The Post-War Origins of the Cyprus Question

with

Professor Ioannis D. Stefanidis, Aristotle University

The Cyprus question has defied conflict resolution for more than six decades. Contemporary observers tend to overlook its rich historical background and to over-simplify its causes, usually limiting reflection upon past events to the post-1974 period. A deeper understanding of the question requires tracing its roots in the advent of modernity in a post-Ottoman society, the rise of rival nationalisms, the bitter divisions within the Greek-Cypriot community, imperialist rear guard action and the onset of the Cold War. Investigating the internationalization of the Cyprus issue during the 1950s, in particular, one encounters agents overlooked by posterity (such as the AKEL, i.e. the Communist Party of Cyprus) and glimpses the contours of subsequent developments, including ethnic cleansing and partition.

Professor Ioannis D. Stefanidis teaches Diplomatic History at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. He has written six books and several articles. His latest book is Substitute for Power: British Propaganda to the Balkans, 1939-1944 (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2012). His current research interests include information policies, propaganda and the use of the media in promoting democracy in third countries.

Tuesday, April 7, 2015
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E St. NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at http://go.gwu.edu/stefanidis

This event is on the record.