Lessons Unlearned

Thucydides and Venizelos
On Propaganda and the Struggle for Power

Evie Holmberg
Lessons Unlearned: Thucydides and Venizelos on Propaganda and the Struggle for Power is primarily a commentary on the response of a twentieth-century Greek statesman to a monumental historical study by one of his ancient ancestors. Its main objective is to illuminate contemporary aspects of Greek history, politics, and culture in their historical context. But it should become obvious to the modern reader that Thucydides’ wisdom, and by extension that of Eleftherios Venizelos, are relevant to global conflicts confronting states and civilizations at large.

Evie Holmberg is professor of classics and ecclesiastical Greek at the Hellenic College–Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Boston. Her publications include several articles on art and ancient history, translations of ecclesiastical works, The Martyrdom of Ananias, co-authored with Francois Bovon (1999), and Venizelos’s Commentary on Thucydides’ History of the Peloponnesian War (1991, in Greek).