



**Call for Papers “Alcohol and Anti-alcoholism in Greece (1870-1940)”**  
**Athens, October 12, 2018**

As well as an ingredient of everyday diet and a popular commodity in many societies, alcohol constitutes a fertile research subject for the social and human sciences: agricultural and industrial product, merchandise, taxed commodity, subject of medical and psychiatric research, integral part of religious and lay rituals, factor of socialization, source of artistic inspiration, it has interested in particular economic history, history of food or anthropology.

In the Southern Balkans, alcohol consumption was widespread before the creation of the Greek State, while the production and commerce of alcoholic beverages in Greece were encouraged since the first years following the declaration of independence in 1830. During the last quarter of the nineteenth century, in particular, wine-making and distillation develop rapidly at the margins of the raisin economy. At the same time, per capita consumption of alcoholic beverages rises, as a result of the growth of local production and the multiplication of alcohol’s medical uses, but also due to sociocultural shifts concerning the management of leisure time, the emergence of new forms of entertainment, and the growing popularity of places of consumption, such as taverns and coffee shops. However, as the first cases of chronic or acute alcohol poisoning are recorded, an anti-alcoholic front is created in the beginning of the twentieth century, denouncing the social repercussions of alcohol misuse.

The meeting “**Alcohol and anti-alcoholism in Greece, 1870-1940**”, which will be held under the auspices of the University of Crete and of the Research Center for the Humanities (RCH), examines the multiple aspects of the history of alcohol and anti-alcoholic discourses in Greece during the late nineteenth and the early twentieth century, focusing on the relation between on the one hand the diffusion of alcoholic beverages in public space and the consumers’ habits, and on the other the advent of the notion of “alcoholism”. It aims thus at contributing to a social and cultural history of practices and understandings of alcohol consumption in modern Greece.

In this context, we invite social scientists to submit a **brief biographical note (up to 100 words)** and a **paper proposal (up to 500 words)**. Indicatively, but not exclusively, papers can treat one of the following subjects that will showcase the phenomenon’s historical dimension:

- Official policies on alcohol and their role in the formation of consumer habits
- Economical dimensions of production and consumption
- Cultural expressions and social representations of alcohol and its use
- Ideological and cultural stakes of discourses on alcohol
- Medical and psychiatric perceptions of alcohol and their impact
- Examples and analogies with other cases (Balkan, Mediterranean, European and beyond)

Proposal submissions and further information at the address: [alcohol.anti-alcoholism@gmail.com](mailto:alcohol.anti-alcoholism@gmail.com)

Proposal deadline: **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018** (Replies by May 31, 2018)

**Scientific committee:** Efī Avdela (University of Crete), Kostis Gotsinas (University of Crete), Yannis Yannitsiotis (University of the Aegean)