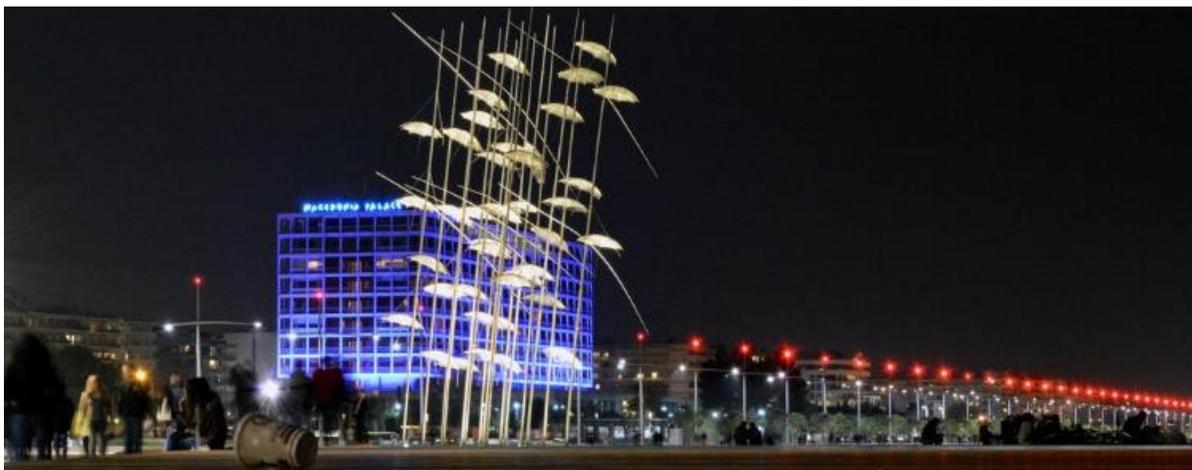




# Decentralised Training on Resilience

Thessaloniki, 1-2 February 2023

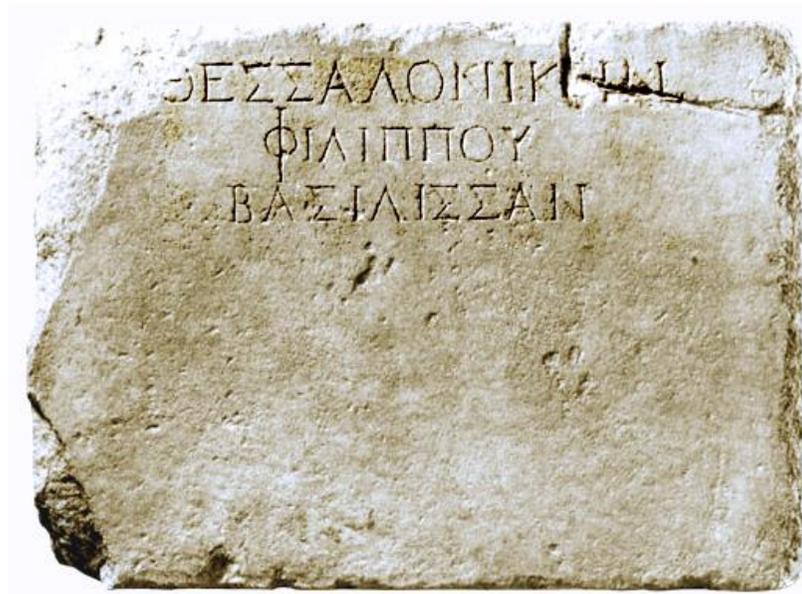


# Historic Facts: FOUNDATION OF THESSALONIKI

After overpowering the rest of Alexander the Great's successors, the ambitious King of Macedon, **Cassander**, founded this new city in around 316-315 BC.

He named it after his **wife, Thessalonike**, a **half-sister of Alexander the Great** and princess of Macedon (as **daughter of Philip II**).

Under the kingdom of Macedon, the city retained its own autonomy and parliament, and became the most important city in Macedonia.



# Historic Facts: ROMAN ERA

After the fall of the kingdom of Macedon in 168 BC, Thessaloniki became a **free city** of the Roman Republic **under Mark Antony in 41 BC**. It grew to be an important trade-hub located on the **Via Egnatia**, the road that connected **Dyrrhachium** with **Byzantium**, and facilitated trade between Thessaloniki and the great centers of commerce such as **Rome** and **Byzantium**.



At the time of the Roman Empire, about 50 AD, Thessaloniki was also one of the early **centers of Christianity**. While on his second missionary journey, **Paul the Apostle** visited this city and sowed the seeds for Thessaloniki's first Christian church. Later, Paul wrote **two letters** to the new church in Thessaloniki, which are preserved in the Biblical canon as **First and Second Thessalonians**.

When the Roman Empire was **divided into the tetrarchy**, Thessaloniki became the **administrative capital** of one of the four portions of the Empire under **Galerius Maximianus Caesar**, who commissioned the building of an **imperial palace**, a **new hippodrome**, a **triumphal arch** and a **mausoleum**, among others.



# Historic Facts: BYZANTINE ERA

From the early years of the Byzantine Empire, Thessaloniki was considered the **second city** in the Empire, after **Constantinople**, both in terms of wealth and size, with a population of **150.000** by the mid-12th century, making it **larger than London at the time**.

The city held this status until its transfer to Venetian control in 1423.



# Historic Facts: OTTOMAN EMPIRE

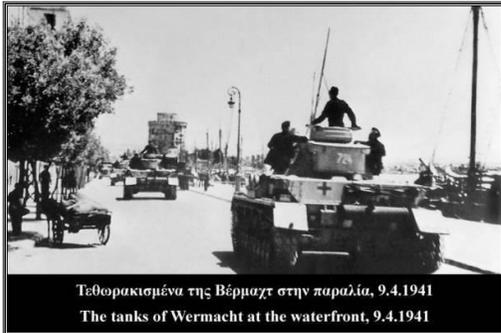
In **1430**, **Murat II** conquered Thessaloniki, which remained under Ottoman rule **until 1912**. Most of its inhabitants fled to the surrounding areas to escape, others were massacred, and some were sold in the slave markets of the East. Most of the churches were converted into **mosques**. At the same time, many buildings were added such as the covered market, baths, and fountains, as well as the symbol of Thessaloniki, **the White Tower**.



In **1492**, a major event changed the city's anthropogeography. Having been expelled from **Spain**, **15-20.000 Jews** arrived in Thessaloniki, which brought a new dynamic to the commercial and industrial activity of the city, while enhancing its multiculturalism, economic prosperity and cosmopolitan character.

# Historic Facts: RECENT HISTORY

Greece did not enter World War I until 1915-1916 when it eventually allowed the use of the **port of Thessaloniki by the Entente forces** for refueling, resulting in the city being flooded **with thousands of British and French soldiers**.



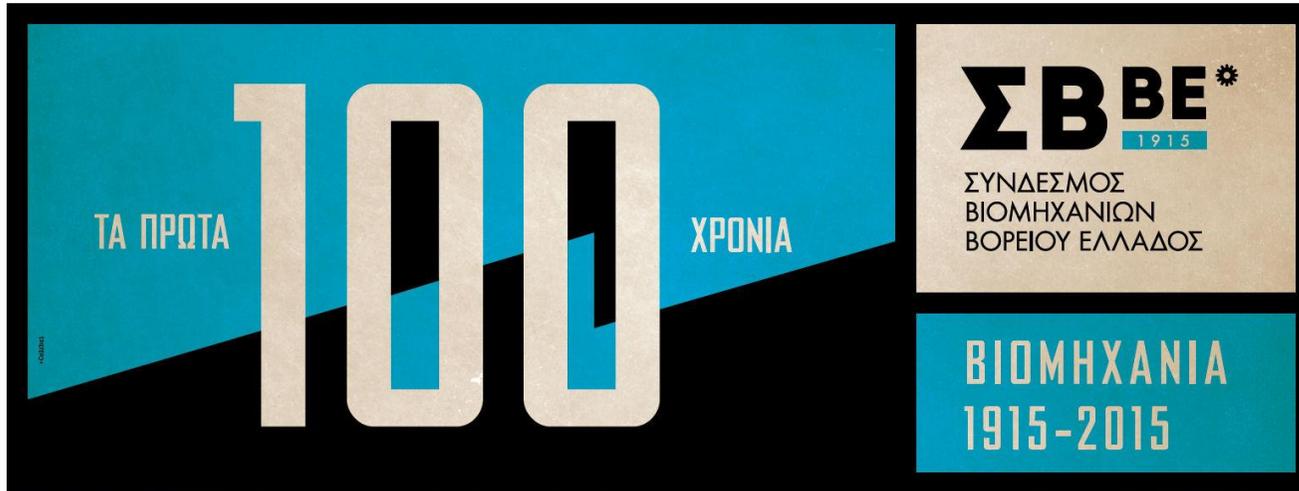
The **Germans entered Thessaloniki in 1941**. One of the most tragic consequences of the German occupation in local history was the **extermination of the city's Jewish community**. In **1943** the **46.091 Jews** of Thessaloniki were transferred to Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps. Only **1.950** of them returned.



In the summer of **1917**, a **huge fire broke out** that burned most of the historical center of Thessaloniki and left 73,000 homeless and unemployed. While the city was trying to rebuild and repair after the damage, the **Asia Minor disaster in 1922** created further social and economic difficulties for Greece. With the **Greek-Turkish population exchange** that was agreed in the **Treaty of Lausanne in 1923**, tens of thousands of **Greek refugees** from Asia Minor, Eastern Thrace and Pontus settled in Thessaloniki. Despite the initial problems of the **massive influx of Greek refugees**, their presence gave a new impetus to the city.



# Federation of Industries of Greece – SBE



The Federation of Industries of Greece (formerly the Federation of Industries of Northern Greece):-

- established in **1915**
- active in its efforts to promote not only **industrial development**, but also **economic and social progress** in Northern Greece





Thank you for your attention!  
Katerina Tzitzinou

