



Greeks and Jews

Jews, Jewish Culture and Judaism in Greece

- Hellenistic period
- Roman Greece
- Byzantine Empire (330-1204)
- *Late Byzantine Era (1204-1453)*
- The Ottoman Empire (1453-1821)
- Independent Greece (1821 -1941)
- **Post-war community (1945-present)**
- **Zionism and antisemitism in Greece**

1945-present

“Since we cannot change reality, let us change the eyes which see reality.”

Nikos

Kazantzakis



ENRICH

CONNECT

EXPLORE

EVERYONE
HAS A STORY



Once upon a time



"Greek Jews"

- * There have been organized Jewish communities in Greece for more than 2,000 years.
- * The oldest Jewish group that has lived in Greece are the Romaniotes, also known as "Greek Jews".



Jews were deported in several phases

- * March 1943 - Expulsion from Thrace and Macedonia.
- * March-May 1943 – Salonika's Jews were ghettoized, marked, dispossessed, and deported.
- * 46,091 Salonikans were deported to Auschwitz. 1,950 survived



OCCUPATION OF GREECE 1941



*Why did the oldest Jewish community in
Europe
effectively perish in the holocaust?*

- * Why should we teach about the holocaust to learn about modern Greece?*
- * How do you communicate the uncommunicable?*
- * How do non-Greeks understand and respond to what happened in Greece during the holocaust?*
- * How do Greeks understand the legacy of the holocaust?*



The Shoah is distinctive...

- *It is unique in modern history
- *“Beware isolating the Shoah from other tragedies, because we have to build solidarity against contempt, hatred and violence.”

– Stefan Wilkanowicz

www.znak.com.pl/eurodialog

Rather than ask why....?

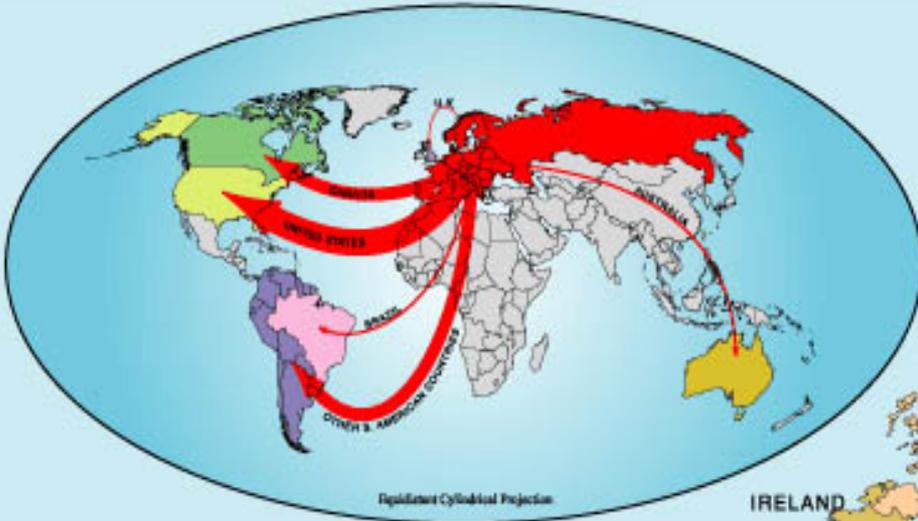
** “the task of teaching after Auschwitz is to oppose barbarity.”*

Theodor Adorno

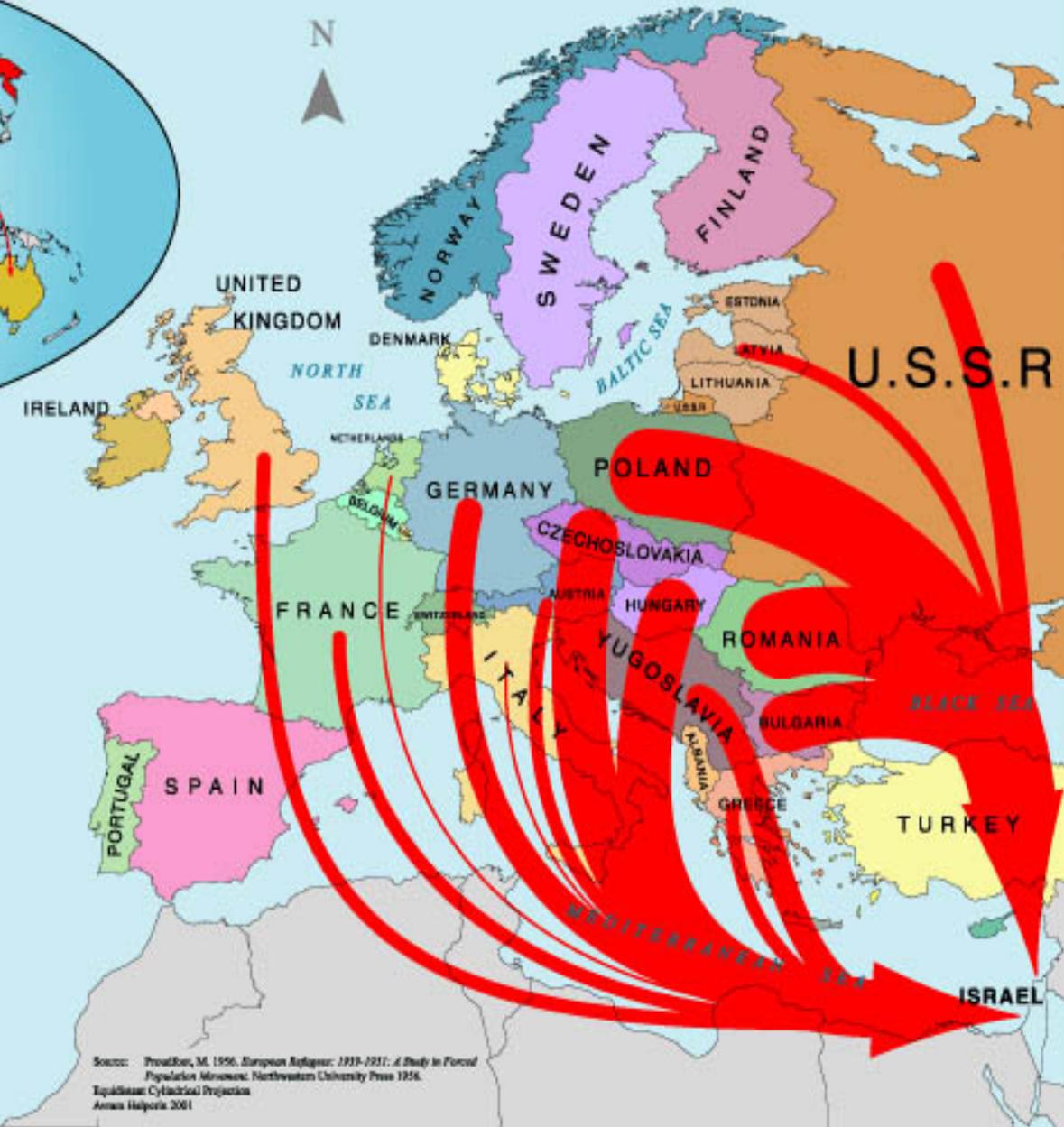
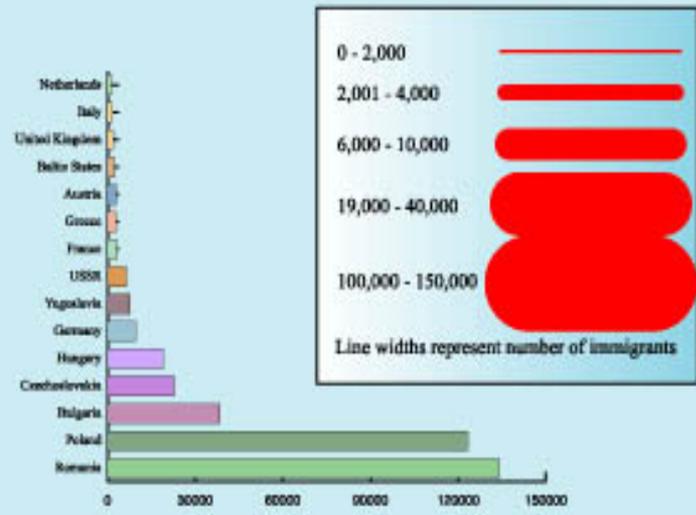
** Ask.... For what purpose....*

** do we learn anything?*

** do we need to study particular events?*



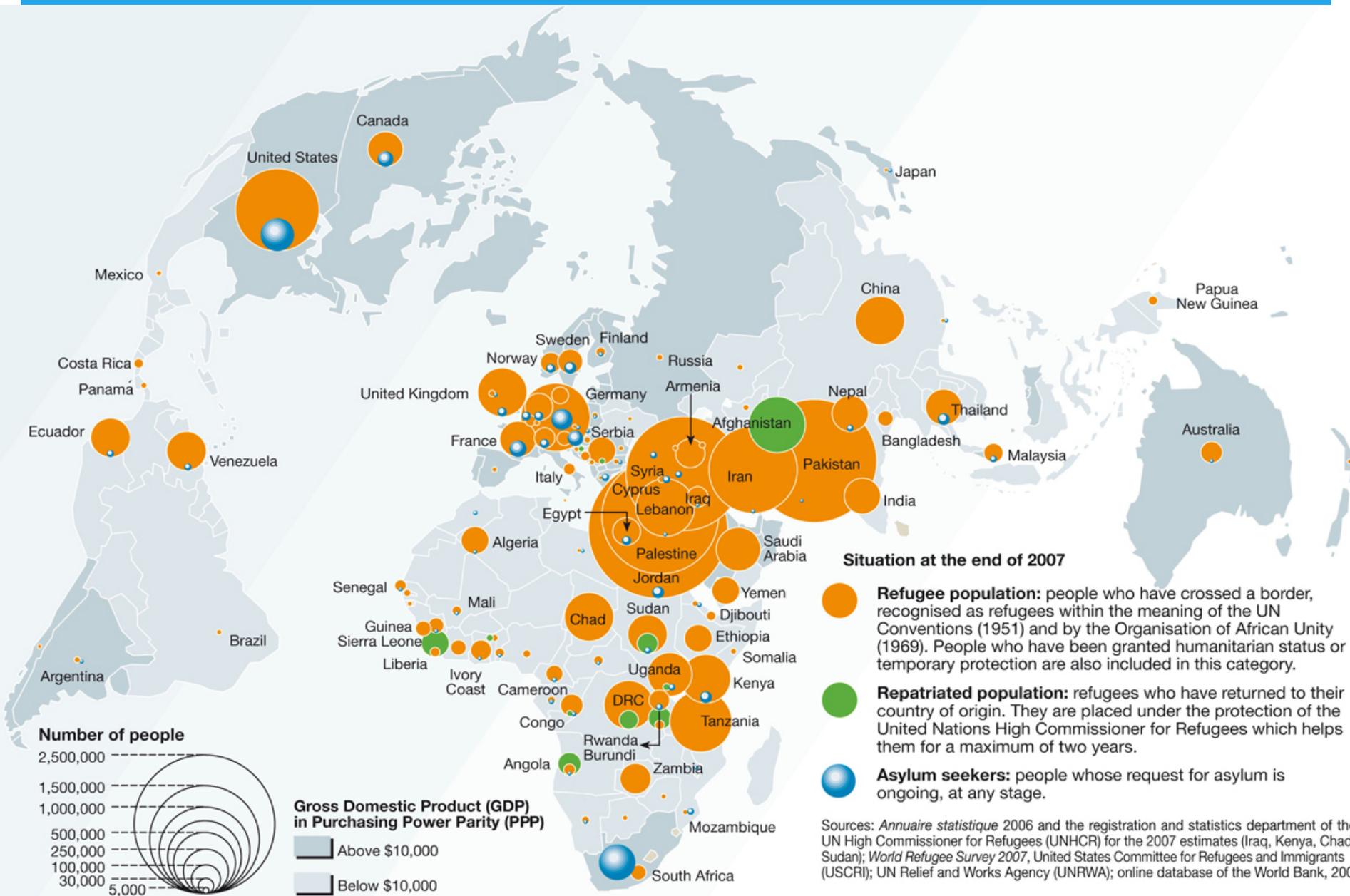
1946-1951: EUROPEAN JEWISH DIASPORA



Source: Prutz, M. 1956. *European Refugees: 1918-1921. A Study in Forced Population Movements*. Northwestern University Press 1956.
Equivalent Cylindrical Projection
Anna Helvola 2001

Rabbi Byron L. Sherman

- * The holocaust was a paradigmatic event
- * Earthquake in human history, aftershocks continue to this day
- * Teaching this event creates sensitivity to those aftershocks
- * What we do can ensure it never recurs...
 - * Do not be silent in the face of evil
 - * Sin begins with a word, or silence, or indifference which can be taken as assent



“Remember, do not forget, speak of us to the next generation...”

- * It is difficult to explain modern Greek history without discussing the place and role of the Jews in it, who lived among Greeks for generations, for thousands of years and enriched Greek culture, society, economic and commercial life.

Questions to Consider

- * How were the Nazis able to establish the foundations of a totalitarian regime in such a short time and hurl Europe—and the world—into a devastating war that would consume more than 50 million lives?
- * How could the Germans achieve the almost total annihilation of the Jewish community in the Balkans?

How do you tell the story of so many lost communities?



History on Trial

***Case Study #1 -Ioannina**

***Case Study #2 -Monastir**

***Case Study #3 -Rhodes**

***Case study #4 -Salonika**

***Case Study #5 -Zakynthos**

Historians

Herodotus

Lord Acton

Simon Schama

Thucydides

E.H. Carr

Auguste Comte

Josephus

**Frederick Jackson
Turner**

**George Macaulay
Trevelyan**

**Francesco
Petrarca
(Petrarch)**

Michel Foucault

Niall Ferguson

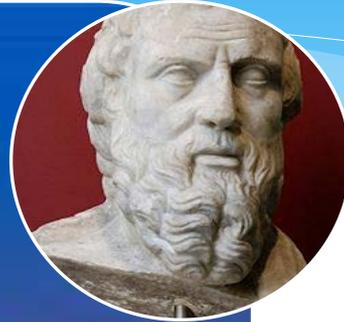
Edward Gibbon

Fernand Braudel

Eric Hobsbawm

Team One

Case Study #1 - Ioannina



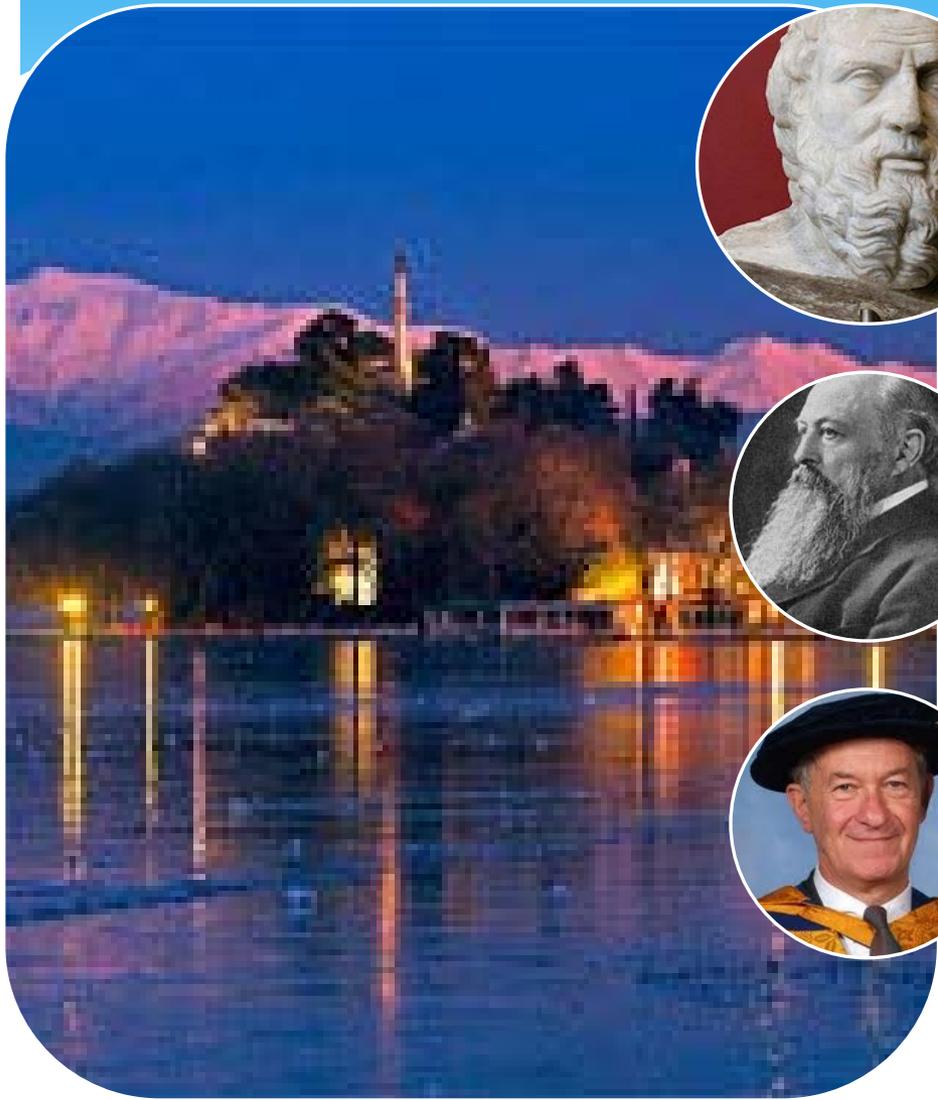
Herodotus



Lord Acton



Simon Schama



Team Two

Case Study #2 - Monastir



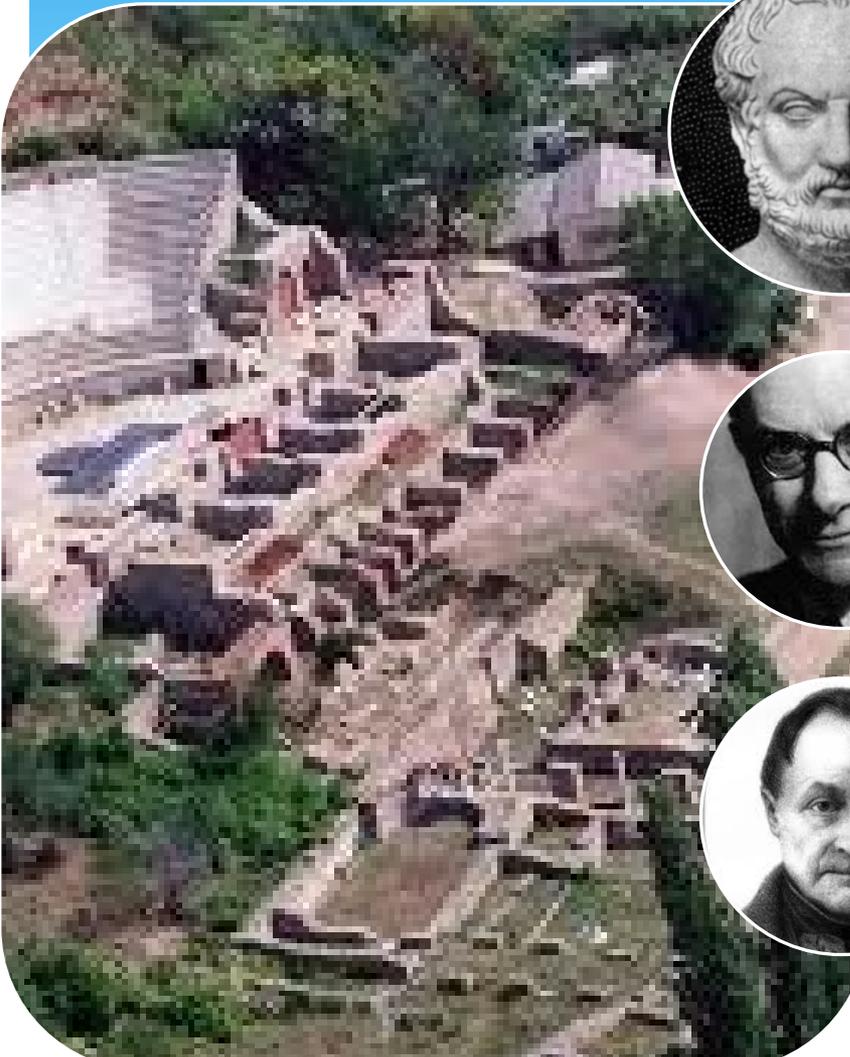
Thucydides



E.H. Carr



Auguste Comte



Victoria and Isak Assael

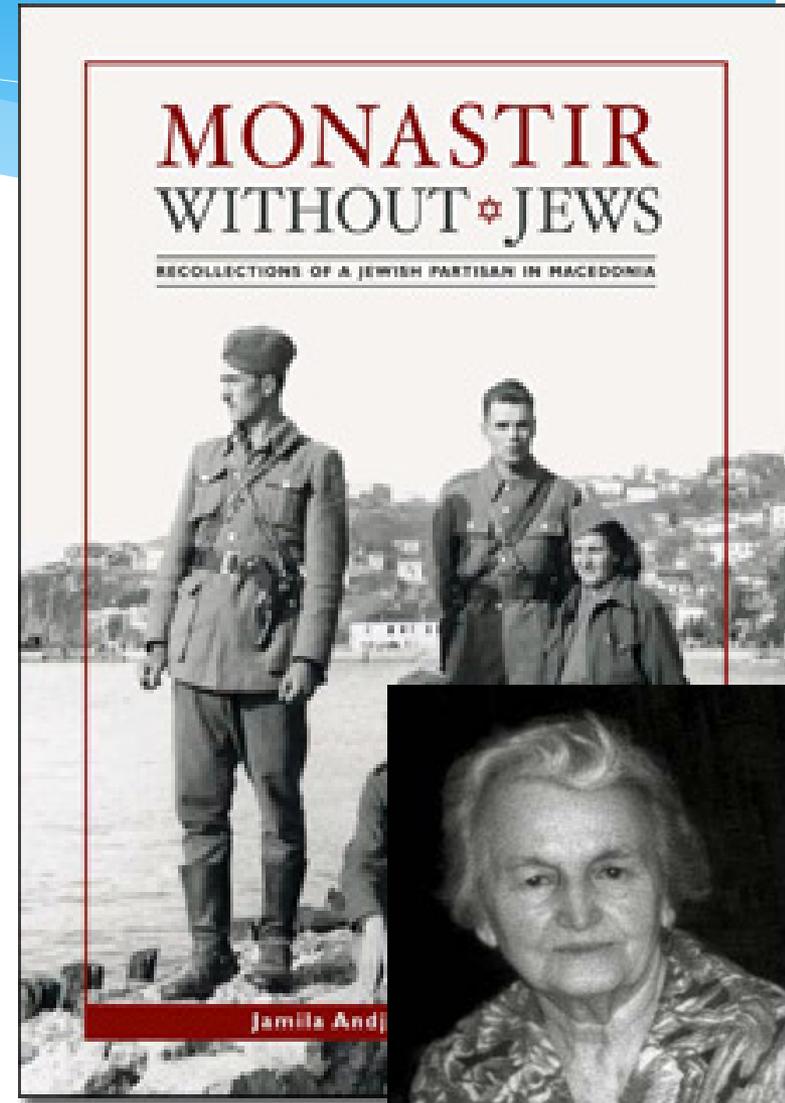
**FACES OF
MONASTIR**





Jamila Andjela Kolonomos

- * Born in 1922, raised in the Jewish community of Monastir
- * Aged 19, she joined the Yugoslavian Resistance when the Bulgarians occupied Macedonia in 1941
- * Escaped the roundup and deportation of Monastir's Jewish Community
- * Rose to rank of Deputy Commissar of a Macedonian brigade and the 42nd Yugoslav Army Division
- * Kolonomos was cited many times for merit and bravery



Team Three

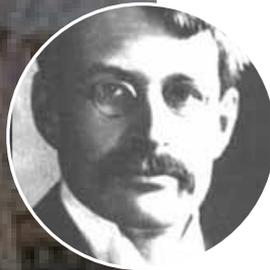
Case Study #3 - Rhodes



Titus Flavius Josephus
(Yosef ben Matityahu)



Frederick Jackson
Turner



George Macaulay
Trevelyan

Team Four

Case study #4 - Salonika

SALONIC CITY OF GHOSTS

CHRISTIANS, MUSLIMS AND JEWS 1430-

'A tremendous book about a city unique not just in E
but in the entire history of humanity'

Jan Morris, *Guardian*



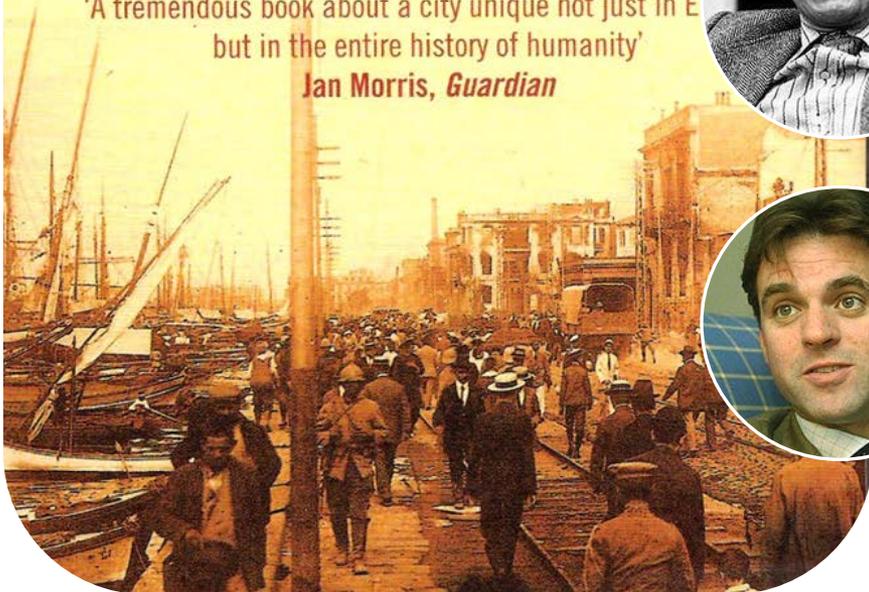
Francesco Petrarca
(Petrarch)



Michel Foucault



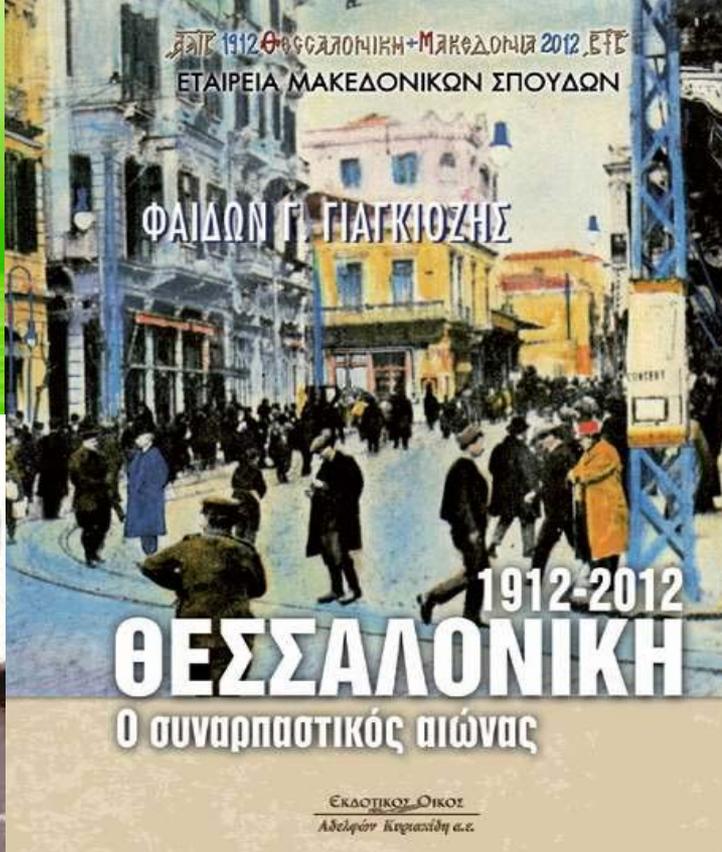
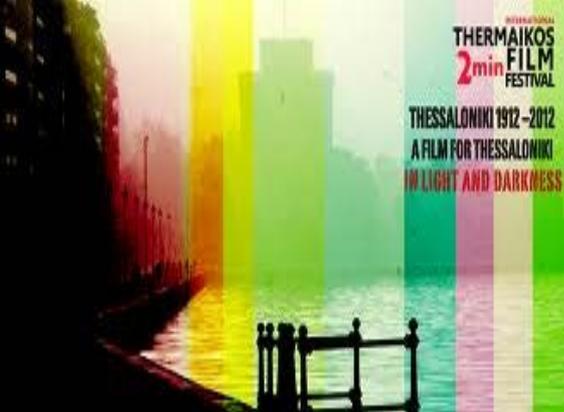
Niall Ferguson





Traces of History: Salonika, Greece





Celebrate
Participate
Experience

Thessaloniki
1912-2012

english | ελληνικά

Home Page

Thessaloniki, the name of a historic city

We are preparing a celebration!

Initiatives from the city & for the city

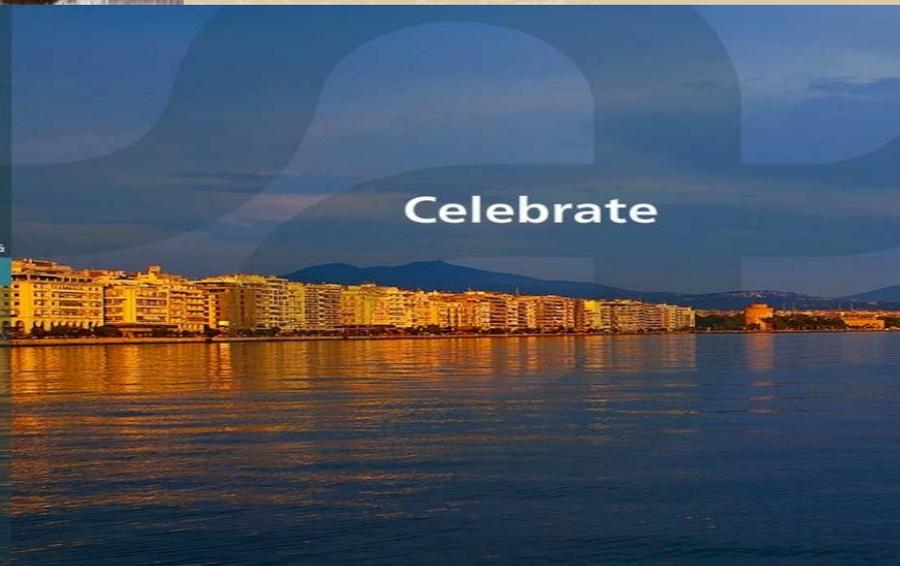
Join the celebration!

Events & Projects

Sponsors - Supporters

Contact

 CITY OF THESSALONIKI



Team Five

Case Study #5 - Zakynthos



Edward Gibbon



Fernand Braudel



Eric Hobsbawm





WHAT'S **YOUR** STORY?

