

## Tentative Agenda

### The Kurdish Issue and the Developments in the Middle East

---

*Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 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)

- Konstantinos Arvanitopoulos, Professor Panteion University of Athens (to be confirmed)
- Katia Zagoritou, PhD Candidate University of the Peloponnese, CEMMIS Researcher
- Antonis Deriziotis, Assistant Professor National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- Boris James, Associate Professor Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier 3

---

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



# Tentative Agenda

## 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
- Sotiris Roussos, Professor University of the Peloponnese, CEMMIS Scientific Supervisor
- 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 Baktdash, 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