

*The Pinelli printing press in 17th-century Venice: Greek editions and their circulation.*

The subject of my Doctoral Dissertation is the publishing activity of the 17th-century Venetian printing house of Pinelli, with an emphasis on Greek publications. In the 16th century, along with the gradual evolution of the form of the book, the production of Greek books was geared to the Greek-speaking world of the Eastern Mediterranean. Apart from the publication of classical texts intended for Western readers and scholars, a significant typographical activity developed intended to meet the needs of a Greek audience. This is evident from the printing of liturgical books, translations of classical texts in demotic Greek and Greek vernacular texts that were often either translations of or paraphrases of Western models.

In the 17th century, the Greek book acted at the same time as a means of religious controversy and propaganda, while some of the liturgical religious books were used as school textbooks. Venice continued to produce the majority of Greek books with the most important production center being the Greek printing house of Nikolaos Glykys. This famous publishing house was preceded by the foundation of two major Italian printing houses that published Greek books: Giuliani and Pinelli. Giuliani's printing house published a significant number of Greek books, including the first editions of *Ερωφίλη* and *Βασιλεύς, ο Ρωδολίνος*.

The Pinelli printing press, on which I will focus, was founded in the early 17th century and was active for two centuries, until the end of the Venetian Republic. My research will be limited to the period from 1600 to 1676, during which Pinelli published more than one hundred Greek titles. It will concern the editions, copies, typographic characters, illustration, paper and binding but also the book production process of a 17th-century printing house.

It is worth noting that while there is literature on 16th century printers, there are only a few studies on Greek publishing activity in 17<sup>th</sup>-century Venice and none on the Pinelli printing press. This study aspires to fill this research gap.

Through the systematical recording (Annali) of the Greek editions, I will explore the 17<sup>th</sup>-century production of Modern Greek Literature, the Greek Diaspora of Venice, and the historical, religious and political factors that influenced Greek publishing activity.

Methodologically my work consists of two parts:

**A.** the bibliographic and archival research on the historical, cultural, social and economic context of the 17th century, and,

**B.** the research, recording and bibliographic description of the Greek editions of the Pinelli printing press, their reading, use and circulation, aiming at their understanding, that is, their integration into the social, historical, economic and cultural events of the period. Emphasis will be given on the book paths, in terms of production processes and circulation, as a mean of detecting corresponding paths of money and ideas.

### **Summary table of thematic units**

1. The Hellenism of Venice. Religious, political and economic dimensions of Greek publishing.
2. The 17th century book. The Greek book. Morphological characteristics. Social and economic dimension: the book as a social good.
3. The Modern Greek Literature production in the 17th century. Original works, translations and paraphrases. The western prototypes.
4. The production of Greek religious editions.
5. Annali: recording of the editions of the Pinelli printing press.
  - 5.1. Production of a catalog with bibliographical descriptions of all the editions in all the languages in which the Pinelli printing press had published: Italian, Latin, Greek, Modern Greek and Hebrew.
  - 5.2. Detailed bibliographic description of Greek editions with emphasis on material evidence of provenance of copies that allow tracing the circulation of Greek books.