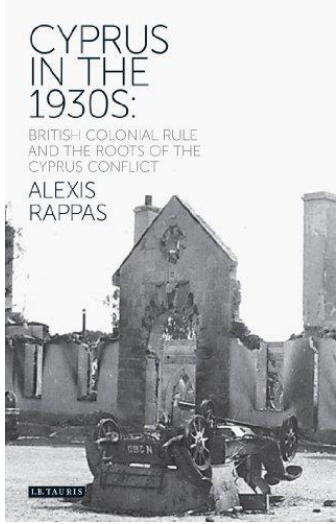


*ANAMED and Tarih Vakfı cordially invite you to a public talk by
Alexis Rappas (Koc University)*



Cyprus in the 1930s: The roots of an ongoing conflict

The talk on Rappas' book, *Cyprus in the 1930s: British colonial rule and the roots of the Cyprus conflict* will be held at the ANAMED Library on the 2nd of October, and will be moderated by Antonis Hadjikyriacou (Bogazici University).

The book sheds light on the 1930s, a heretofore neglected period of Cypriot history. Its approach is decisively comparative: in seeking to understand British experiments at social engineering it relocates Cyprus within a broader transnational cultural and political context characterised by a widespread fascination with social planning sometimes leading, especially in the post-1929 crisis context, to fascination with authoritarianism. The Italian fascist challenge to British supremacy in the Mediterranean is also factored into account for the distinctly authoritarian turn in Cyprus. Adopting an interdisciplinary approach and drawing on political philosophy (Arendt), the sociology of organizations (Crozier/Merton), and structural linguistics (Barthes/Guha), the broader ambition of the book is to problematize the evolution of the late colonial state. Methodologically this is pursued by alternating micro and macro scales of analysis. The book was nominated for the 2015 Runciman Award and was reviewed 9 times, including in *Diplomacy and Statecraft*, *European History Quarterly*, *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, and *Mediterranean Historical Review*.

Alexis Rappas is an assistant professor of history at Koç University where he teaches Mediterranean history, European history and imperial and colonial history. His book, *Cyprus in the 1930s: British Colonial Rule and the Roots of the Cyprus Conflict* (London, IB Tauris, 2014) explores British colonial attempts at social engineering in that island. Arguing that this policy was a product both of transnational discussions on social planning in interwar Europe and of British official reactions to the geopolitical situation of the Mediterranean, the book strives to comprehend its political long-term effects in a multicultural island inhabited by Greek and Turkish Cypriots. His current research focuses on the interplay between European imperial sovereignty and property in the post-Ottoman Levant. Early findings of this project have been published in the *Revue d'Histoire Moderne et Contemporaine*, the *International History Review* and the *Mediterranean Historical Review*.



Date: 2 October 2018, Tuesday, 18:00

Place: Istiklal Cad. No 181 Merkez Han,
ANAMED Library (2nd floor)