



The Netherlands Institute at Athens cordially invites you to the lecture

Romantic Nationalism: politics/culture and location

by

Professor Joep Leerssen, University of Amsterdam

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Netherlands Institute at Athens, Makri 11, Koukaki



“Theories of nationalism are often hampered by a historical dichotomy and/or a spatial myopia. The historical dichotomy is that the moving force of nationalism is sought either in social praxis or in cultural identity; the spatial myopia is that the "ground zero" of nationalism is often located in a specific European country/society (Germany, France, Italy) and that the specifics of that societal location are then seen as paradigmatic for the ideology as a whole. In this lecture I present nationalism as an emergent condition (tipping point / cascading event) affecting a complex and densely communicative cultural system (Europe as a whole) and manifesting itself according to the specific conditions of the individual societies. This view sees a self-reflexive "cultivation of culture" as a social and political praxis in its own right (thus bypassing the culture/politics dichotomy) and allows for its simultaneous emergence in societies as different as Germany and Greece.”

The lecture will be discussed by Professor Christina Koulouri, Professor in Modern and Contemporary History at Panteio University. After her response "Staging national pasts in romantic Greece" the floor will open for discussion with the audience.

For your seat reservation contact nia@nia.gr, or phone 210-9210760 (Mo-Fr 09.00-17.00)

Illustration: "Grateful Hellas or Everything for the Fatherland", Theodoros Vryzakis (1858)