

# Comics as a Tool for Democracy and Social Inclusion

An ERUA Hybrid WP5 Social Engagement Event

Wednesday, 27 May 2026

[Register here!](#)

## FULL DAY PROGRAMME

● Online attendance will be available for the sessions highlighted in yellow.

<p>08:30– 09:00 EEST</p>	<p><i>WELCOME &amp; FRAMEWORK</i></p>	<p>Introduction to the workshop's intellectual agenda: comics between popular culture, political art and educational practice. Opening remarks by Prof. Evangelia Kavakli and Prof. Evi Sampanikou, featuring Dimitris Vitalis, comics artist.</p> <p> Room C, Geography building, UAegean, Lesvos Campus</p>
<p>10:00– 11:00 EEST</p>	<p><i>COMICS FESTIVALS: OPENNESS, DEMOCRACY, INCLUSION AND THE PUBLIC</i></p>	<p>Rountable Discussion. <b>Chair:</b> Panos Kritikos, PostDoc Candidate, Comic n’ Play (Thessaloniki), Co-Administrator and Co-organizer</p> <p> Room C, Geography building, UAegean, Lesvos Campus</p>
<p>11:00– 11:30 EEST</p>	<p>Opening of a parallel (physical) exhibition of artists from ERUA academic community at the 2nd floor of the Social Sciences Building, UAegean, Lesvos Campus <b>Curator:</b> Nikoletta Gourgouli, Artist, PhD Student <b>Artists:</b> Nefeli Katsarou, Despoina Manolarou, Rafaella Tsoptsi, Nikoletta Georgakopoulou</p>	
<p>11:30– 13:30 EEST</p>	 <p><i>CONCEPTS OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IN COMICS: THE POLITICS OF DIFFERENCE, ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY</i></p>	<p><b>Speakers – Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anne Chassagnol, TransCrit Research Unit, Department of English Studies, Paris 8 University</li> <li>• Laura Odasso, Faculty of Education, Department of Educational Sciences, Paris 8 University</li> <li>• Szymon Makuch, AGH University of Krakow; Vice-President, Association of Pop Culture Researchers and Pop Culture Education “Trickster”</li> <li>• Myrto Tselenti, Project Manager, Greek Film Centre – Hellenic Film Commission</li> <li>• Antonis Nikolopoulos, Comics and Graphic Novels Creator</li> <li>• Yiannis Koukoulas, Assistant Professor, University of the Aegean</li> <li>• Marianna Misiou, Assistant Professor, University of the Aegean</li> <li>• Lida Tsene, Founder, Athens Comics Library</li> <li>• Ilias Katirtzigianoglou, Comictim Co-organizer, Comics Author and Publisher</li> </ul> <p><b>Chair:</b> Evi Sampanikou, Professor &amp; Nikoletta Gourgouli, PhD Student, Dept. of Cultural Technology and Communication, UAegean</p> <p> Room C, Geography building, UAegean, Lesvos Campus</p>
<p>14:30– 15:30 EEST</p>	<p><i>COMICS, DEMOCRACY, SOCIAL RIGHTS, ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY</i></p>	<p>Discussion with members of the online and onsite audience. <b>Chair:</b> Evangelia Kavakli, Professor, Dept. of Cultural Technology and Communication, UAegean</p> <p> Room C, Geography building, UAegean, Lesvos Campus</p>
<p>16:00– 19:00 EEST</p>	<p><i>“CREATE YOUR OWN COMIC STRIPS” MASTERCLASS BY GEORGIA ZACHARI, COMICS ARTIST</i></p>	<p>Physical presence is necessary for active participation in this masterclass.</p>
<p>20:00– 21:30 EEST</p>	<p><i>GRAPHIC NOVEL “PAVLOS SIDIROPOULOS: FINALLY”</i></p>	<p>Book presentation of “Pavlos Sidiropoulos: Finally” (Mikros Iros Publications, Athens, 2026), by Ilias Katirtzigianoglou and Konstantinos Sklavenitis.</p> <p> “Book &amp; Art” bookstore (Komniniaki Street, Mytilene)</p>