



The Anglo-Hellenic League

Runciman Award

The Hellenic Centre, 16/18 Paddington Street, London W1U 5AS
Email: runciman@anglohellenicleague.org Twitter: @runcimanaward

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RULES OF THE ANGLO-HELLENIC LEAGUE RUNCIMAN AWARD 2024

The Anglo-Hellenic League is once again offering The Anglo-Hellenic League Runciman Award ('the award'), a prize in honour of the late Sir Steven Runciman, for an original work, wholly or mainly about some aspect of Greece or the world of Hellenism, published in English in any country of the world in its first edition during 2023.

The aim of the award is to stimulate interest in Greek history, literature, language and culture from earliest times to the present; to promote wider knowledge and understanding of Greece (ancient, medieval and contemporary), and of Greece's values and contribution to civilization; and to encourage good and accessible writing, of which Sir Steven's works are an example. Books submitted must fall within this framework of subject matter. The award may be made for a work in the field of history, literary studies, cultural studies, translations from Greek literature (of any era), biography, travel and topography, the arts, architecture, archaeology, the environment, social and political sciences or current affairs; or for a work of fiction, poetry or drama, provided that it falls within scope of the aim set out above. Works in translation (e.g. poetry, fiction, drama etc.) from any period of *literature in Greek* are eligible; non-literary translated works will not be considered.

The winning book will demonstrate two key criteria:

- outstanding quality of research, scholarship, and/or creativity, skill and innovation; **and**
- outstanding accessibility, quality of writing and appeal to interested ordinary readers.

The winning book is expected to command public attention and to stimulate a wide readership. We welcome books representative of all periods of Greek history and culture from antiquity through to our own time. We strongly encourage publishers to submit for the judges' consideration not only outstanding academic writing, but also outstanding creative works of drama, fiction, poetry and travel writing.

Because of our mission to reward books that appeal to interested ordinary readers, the League encourages publishers to nominate books that can be afforded by the average such reader of books about Greece. Although they retain discretion to do otherwise, the judges have indicated that they are unlikely to place on their short list books costing more than £85 (unless a cheaper paperback version is available or in the offering), however great their merit.

We request that, in the first round, publishers submit to us names and details of nominated books only. In early January 2024, the judging panel will decide on a long list of books and will formally request that

publishers submit copies of those books to the panel post-haste. It is a condition of nominating books in the first round that the publisher of a longlisted book (or books) will submit, post-haste in January 2024, six printed copies of each longlisted book: one to each of the judges and the administrator of the award. Please note that one of our judges lives in Greece and another in Sweden, and a condition of nominating a book is that the publisher will meet (either upfront or by reimbursement after the event) any customs and clearance charges levied at international borders, whether by the publisher's courier company or by the recipient state or both.

In selecting books for nomination publishers should note:

- no more than seven books may be nominated by any one publisher;
- complex publishing houses, with many departments, are encouraged to co-ordinate their nominations internally and to submit a single nominating form (with no more than seven books in total);
- the following types of book are not eligible: (i) books of multiple authorship (i.e. three or more authors or contributors); (ii) books translated by multiple hands (i.e. three or more translators); (iii) books primarily authored by someone other than the editor or editors in respect of whom the nomination would be made (e.g. a new edition of a classical or Byzantine or modern text; an edition of an author's correspondence or essays, if by an editor other than the author); (iv) books in which any of the award's current judges or the award's administrator have played a substantial role (e.g. as translator, co-translator, author or co-author or by contributing a preface, introduction or afterword);
- the inside of the book must have 2023 stated as the year of its first publication anywhere in the world;
- for the avoidance of doubt: books to be published in 2023 after nominations close on 15 December (i.e. between 16 and 31 December 2023) are eligible for the award in 2024 (provided that they are dated 2023 inside the book) and will not be eligible for the award in 2025;
- the RRP of each nominated book must be indicated on the entry form;
- information about the currently available format of the published book and about the publisher's intention (if known) to produce a paperback edition is requested;
- (optional) information about any known authoritative reviews of the nominated book(s) is sought (please do not reproduce publishers' blurbs unless these are references to authoritative reviews).

The chair of judges in 2024 is Prof. Judith Mossman. The other judges are: Dr Vassiliki Kolocotroni, Prof. Ingela Nilsson, Prof. Oliver Thomas and Dr Sofka Zinovieff. The prize money is £10,000. How the prize is awarded, whether to one work or more than one, is the responsibility of the judges alone; their decision is final. Feedback is not given at any stage.

It is a condition of the award that longlisted and shortlisted books must be readily available for purchase to readers in the UK at the time of the award ceremony (timetabled for 17 June 2024). Publishers of longlisted and shortlisted books will be notified by The Anglo-Hellenic League at the appropriate point in the competition. The League will advertise longlisted and shortlisted books on its website and on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn, using images of the books and drawing on publishers' existing publicity material for them. For shortlisted books, we will ask publishers for photographs of the shortlisted authors, to use in publicity material, and will seek contact details for direct communications with the shortlisted authors at that stage. The winner will be notified personally and the other shortlisted authors will also be personally informed about the final result. The winning author(s) or translator(s) must make best efforts to attend the award ceremony in London on 17 June 2024, to collect the award.

Nominations of books must be made on the attached entry form and **sent by e-mail by Friday 15 December 2023** to the administrator, Dr John Kittmer, at runciman@anglohellenicleague.org. Please do not at this first stage send books to the League. We will contact publishers of longlisted books in early January 2024 with arrangements for post-haste submission of longlisted books. In our confirmation letter, we will confirm the names and addresses to which each of the six copies of longlisted books are to be sent in January 2024. Publishers of longlisted books will need to make effective arrangements for dispatch of printed books, without

cost to the recipient or to the League, in Greece and the UK (as appropriate). Our judges will not accept e-books or books in the form of PDF files (or similar).

Queries should be addressed to the administrator by e-mail as above.

for the Council of the League

11 October 2023