyone was very focused and I was very happy that the reaction of the audience to the whole programme, and especially to the contemporary works, was so positive. I am really looking forward to having my next concert in the Hellenic Centre in London, because of its open-minded perception of music and arts.

Now back to Vienna, next to my piano teaching at the University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna, I am looking forward to starting the artistic research project "TRANS-BODIED KNOWLEDGE" about augmenting the spatial perception of architecture students through the senses of hearing and touch. It was a great honour that my team was recently selected among numerous applicants to receive a three-year funding grant by the Austrian Science Fund".

## Food & Drink Expo: A taste of Greece in Birmingham



Another successful trade show for Greek quality food & drink products took place at the NEC in Birmingham, 24- 26/4/2023. 16 dynamic companies from Greece's Regions of Central Macedonia and Ionian Islands showcased their products at Food & Drink Expo. An incredible array of high quality and innovative Greek food and drinks products were on display at the Greek stand, from extra virgin olive oil, wine, olives, and honey to truffle products, kefir, dolmas, lemon juice, vinegar, herbs, chutneys, gin, ginger and herb, soft drinks and much more.

## 7 books at the short list for the Runciman Award Ceremony, 19 June 2023



Since 1986, the Anglo-Hellenic League League Runciman Award has rewarded annually the best book published in the previous year in English about Greece or on a Greek subject. The Award is open to scholarly and creative books and to translations into English of Greek literary works.

This year the judges ended up with 7 books for their short list for the Runciman Award 2023. The Award Ceremony will take place in the Great Hall of King's College London, on Monday 19 June 2023, at 7pm.

For more info on the short list of seven titles:

<https://www.anglohellenicleague.org/>

## 'Being an Islander' a documentary on insularity in the Mediterranean



"What does it mean to be an islander?", "What role does the natural environment and the natural resources of an island play in shaping island life and culture?", "How important is immaterial heritage and how is it manifested in the island setting?"

Seeking to explore these questions and taking the Greek island of Siphnos as a research example, the documentary **'Being an Islander'** embarks on a journey through time, space and the human psyche - that of the Islanders - to examine the notions of insularity, mobility and millennia-old human presence in the Aegean Sea and beyond.

It does so through the prism of visual anthropology and while employing an interdisciplinary approach that attempts to break with frozen, monothematic images of a nostalgic (touristic) Mediterranean by giving space to the voices of islanders themselves.

The filming lasted one and a half years with the active participation of twenty-six residents as well as scientific collaborators, academic - post-doctoral researchers and technical consultants. Their accounts on what it means to be an islander now and in the past provide a complex and more nuanced picture of insularity, one in which divergences and convergences coexist.

'Being an islander' by Dimitrios Bouras and Anastasia Christophilopoulou (read our interview with her in April's issue) won the Audience Award for a Greek film screened online at the section Platform and From screen to Screen at the 25th Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival this year. It was created with the support of Stavros Niarchos Foundation, produced with the kind permission of the Greek Ministry of Culture, and is under the auspices of the Municipality of Siphnos.

Along with the Fitzwilliam Museum's major exhibition "Islanders The Making of the Mediterranean", which runs until June 4, the documentary forms part of the "Being an Islander" interdisciplinary research project of Cambridge University.

## The Greek Online School: Summer 2023



**Greek Language Summer Camp:** The Greek Language Summer Camp returns for 2023 with more Greek language courses and fun activities for young learners. After the success of last year, the Greek Language Summer Camp will be back for 2023 offering children (aged 6-15 years) across the world a great way to improve their Greek language skills and have fun in the process.

**The Greek online School Immersion Course for adults:** The Greek Immersion Course for adults will take place from June 24 to July 2, 2023 at the Anargyrios School in the island of Spetses. The intensive Greek language program aims to achieve students' immersion in the culture of the island, help them improve their Greek through daily lessons and interactions with the locals, promote the amazing history and culture of the historic island and offer people a relaxing summer in Greece.

The Greek Online School is an innovative Greek language school and a very special place to meet and network with Greek language learners from all over the world.

The Greek Language Camp as well as the Greek Immersion Course for adults runs under the auspices of the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the General Secretariat for Greeks Abroad and the Ministry of Tourism

Watch the summer camp 2022 video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D75kbTKLHKE>

Watch the 2022 Spetses class video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BWSJif4o3Cg>

For more information: <https://thegreekonlineschool.com/>

## Interview with Stefanos Dimoulas, the first Greek artist to be included in a Forbes list



*•You have been the first Greek artist to become a Forbes lister. How difficult was for a young boy from Volos, to become a renowned dance artist and conquer international stages, let alone to join the Forbes list? Give us a title for your life 'voyage'.*

I still pinch myself that what you just mentioned is true. Being the first Greek dancer on a Forbes list makes this an even more special achievement for me, especially in the category of 'Arts and Culture' which I've dedicated my entire existence to.

For a young boy from Volos to become anything bigger than what his country or city limits him to be, it certainly required a lot of hard -and smart- work, dedication, and perseverance. Growing up in a small town can be limiting in terms of exposure to different dance styles and opportunities to develop one's skills, but with the right training, guidance and mostly personal research, anything is possible. Anything that we were told we were "too small" to achieve due to our humble beginnings.

To join the Forbes list as a dance creative didn't require just talent, but also business savvy and an understanding of how to monetise one's personal and professional development. It did involve building a strong brand, networking with industry professionals, and good use of social media and other marketing channels to reach a wider audience.

A possible title... Hm that's a hard one! I guess a title for my life and professional journey could be "Wor(l)ds of a Dancer". This title captures the idea of having my own unique language and way of expressing myself not only through movement but also through advocating for others. The use of the word "worlds" with a play on the word "words" suggests

that my journey is creating many worlds for all the types of people, through my personal experiences and perspectives, which relate with every type of professional out there from toxic people/bosses to financial arrangements/contracts. This is inspired by the Greek myth of the Atlas, who was holding his world on his own hands.

*•How different is the British and international audience from Greek audience?*

It's difficult to make generalisations about audiences as people's tastes and preferences vary widely regardless of nationality. However, there may be some differences in how British and international audiences approach and appreciate dance compared to a Greek audience.

The British audience has a stronger tradition of contemporary and modern dance, with a focus on innovation and experimentation and someone can see that reflection in the types of performances and choreography that the audience is open to buy a ticket for. The government keeps a balance though on funding both classical and contemporary opportunities which helps with the variety of shows available and the build up of an audience more receptive to the change.

The Greek audience has a strong appreciation for the performing arts and a deep respect for the cultural and historical significance of theater, music, and dance. Also a discerning eye for quality and artistic expression. Lately though, I am noticing that a person in Greece enters a show in order to be entertained not to be amused. And by amused I mean learn, think, question. Even more, what I find interesting is that an increasing number of people attend shows not even to be entertained aka enjoy or learn from them, but rather to pass judgement on them once they're over. I must admit that the Greek audience is a difficult one to please! But I am here for it and I love a bit of drama!

Of course, these are just generalizations based on even my current mindset, and there are certainly many people in all of these audiences who appreciate a wide variety of dance styles. Ultimately, the success of a performance or artist often comes down to their ability to connect with and move their audience, regardless of where they come from.

Photo Credit : [www.forbes.com](http://www.forbes.com)

## Agenda

### Πολίτικα (Politika): More than merely Istanbul Greek

When: 16/5/2023, 7pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://acguk.net/16-may-23-politika-more-than-merely-istanbul-greek/>

### Greek Dialogues - Blushing Philosophers or Flushed Philosophers?: Women at Four Symposia

When 18/05/2023, 6.00pm

Where: Faculty of Classics, Cambridge Centre for Greek Studies

<https://www.ccgscsah.cam.ac.uk/events/greek-dialogues-blushing-philosophers-or-flushed-philosophers-women-four-symposia>

### Art in Partnership – Contemporary Art and the British School at Athens

When: 18/05/2023, 7pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/art-in-partnership-contemporary-art-and-the-british-school-at-athens/>

### Erica Scourti: Artist's Talk

When: 25/05/2023, 7pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/erica-scourti-artists-talk/>

### The 10th HO PhD Symposium on Contemporary Greece and Cyprus

When: 26/05/2023,

Where: London School of Economics

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/Hellenic-Observatory/Events/HO-PhD-Symposia/The-10th-HO-PhD-Symposium-on-Contemporary-Greece-and-Cyprus>

### The Paradox of Trust in a "Low Trust" Society. Insights from a Greek Study

When: 26/05/2023, 6.00-7.30pm

Where: London School of Economics

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/Hellenic-Observatory/Events/events-pages/2022-23/The-Paradox-of-Trust>

### In- Short Film Festival Europe: Awakening

When: 12- 13 May 2023

Where: French Institute in London, Ciné Lumière

<http://europe.org.uk/event/in-short-europe-awakening-2/>

Greece is participating in this year's Festival with the film «The Penguin's Flight» by Stella Serefoglou

### The Bronze Inscribed Tablets from the Treasury of Pallas at Argos (4th century B.C.)

When: 30/05/2023, 5.30pm

Where: Online

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/the-bronze-inscribed-tablets-from-the-treasury-of-pallas-at-argos-4th-century-b-c/>

### Konstantinos Alsinos, Η πληγή του κόσμου (The Wound of the World) (Athens: Mikri Arktos, 2022)

When: 02/06/2023, 7pm

Where: King's College London

<https://www.anglohellenicleague.org/cultural-events/>

### After the Explosion you Still Hear the Light: A Book, Film and Conversation with 3 137

When: 03/06/2023, 3pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/after-the-explosion-you-still-hear-the-light-a-book-film-and-conversation-with-3-137/>

### European Writers' Festival: The Stories We Tell

When: 20- 21 May 2023

Where: British Library

<http://europe.org.uk/event/european-writers-festival-the-stories-we-tell/>

Greece is participating in this year's Festival with the book «The Interrogation», by Elias Maglinis

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