



**#germanstories**

# Let's Talk!

**Networking and professional  
programme for publishers from**

**Greece, Germany, Southeast Europe  
and Türkiye**

**Athens, 20-21 September 2023**

## **LET'S TALK! 2023**

### **CURATED AND ORGANISED BY:**

Frankfurter Buchmesse GmbH [[www.buchmesse.de](http://www.buchmesse.de)]

Goethe-Institut Athens [[www.goethe.de/athen](http://www.goethe.de/athen)]

Hellenic Foundation for Culture [[hfc-worldwide.org](http://hfc-worldwide.org)]

Thessaloniki Book Fair [[www.thessalonikibookfair.gr](http://www.thessalonikibookfair.gr)]

### **SUPPORTED BY:**

Federal Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany

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# Let's Talk!

## Networking and professional programme for publishers from Greece, Germany, Southeast Europe and Türkiye

With a focus on industry-relevant topics, *Let's Talk!* is the motto of a successful networking and professional programme for publishers which has been held in Athens and online since 2020. This year's programme will take place on 20 and 21 September 2023 in person, in Athens.

34 publishers and agents from 12 countries: Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Montenegro, Northern Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Türkiye are participating in the 2023 edition in Athens.

Financially supported by the German Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany, *Let's Talk!* is curated and organised by Frankfurter Buchmesse GmbH in cooperation with Goethe-Institut Athens, Hellenic Foundation for Culture and Thessaloniki Book Fair.

# Let's Talk!

**20-21 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**Goethe-Institut Athens, Omirou 14-16, 106 72 Athens**

## Wednesday, 20 September

- 9:30-10:00** Participants' registration
- 10:00-11:00** Welcome & Networking Coffee
- 11:00-11:30** The Greek Book Market  
Presentation by Nopi Chatzigeorgiou, Hellenic Foundation for Culture
- 11:30-13:00** International Publishing Strategies  
Panel with Linda Vogt, Editorial Director, Rowohlt Hundert Augen (Germany) and Gunnar Cynybulk, Publisher, Kanon Verlag (Germany), Catherine Fragou, Iris Literary Agency (Greece) Moderation: Michalis Kalamaras, Publishing consultant, eAnagnostis (Greece)
- 13:00-14:00** Photo session followed by Lunch break & Networking
- 14:00-14:15** Barcamp: Introduction of the topics, organizational aspects, participants chose a topic and join a table spontaneously
- 14:15-16:45** 1st & 2nd sessions // Open discussions on 5 topics in 5 small groups hosted by speakers and moderators
- 16:45-17:15** Coffee break
- 17:15-18:30** International Opportunities for Publishers: Book fairs, Fellowship & Grants Programmes, Translation Funding  
Short presentations by Frankfurter Buchmesse, Goethe-Institut, Hellenic Foundation for Culture followed by Q&A Moderation: Lambrini Kouzeli, book critic, To Vima
- 18:30-20:30** Get-Together with finger food and DJ on the terrace

## Thursday, 21 September

- 9:00-2:00** Individual meetings 1:1 arranged by the participants beforehand
- 2:00-3:00** Lunch Break
- 3:00-4:00** Feedback and certificates // End of the event and departure

## CHRISTOS KOUTSAFTIS

Publisher

Born in Athens in 1984, I studied Architecture and Protection of Cultural Heritage in Greece and Belgium. After working a couple of years in architectural offices and excavations, I joined my family's company, Aiolos Books, in 2015. My focus is on acquisitions, production and sales management. I'm passionate about discovering and implementing publishing projects of any kind and always eager to optimise our everyday operations at Aiolos.



[christos.koutsaftis@aiolosbooks.gr](mailto:christos.koutsaftis@aiolosbooks.gr)

## AIOLOS BOOKS

Aiolos Books is a long-established and acclaimed independent publishing house in Greece with a rich history of 35 years. Aiolos books is now established as one of the most consistent and trusted sources in the field of translated fiction, both classic and contemporary. Through the years, we have collaborated with some of the most important international publishing houses and agencies in Greece and abroad.

<https://aiolosbooks.gr/>

# GREECE

## KOSTAS SPATHARAKIS

Founder, Publisher

I was born in Athens, Greece, in 1980 and studied Law in Athens and Comparative Literature in Thessaloniki. I worked for many years as a freelance translator, copyeditor and proofreader, and in 2014 I founded Antipodes, an independent publishing house based in Athens.

[spatharisk@gmail.com](mailto:spatharisk@gmail.com)



## ANTIPODES

Founded in 2014 by Kostas Spatharakis and Thodoris Dritsas, two editors and translators with ten years of experience in the publishing sector, Antipodes aims at unifying in one series Greek and foreign literature (English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian) along with academic and critical texts; thus, putting special emphasis on the quality of the translation and typography.

<https://antipodes.gr/>

## PANAGIOTIS SOULTANIS

Editor

For 30 years I've been working in the Greek publishing sector as a translator, copyeditor and publishing editor, cooperating with numerous leading publishers: as a member of the editorial staff of Papyros Editions (1994-2016); as Chief Editor (2005-2016) of Encyclopedia Papyros Larousse Britannica. Since 2017, I have been a member of the editorial staff at Crete University Press.

soultanis@cup.gr



## CRETE UNIVERSITY PRESS (CUP)

Founded in 1984, CUP has published over 800 titles, with approximately 2.2M copies sold within Greece. More than 2100 lecture courses in Greek universities use books by CUP as textbooks. It has also been honoured with numerous and important distinctions, both for its publishing activity as a whole and for the high quality of specific editions, including prizes from the Academy of Athens, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy, the Greek Association of Music and Theatre Critics, among others.

<https://www.cup.gr/>

## IOANNIS KRANIAS

Founder, Owner, Publisher

I was born in Siena, Italy, and studied Graphic Design, Journalism and Theatre starting in 1983. Between 1999 and 2008, I was involved in the publishing of newspapers and magazines. Since 2008, I have been exclusively involved in book publishing through the publishing house Entypoios, which I founded myself. I am Vice President of the Hellenic Federation of Publishers and Booksellers.

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## ENTYPOIS PUBLICATIONS

Entypoios Publications has dealt exclusively with book publishing since 2008. Classic masterpieces from Greece and around the world, political essays, poetry and children's books make up a large part of its publishing activities. "Entypoios" is the dative form of "print" in ancient Greek.

<https://www.entypoios.com>



## PHAEDON-GRIGORIOS KIDIONATIS

General Director

I am the co-founder of two publishing houses based in Greece. I have studied Economics, Philosophy, Communication, and International Relations and have worked for many years as a lecturer in universities in different countries. I have also worked as an editor and a translator. Currently professionally active in different sectors of the creative industries, I have organized several cultural and educational events. I am also the current President of SEVA Publishers' Association in Greece and a member of the board (Treasurer) in the Federation of European Publishers (FEP).

[info@eurasiabooks.gr](mailto:info@eurasiabooks.gr)



## EURASIA PUBLICATIONS

Eurasia Publications is a Greek publishing organization that specializes mainly in non-fiction books. Over the last 23 years, Eurasia Publications has cooperated with many international organizations in buying and selling rights. In the last seven years it has published and distributed titles worldwide in both Greek and other languages, mainly English. Eurasia Publications manages six different imprints and several journals, while organizing seminars and conferences. Special emphasis is given on the accuracy of the translations, on scientific editing and on the quality of typography.

<https://eurasiabooks.gr/>

# GREECE

## LEFTERIS KALOSPYROS

Editor & Foreign Rights Manager

Born in Athens in 1980, I studied history and philosophy of science, earning a MSc. My articles and reviews have appeared in literary magazines and Sunday literary supplements of renowned publications. For my first novel *The One and Only Family* (Polis Editions, 2013), I was awarded the National Literary Award for Best Debut Novel. I have translated Anna Kavan's *Ice* (Gutenberg/Dardanos, 2023) and David Shafer's *Whiskey, Tango, Foxtrot* (Polis, 2022) into Greek. Living in Athens, I work as Editor and Foreign Rights Manager at Gutenberg Editions. I'm currently writing my second novel.



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## GUTENBERG PUBLICATIONS

Gutenberg Publications holds a significant place in the history of Greece's literary landscape. Established in 1964, we have earned a distinguished reputation, boasting an extensive catalogue of over 6000 titles by the end of 2022. At the heart of our programme is the *Orbis Literae* series, a collection of classic works. Complementing this historical endeavour is our modern classics series, *Aldina*, which showcases exceptional contemporary voices meant to captivate readers with their thought-provoking narratives.

<https://www.dardanosnet.gr/>

## NIKOS ARGYRIS

### Publisher

Nikos Argyris, 44, was born and raised in Athens. He studied Media and Creative Enterprises at the University of Warwick and Psychology at the University of London Royal Holloway. He is a 3rd generation publisher and the owner of Ikaros Publishing. During his management, the company has developed new divisions, series and products. He has attended various seminars and lectures to further advance his understanding of the everchanging world of Publishing. Being invested in all industry matters he is the current President of the Association of Greek Publishers and Booksellers (ENELVI).

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## IKAROS PUBLISHING

Ikaros Publishing, one of the most historical Greek publishing companies was founded in 1943 and is renowned for its poetry series (sole publisher of Greece's two Nobel Prize for Literature recipients) and its high standards of content, print materials and overall aesthetics. During the last 15 years, the house has undergone a vital transformation. Under the management of the 3rd generation, the company has advanced with the development of new products and divisions that are in sync with current global publishing trends.

<https://www.ikarosbooks.gr>

## CATHERINE FRAGOUE

### Literary Agent

I was born in Athens, studied French Literature in Athens and Comparative Literature and Translation in Paris. I also had courses of History of Art and Sociology of Art at EHESS. I translate from French and have published three short story books with Kastaniotis editions, Editions Autrement and Buchet Chastel. I also work as a primary agent. In 2017, I worked for the Greek National Library with responsibility for the list of books of the public lending sector. I'm always looking to expand my agency and since 2023 am dealing with film rights for authors.

irislitgr@gmail.com



## IRIS LITERARY AGENCY

Created in 1995, Iris Literary Agency represents international publishers in Greece and Greek authors worldwide. The interests of Iris agency vary from fiction to non-fiction books, from reference to academic and from children to comics and graphic novels. Iris Agency also advises Greek and international publishers on their special needs and new projects.

<https://irisliteraryagency.gr>

## ARGYRIS KASTANIOTIS

### Publisher

I'm Managing Director and Head of Digital Strategy at Kastaniotis Editions. I studied Publishing Production and Management in London. I participated in conferences on digital edition *Tools of Change* in New York and Frankfurt and *Future* by The Bookseller magazine in London. I have served as Secretary-General of the National Book Centre of Greece (EKEBI) and currently serve as Secretary-General of the Association of Greek Publishers and Booksellers (ENELVI).

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## KASTANIOTIS EDITIONS

Kastaniotis Editions S.A. was founded in 1968 by Athanassios Kastaniotis, who currently serves as the Chairman and Managing Director of the publishing company. Over the years, the company's steadfast focus has been on exploring innovative methods to enhance the quality of book publishing and electronic applications, as well as adopting modern sales promotion techniques. This commitment has enabled the publishing house to offer a diverse range of books that have captivated a broad and discerning readership.

<https://www.kastaniotis.com>

## PHILIP-PHOIVOS VLACHOS CEO

Philip-Phoivos Vlachos was born in 1989. He studied Applied Mathematics and Physics at the National Technical University of Athens and has an LCM Diploma in modern guitar teaching from London College of Music. He is publisher and owner of Keimena Publishing House.

[publisher@keimenabooks.gr](mailto:publisher@keimenabooks.gr)



## KEIMENA PUBLISHING HOUSE

Keimena Publishing House was founded in 1969 by Philip Vlachos. The book production includes handmade page design using rare type letters and collaborations with highly esteemed typographers from Europe. With hard work and research, until 1989, when the untimely death of Philip forced the closing of the company, Keimena published a multitude of very important Greek and international writers. Recently, in 2019, Philip's son, Philip-Phoivos Vlachos, re-opened Keimena as an independent publishing house, honouring the typographic tradition, but also aiming to bring new and original titles to Greek readers.

<https://keimenabooks.gr/>

## **IOANNIS K. TSIGKAS** **Co-Founder and Artistic Director**

Born in 1978. Master of Arts in Film Studies and Sociology [The University of Glasgow]. He started from the Media [Magazine, Newspaper, Radio], active as an Editorial Designer since 2005. Co-Founder and Artistic Director of KAPA Publishing House. He has designed more than 400 books. In 2023 he received both the EBGE Prize and the EBGE Merit for two of his creations in the Category “Best Book Cover”.

[www.bookart.gr](http://www.bookart.gr)



## **KAPA PUBLISHING HOUSE**

Aiming for a typographically and artistically pristine presentation of its editions, KAPA has published more than 500 titles since 2014, mainly Theatre, but also Poetry, Prose and Theoretical Studies on Performing Arts. In a challenging era for the industry, KAPA Publishing House invests in the book with a focus on impeccable quality and high aesthetics for the modern reader.

[www.kapaekdotiki.gr](http://www.kapaekdotiki.gr)

## OLIANA FALDAMI

### Managing Director

Oliana is the Managing Director of Klidarithmos Publications. She is responsible for fulfilling Klidarithmos's promise and bringing value to readers, professors and students. Oliana worked for Google for ten years, and was heading the marketing strategy of products such as YouTube, AdWords, Search, Pixel, Chrome. She holds a BA in Business (Athens University of Economics and Business), a MSc in Marketing & Strategy (Warwick Business School) and has graduated from the Executive Education program of the Wharton Business School.

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## KLIDARITHMOS PUBLICATIONS

Founded in 1985, Klidarithmos is one of the leading Greek publishing houses. We first published computer books and were pioneers in establishing computer science terminology in Greek. Since then we have built a carefully curated list in fiction, non-fiction, scientific and children's books. Our promise to the readers, professors and students is to bring value: we are committed to quality, excellence and innovation throughout the publishing process. Klidarithmos has been awarded a Great Place To Work®.

<https://www.klidarithmos.gr>



## MARIA XILOURI

### Fiction & Non-Fiction Acquisitions Editor

Maria Xilouri was born in Crete and studied Psychology in Athens, with a Masters in Media Psychology. After a few years in advertising as a copywriter, she joined Metaichmio in 2013, and she is currently the adult foreign fiction and non fiction acquisitions editor; she is also an award-winning writer and translator.

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## METAICHMIO PUBLICATIONS

Metaichmio Publications is amongst the leading publishing companies in Greece. We publish translated and Greek fiction as well as non-fiction, children's books, science and humanities titles as well as educational textbooks: over 300 titles per year (40% Greek, 60% translated). The company was founded in 1993 and counts a dynamic 30 years in Greek publishing.

<https://www.metaixmio.gr>

## CHRISTINA FILIMONOS

### Rights & Contracts Manager

I am a philologist and have studied Classics in Athens and Madrid. In Spain, I completed my second master's degree, on book publishing, did my internship and worked at the Horas y horas publishing house and Mujeres bookstore. Since 2022 I have been based in Athens, working at Minoas Editions' publishing department, dealing mainly with contracts administration and assistance in foreign rights acquisition & licensing.

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## MINOAS PUBLICATIONS

Since 1952, Minoas has been a prominent name in children's books and classic fiction. Nowadays it publishes Greek and foreign titles that cover all areas of publishing activity: books for children (illustrated and novelty titles, fiction for young readers, puzzles etc.), literature, non-fiction (history, cookery, self-help, parenting etc.), diaries, licensing products, e-books, and audiobooks.

<https://minoas.gr/>

## MARINOS VALIANOS

### Foreign Rights & Acquisitions Manager

I was born in Athens. I studied Sociology in Athens and obtained a post-graduate degree in Psychology. I have worked in the publishing industry for over 20 years focused on foreign rights, working with literary agencies and the most important publishing houses in the world, while also participating in international book fairs (Frankfurt, Bologna, London). In my current position at Pedio Publishing, I have the opportunity to meet professionals from all over the world in the publishing sector, discovering new books, new authors and coming across new ideas.

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## PEDIO PUBLISHING S.A.

Pedio Publishing is one of the most important publishing companies in Greece in the commercial as well as in the academic sector. Yearly, more than 40,000 copies are distributed to students of Greek universities, while at the same time the company plays a leading part in the commercial sector with international non-fiction bestsellers. In 2017, Ellinika Grammata was integrated as an imprint of Pedio Publishing launching a fresh new restart, specialising in upmarket commercial adult and children's fiction.

<https://pediobooks.gr>

## IRENE CHRISTOPOULOU

**Fiction & Non-Fiction Acquisitions Editor**

I studied History, Archaeology and Translation in Athens. My career in publishing began at Metaichmio Publications as an editor in charge of translations of J. Barnes, A. Munro, J. M. Coetzee, among others, before becoming Managing Editor for the adult fiction and non-fiction titles of the same publishing house. I have translated over 20 books, both adult and children's fiction and non-fiction. Since 2020, I have been the Fiction and Non-Fiction Acquisitions Editor at Psychogios Publications, handling a list of authors such as A. Gurnah, D. Mukwege and M. Macmillan.

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## PSICHOGIOS PUBLICATIONS

Psychogios Publications is a leading company in the Greek publishing sector, which has had great success in launching and building both domestic and internationally famous authors, including M. Atwood, K. Ishiguro, P. Süskind, J. Franzen, H. Murakami, N. Mahfouz, E. Shafak, J.K. Rowling, and many others. We are proud of our solid reputation both in Greece and abroad regarding our strong commitment to our authors, the high quality of our publications, and our innovative spirit in marketing and sales.

<https://www.psichogios.gr/>

## YORGOS ALISANOGLOU

Publisher

I am a poet, translator and publisher. I studied Sociology and Political Science and completed post-graduate studies in International Relations and Social Policy. In November 2005, I founded Saixpirikon Editions and have published many titles – mostly poetry, novels and drama. My poetry has been translated into many languages, included in anthologies, and I have taken part in various poetry festivals and symposia in Greece and abroad. My book *Playground* (Kichli publications, 2016) has been translated into French and Danish. My latest book is *Beehive* (Kichli publications, 2021).

saixpirikon@hotmail.com



## SAIXPIRIKON EDITIONS

Founded in November 2005 by the poet Yorgos Alisanoglou, the bookstore and publishing house Saixpirikon aims at creating a warm space for bibliophiles that can host poets and writers, new and old. It aims at creating new ways of expression through a literary group to promote a book and its creator with a wide-open mind. Currently, the publishing section has approximately 350 titles to present, such as poetry series, novels, drama series, prose series and essays.

<https://saixpirikon.com>

# ALBANIA

## ARLINDA DUDAJ

Executive Director

As assistant and then professor of foreign languages, I began working with translations of contemporary literature, which were then not present in the Albanian market. After founding Dudaj Publishing in 2001, I attended and followed every international book fair and book-related fellowship around the world, which connected me with international editors and publishers and helped make Dudaj Publishing one of the leading publishing companies in Albania.

[arlinda.h.dudaj@botimedudaj.com](mailto:arlinda.h.dudaj@botimedudaj.com)



## DUDAJ PUBLISHING

Dudaj Publishing, est. 2001 in Tirana, Albania bears the catchphrase: “We select the best.” At Dudaj, quality translations go hand in hand with the utmost respect for the texts and graphical presentation of the books. Representing various genres, our publications are designed to satisfy the tastes of all kinds of readers: a series on Albanian authors devoted to very important works by traditional Albanian authors; European fiction; Nobel Prize laureates in literature; Hebrew literature; Hispanic-American and Contemporary American Fiction; biographies and memoirs; Children’s and Young Adult Fiction; Poetry; Text books and also Non-Fiction.

<https://www.botimedudaj.com>

# ALBANIA

## IRENA TOÇI

General Director

Since 1993, I've been the Managing Director at Toena Publishing, which I co-founded with my husband. Over the years, I've worked on several cultural and literary projects and manifestations with national and international partners. I've also been honoured with international and national titles and medals. Trusting in the author's freedom, I have re-dimensioned the publishing house, developing policies of integration, where each book is integrated with the previous one.

[botimet.toena@gmail.com](mailto:botimet.toena@gmail.com)



## TOENA PUBLISHING

Toena Publishing – a.k.a. Botimet Toena – has been in the Albanian book market since January 1993, with more than 3000 titles published in Albanian. Every year, Toena covers a wide range of subjects and genres, working with the most well-known international and national authors, while also representing classic authors. Besides Fiction and Non-Fiction, Toena also publishes academic works, maps, cookbooks, dictionaries and more.

<https://toena.al/>

# BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

## BORIS MAKSIMOVIĆ

Managing Director

Boris Maksimović (1988) is the founder of Imprimatur publishing. He graduated in Serbian and Italian languages and literature at the Faculty of Philology in Banja Luka. He published one collection of travelogues called *Hadziluk in a Noble Dream* and translated five books from Italian. He was the founder and editor of Talas magazine.



[boris@imprimatur.ba](mailto:boris@imprimatur.ba)

## IMPRIMATUR

Imprimatur was founded in 2017 in Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since then, it has published over 70 titles, and some of its writers have won multiple awards and have been praised by critics and readers, as well. In the last two years, the publishing plan shifted from mostly local authors towards translating foreign contemporary literature.

<https://imprimatur.ba>



# BULGARIA

## VICTOR LILOV

**Managing Partner, Rights Acquisitions,  
Project Management**

Born in Sofia, studied Russian philology at Veliko Turnovo University, Arabic history at Damascus University, and Arabic at Vienna University. Graduated in Arab studies from Sofia University. Active in cultural industries since 1999, with expertise in market mechanisms and cultural products. Music management, PR, A&R, producer; RFI World music show host until 2009. In 2010, co-founded Black Flamingo Publishing – an innovative publisher of European poetry, fiction and drama. Emphasis on translation, contemporary dramatic texts.

[office@blackflamingopublishing.com](mailto:office@blackflamingopublishing.com)



## BLACK FLAMINGO PUBLISHING

Black Flamingo Publishing is a Bulgarian publishing house, est. 2010, to amplify diverse voices, including young writers and those with unconventional ideas, often marginalised by society. Awarded the Hristo G. Danov literary award in 2013. We focus on innovative poetry, drama, fiction and art projects and support unconventional authors, both local and international, expanding their reach. Aims to be a hub for alternative writers targeting cultural elites beyond norms.

<https://www.facebook.com/BlackFlamingoPublishing/>

## NEVA SERDAREVIĆ

Fiction & Non-Fiction Acquisitions Editor

Neva Serdarević, 25, grew up in Zagreb, where she studied Comparative Literature and Art History. Her love of literature led her to a career in publishing, first as a bookseller until she started at Fraktura publishing house in 2023. She is a project manager handling translation and publication grants and currently training as a rights assistant.

neva@fraktura.hr



## FRAKTURA

Fraktura publishing house was founded in 2002 in Croatia, with a mission to cater to the human need for storytelling. With over 20 years of experience, Fraktura aims to offer readers the best of high-quality literature: Fiction, Non-Fiction, translated and regional. Alongside publishing around 100 books a year, Fraktura launched the Festival of World Literature in Zagreb in 2023, which is held every year.

<https://fraktura.hr>

## HARIS IOANNIDES

**Publisher and Managing Director**

Haris Ioannides (51) grew up in Nicosia, Cyprus and studied in Canada and the US. He has been in charge of Armida Books for over 22 years. He has dedicated his professional life to promoting Cypriot authors overseas, with Armida now boasting several titles in translation in over a dozen languages. He is also one of the founders of The Limassol Book Fair and a member of the board of the Cyprus Publishers Association.

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## ARMIDA

Established in 1997, Armida is a multiple award-winning indie publisher based in Nicosia, Cyprus. Armida publishes intelligent contemporary Fiction and distinguished Non-Fiction of the highest standard, by both local and international authors, with a focus on the Eastern Mediterranean region. After receiving the EUPL prize in 2011, Armida became and has since remained the leading exporter of literary rights of Cypriot Greek literature overseas.

<https://www.armidabooks.com>

# MONTENEGRO

## MIROSLAVA ULJAREVIĆ

Director Editor-in Chief

Born in 1971 in Prijepolje, Serbia, I graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences in Belgrade. I started my career at the publishing house Tobogan, as editor of two children's magazines. Since 2009, I have been the director and editor of children's literature at Obodsko slovo. I am the initiator of the Festival of Young Reciters of Montenegro and the winner of the 2017 Creators for the Centuries award, awarded by the International Economic Forum PERSPECTIVE.

bisericvrca@gmail.com



## OBODSKO SLOVO

Obodsko slovo was founded in 1998 in Podgorica. It has published numerous recognisable titles in various fields – classical works, philosophy, history, art, contemporary fiction, etc. Special attention is paid to children's books with more than 150 original and translated works. Obodsko slovo is the publisher of school texts included in the curriculum of primary schools in Montenegro. The company owns two bookstores in Podgorica, an online bookshop and a printing house.

<https://www.obodskoslovo.me>

# NORTH MACEDONIA

## BOJAN SAZDOV

Manager and Editor-in-Chief

Born in 1984, I am the Manager and Editor-in-Chief of TRI Publishing Centre from Skopje. As a publisher, I not only represent some of the most popular authors from North Macedonia but am also dedicated to present quality fiction from around the world. I am also the current president of the North Macedonian Association of Publishers. Having been part of more than a thousand publishing projects, both private and government funded, I also coordinated a dozen Creative Europe projects. I coordinated and organised the North Macedonian book fair presentations in Frankfurt, Paris, Leipzig, Moscow and Belgrade.



[bojansazdov@kniga.mk](mailto:bojansazdov@kniga.mk)

## TRI PUBLISHING CENTRE

TRI Publishing Centre, est. 1999, is a publishing house working, with its 1,300 published titles (700 translations) on enriching the Macedonian literary scene with high-quality world and local works. Its high profile and success are based upon the selective approach towards the titles included in the program, as well as on the excellence of the engaged contributors (translators, proof-readers, technical editors and designers). TRI was also the first publisher to open an online bookstore and the only to have its own e-book platform (Книга).

<https://www.kniga.mk>

# ROMANIA

## ELENA MARCU

### Managing Partner

Elena Marcu, 38, studied in Bucharest, Romania and Salamanca, Spain. She was a publisher at Vellant from 2009 until 2015. In 2016 she founded the independent publishing house Black Button Books. Throughout her publishing career she has worked as a translator of over 40 books, from Virginia Woolf, Jane Austen and James Baldwin to Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Maggie Nelson and Aleksandar Hemon.

[elena@blackbutton.ro](mailto:elena@blackbutton.ro)



## BLACK BUTTON BOOKS

Black Button Books is the first publishing house in Romania funded and run by women. It publishes books that create a dialogue and offer a different perspective, engaging our readers in debate. Its mission is to represent as many communities and voices as possible and do its best to convey a panoramic image of the world.

<https://blackbutton.ro/>

## IULIA-CRISTIANA STAN

Editorial Director

Iulia-Cristiana Stan has a BA and two master's degrees in communication and Intercultural Management and a PhD in Literature (summa cum laude) from the University of Bucharest. She has been working for Corint Publishing House first as a Book Editor, then as Coordinating Editor, currently, having taken on the role of Editorial Director.

[iuliacristiana.stan@edituracorint.ro](mailto:iuliacristiana.stan@edituracorint.ro)



## CORINT PUBLISHING HOUSE

Corint Publishing House, one of Romania's most important book publishers, boasts a diverse portfolio spanning literature, children's books and history (including several collections), as well as non-fiction and educational books.

<https://edituracorint.ro>

## NATAŠA SRDIĆ

Director

I was born in Smederevo, Serbia, in 1984. I graduated from the Department of English Language and Literature of the Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade, where I also defended my doctoral thesis “Scientific and Artistic Truth in John Banville’s Fiction”. I am a literary translator from English into Serbian and vice versa, and director of the publishing company Partizanska knjiga.

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## PARTIZANSKA KNJIGA

Partizanska knjiga, est. 2015 in Kikinda, Serbia, is an independent publishing company. Run by the writer Srđan Srdić and the literary critic Vladimir Arsenić, it publishes high-quality non-mainstream literature by Serbian and ex-Yugoslav authors and in translation from many languages across the globe. Promoting its books both online and offline, it successfully cooperates with several national and international literary organisations and participates in book fairs and other literary events.

<https://partizanskaknjiga.rs/>



# SLOVENIA

## ALMA ČAUŠEVIĆ KLEMENČIČ

Executive CEO

I am the Executive CEO at Beletrina (since 2018) and CEO at Beletrina Digital (since 2021). I have a B.Sc. in Cultural Studies and Cultural Anthropology. With more than 15 years of experience in cultural management, I was Executive Producer and Assistant Programme Director of Maribor 2012 – ECOC. I was selected as one of the best three young managers of 2021 by the Managers' Association of Slovenia.

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## BELETRINA

Beletrina, est. 1996, has published over 1,500 titles. In addition to book production and the organisation of events and festivals, Beletrina is one of the most internationally involved Slovenian publishing houses, as a generator of innovative projects and initiatives in the European CCS, having created successful brands that mark projects and products such as Biblos and Versopolis, respectively a national e-book platform, and a European poetry platform.

<https://beletrina.com/>

## SENJA POŽAR

Senior Rights Manager

Senja Požar has been working in the publishing industry for more than 25 years. During this time, she has held various positions, including: Head of Marketing, Editor and Developer of Digital Textbook Publishing, Editor-in-Chief of the Reference Book Department, Editorial Director for Educational Publishing and Editor-in-Chief for Magazines. Over the past six years, she has been developing foreign sales and international cooperation to a highly professional level for two of the largest publishing houses in Slovenia. In recent years, she has participated in several international panels in Bologna, Frankfurt, New Delhi and Slovenia.



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## MLADINSKA KNJIGA

Mladinska Knjiga stands out on the Slovenia publishing scene with a 78-year history, over 120 million books published and over 50 stores throughout the country. For over 70 years, it has successfully maintained its status as the largest Slovenian publishing house, with extensive lists of Fiction and Non-Fiction for all generations as well as magazines for children and teenagers. It takes pride in achieving the highest standards of quality at all levels.

<https://www.mladinska-knjiga.si/en/homepage>

## NAZLI BERIVAN AK

Editor and Rights Manager

Nazlı Berivan Ak is an editor, journalist, author and translator who lives in Ankara and Istanbul. She is Editor and Foreign Rights Manager at April Publishing, Secretary-General of the Turkish Publishers Association, a literary journalist for various media, and a frequent speaker at book festivals and fairs. Her first documentary film, *The Bookseller*, was launched in July 2023.

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## APRIL PUBLISHING

April Publishing is an independent publisher of Fiction and Non-Fiction, based in İstanbul and Ankara. Since 2009, April has published 200 titles from leading international authors and contemporary Turkish writers. April creates both bestsellers and long-sellers by combining traditional campaigns with innovative marketing, working closely with independent bookstores and reader groups.

<https://www.aprilyayincilik.com/>

## OZGUR EMIR

### Senior Rights Manager

I studied media and communications at Ankara University and earned a master's degree in Sociology at the Middle East Technical University. I began my career in publishing in Ankara at the academic journal Dogu Bati as a translator and editor in 1999. In 2002, I moved to Istanbul and worked as a literary agent for over ten years. I was a columnist at the newspaper Yeni Yuzyil (2015–2016). Since 2016, I have been working as Rights Manager at Doğan Publishing House.

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## DOĞAN PUBLISHING HOUSE

Doğan Publishing House, est. 1996, is part of the Doğan Group, one of Türkiye's largest holding companies. The Company has been largely contributing to the Turkish economy for over 60 years and plays a pioneering role in a wide range of sectors, from automotive to tourism. Doğan Publishing House is one of the largest publishers in the Turkish book market in terms of book production, distribution and sales, with a wide range of children's, adult, fiction and non-fiction books, over 500 new titles per year, under 8 sub-brands with over 130 employees.

<https://www.dogankitap.com.tr>

## BAHAR SIBER

Editor

Bahar Siber was born in 1976 in Friedrichshafen, Germany. After studying history she began her career in publishing business as an editor. She participated to multiple national and international editorial programs and workshops. She was part of the Frankfurt Book Fair Organisation Comitee of Türkiye's Guest of Honour Program in 2008. She lives in Istanbul and works at İletisim Publishing.

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## İLETİŞİM YAYINLARI

Founded in 1982, İletisim is one of Türkiye's leading independent publishers. It has a unique position on the publishing scene with its more than 3000 titles in fiction and non-fiction, covering the ideological accumulation of modern Türkiye. Fields of interest include Turkish and foreign literature, politics, history, humanities, psychology and childrens' books.

<https://www.iletisim.com.tr>

## GAMZE ERENTÜRK

Co-Founder

Born in Ankara, Türkiye, I and have a bachelor's degree in Comparative Literature and a minor in Children's Literature. I am continuing my Child Development undergraduate program. I have worked as an editor in various publishing houses. Then I started to work as a project assistant at the Turkish Literature Abroad (YATEDAM / TURLA) project in 2017. During this project, I participated in many international book fairs to promote Turkish literature. In 2020, I then founded Kovan Agency with my colleague, Beste Bal.



gamze@kovanagency.com

## KOVAN AGENCY

Kovan Agency, est. 2020 in Istanbul by Gamze Erentürk and Beste Bal, is an illustration agency. Its primary mission is to represent illustrators on an international level. Kovan Agency represents the worldwide rights of carefully selected children's book titles for international publishers, while also presenting good quality international titles to Turkish publishers.

<https://www.kovanagency.com/>

# Let's Talk!

## Networking and professional programme for publishers

### Programme goals

- **International Networking**

*Let's Talk!* offers selected publishers from Germany, Southeast Europe and Türkiye an exclusive platform to network with each other across national borders.

- **Knowledge Transfer and Training**

Industry experts from Germany, Southeast Europe and Türkiye share their experiences and best practices with the aim of furthering their professional expertise.

- **Cultural Exchange**

*Let's Talk!* aims to support and promote dialogue between Germany and the countries of Southeast Europe and Türkiye, as well as within the region itself.

- **Continuity**

By continuing and expanding on the specialist programme series *Let's Talk!*, the organisers are building on a successful, transnational cooperation established in Thessaloniki 2021, when German-language countries were Guest of Honour there.

- **Freedom of Expression**

Multilateral meetings like *Let's Talk!* open up a space for free expression and strengthen the work of liberal publishers, by connecting them with colleagues from other countries.

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