

E l e n i T o u n t a

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Eleni Tounta was born in Athens in 1973. She studied Philology at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (1991–1995) and completed a Master’s degree in the History of Religions at the University of Liège with an Onassis Foundation scholarship (1996–1997). In 2006 she received her PhD from the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Athens, specializing in medieval history. She worked as a full-time research fellow at Heidelberg University (2006–2007) before being appointed Lecturer in Medieval Western History (4th–15th c.) at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (2007), where she was promoted to Professor in 2024. Since 2008 she also teaches at the Hellenic Open University (EAP), coordinating the module *Byzantine and Western World* since 2017. Her research interests include medieval political thought, historiography, social and cultural history, Byzantine–Western relations, travel and the construction of otherness, Humanism and the Renaissance, and colonialism in the eastern Mediterranean.

Selected Publications

1. *The travels of Cristoforo Buondelmonti and Ciriaco d’Ancona in the Aegean Sea: Humanism, early colonial politics, and agency*. London: Routledge, 2024
2. *Ιστορίες αγίων. Κοινότητες, χώρος και μνήμη στη μεσαιωνική Νότια Ιταλία (τέλη 9^{ου}-αρχές 13^{ου} αιώνα)*. Αθήνα: Ευρασία, 2021
3. “The Italo-Greek Courtiers and their Saint: Constructing the Italo-Greek Elite’s Collective Identity in the Twelfth-Century Norman Kingdom of Sicily.” *Mediterranean Studies* 28, no. 1 (2020): 88-129
4. *Μεσαιωνικά κάτοπτρα εξουσίας. Ιστορικοί και αφηγήματα στο Νορμανδικό Ιταλικό Νότο*. Αθήνα: Ευρασία, 2012.
5. *Το δυτικό sacrum imperium και η Βυζαντινή Αυτοκρατορία. Ιδεολογικές τριβές και αλληλεπιδράσεις στην ευρωπαϊκή πολιτική σκηνή του 12^{ου} αιώνα (1135-1177)*. Αθήνα: Ίδρυμα Ριζαρείου, 2008