

Agenda

The Kurdish Issue and the Developments in the Middle East

Saturday, May 24th, 2025 at the Institute of International Relations (IDIS), Athens, Greece

9.30-10.15 OPENING STATEMENT

Gharib Hassou, Co-President of PYD

10.15-11.45 FIRST SESSION

The current situation in Syrian Kurdistan and the developments in Syria

Zakia Aqra, CEMMIS Editor-in-Chief (moderator)

- Sotiris Roussos, Professor University of the Peloponnese, CEMMIS Scientific Supervisor
- Katia Zagoritou, PhD Candidate University of the Peloponnese, CEMMIS Researcher
- Antonis Deriziotis, Assistant Professor National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

COFFEE BREAK

12.00-12.45 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Nikos Kotzias, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece

LUNCH BREAK

14.00-15.30 SECOND SESSION

The democratic self-government of Rojava, the influence of Abdullah Ocalan and its regional impact

Ioannis Albanis, Journalist (moderator)

- Stavros Lygeros, Journalist
- Petros Papakonstantinou, Journalist
- Thomas Schmidinger, Associate Professor University of Kurdistan Hewlêr
- Amy Austin Holmes, Professor George Washington University



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15.45-16.30 KEYNOTE SESSION

Ilham Ahmed, Co-chair of the Foreign Relations Department in the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria (DAANES)

COFFEE BREAK

17.00-18.30 THIRD SESSION

Regional powers and the Kurdish issue

Sotiris Roussos, Professor University of the Peloponnese, CEMMIS Scientific Supervisor (moderator)

- Constantinos Filis, Director of the ACG Institute of Global Affairs and Associate Professor at the American College of Greece
- Stavros Drakoularakos, Adjunct Lecturer University of Nicosia, CEMMIS Editor-in-Chief
- Kamal Chomani, PhD candidate, Leipzig University, Germany

18.45-19.30 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Sema Bakdash, Head of the Diplomatic Bureau of PYD

The event is organized by the Centre for Mediterranean, Middle East and Islamic Studies (CEMMIS)



The event will take place at the Institute of International Relations (IDIS)
Address: Hill 3, Athens, 105 58, Greece