

But What About the “Others?”: Revisiting the EOKA Struggle Through the Eyes of Cyprus’ Armenian, Maronite, and Latin Religious Groups

As the year 2025 marks the 70th anniversary of the EOKA struggle against British colonial rule, scholarly and public discourse predominantly centers on the narratives of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot people. This study seeks to broaden the scope of analysis by focusing on the often-overlooked religious groups of Cyprus, specifically the Armenian, Maronite, and Latin religious groups, whose experiences have remained largely absent from the historiography of the 1955–1959 period.

Drawing on a comprehensive array of sources, including personal testimonies, archival records, and contemporary press accounts, this research aims to reconstruct the perspectives, experiences, and responses of these communities during a period of significant political transformation. The study explores whether these groups functioned as passive observers, active participants, or reluctant bystanders, and how they perceived the nationalist rhetoric, anti-colonial discourse, and the emerging polarization between the island’s two dominant ethnic groups.

The analysis addresses questions of community identity, responses to political developments, and patterns of public expression or strategic silence. It examines how their proximity to or distance from the dominant narratives of the period influenced their historical visibility and how their experiences complicate conventional understandings of the EOKA struggle.

Rather than seeking to redefine established narratives, this study aims to contribute to a broader and more inclusive historiographical framework. It underscores the importance of considering diverse perspectives when analyzing complex historical contexts and emphasizes the significance of engaging with the multiplicity of voices that have shaped the historical trajectory of Cyprus.