

# The enlightening activity of the Educational Association (EO) during its operation (1910-1930)

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**ABSTRACT:** This announcement refers to the Enlightening activity of the EO during its operation. EO is an Athenian union with philological literary deviations and a liberal urban character. The organization of speeches and lectures is a key means of spreading the ideas of Demoticism and EO propaganda. They begin to be held from 1912 to 1929. Educational, literary, scientific, ecc. topics were chosen at the weekly meetings in the group and outside the group. Also, since the start of the operation of EO to his split in 1927, tutorial courses were organized with the aim of clarifying issues of educational, scientific and social content, followed by a discussion with the listeners.

**EET/TEE KEYWORDS:** Educational association (EO); Tutoring courses; Speeches; Lectures; XX Century.

## *Introduction*

The first speeches in the Group took place in 1911 onwards. In 1913 no speeches were made, owing to the abnormal political season, the conscription, and the reluctance of many members. Then the Group had published some children's books, scientific books and some speeches. From 1917 to November 1920, the EO stagnates, underperforms, or in other words was replaced by the (Educational Committee) EC, which undertaked to carry out many of its original goals. The three pioneers were employed within the EC, in the Ministry of Education. During the first phase of the counter-reform, in Grece, EO was at a difficult juncture and Glinos, in consultation with Vamvetsos, undertaked its reorganization through speeches, publications and the continuation of Friday or Saturday evenings. In 1921, in an attempt to renew the action of

the EO, his appeal was printed, which was mailed and sent in 8000 copies. The processing of the mission of the appeal, the DEO in 1000 copies, the printed announcement of the Higher Women's School in 3000 copies, the book of Gabriel in 3000 copies and the article of Triantafyllidis entitled: Before they burn, in 45000 copies, had transformed the space of EO in an office for sending forms that were mainly made by Glinos with the participation of a few other people, such as Koryllou, who had taken over the club's treasury in the meantime. During this time, Glinos confessed that «we were continuing the fight», had recognized the positive impact of the release of Gabriel's book and was commented that «we have won the issue in the consciousness of society»<sup>1</sup>. In 1923, the resolution of members was signed which renews the belief of the EO, in the need to reform the educational system, the second reform attempt of 1923-1925 had followed and the discussions about its perspective had begun. After the resignation of Delmouzos and Glinos from the management of their institutions, Delmouzos on January 28, 1926, began his speeches at the Dionysia theater on the topic of Demoticism and Education. The following year after the conclusion of the assembly of March 24, 1927, the division of the Group took place and a resignation form was circulated and was signed by those who side with Delmouzos.

### *Methodology*

The proposal applies the interpretive historical method of analysis of primary and secondary archival material, from various historical archives: ASKSA in Athens, Municipal Library of Amfissa, electronic material from the archive of Glinou, Triantafyllidis ecc. This is the method of interpreting historical texts (archives of the EO) with the aim of their fullest and deepest understanding possible, because it subjects the historical texts and their creator to an internal examination through their historicity<sup>2</sup>.

#### *1. Enlightening activity of the EO*

In an account of the Group's activities for 1915, Triantafyllidis singled out the EO's activities in lectures, scientific lessons, gatherings with close contact between members, and discussions within the gatherings for their spiritual

<sup>1</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> letter from Glinos to Delmouzos on August 17, 1921, F. 14, Delmouzos Archive.

<sup>2</sup> P. Pigiaki, *Preparation, Planning and Evaluation of Teaching, Teaching Methodology*, Athens, Grigori Publications, 2004, p. 141.

cultivation<sup>3</sup>. This categorization generally applies to the remaining years of its operation. Meetings were held as usual except during holidays and public holidays.

### 1.2 *Speeches-Lectures: Content & Timeline*

The organization of speeches and lectures was a key means of spreading the ideas of demoticism and EO propaganda. They began to take place from 1912 to 1929. After the EO was reconstituted in 1945, some speeches and Monday meetings were organized again until 1947. It seems that at first they followed the format of a lecture. From the magazine of EO (DEO) and from minutes of speeches that were in the archive of Glinos we get information about the Group's lectures. There was also a lot of evidence that referred to the content of the speeches that were held, regular or extraordinary. There were speeches of a scientific or propaganda nature. For the needs of advertising the speeches, special personal invitations were printed which were intended for members and guests of the speeches for a specific speech. The speaker, the topic, the date and exact time and the place, which was most often the EO room, were listed<sup>4</sup>. The speakers were touching on various linguistic or scientific issues and were responsible for the ideas they had expressed. Their identification with the EO was necessary only to the extent that they had recognized the need for an internal reform of our spiritual regimes in the direction of Demoticism<sup>5</sup>. Speeches with pedagogical-psychological, scientific, social-historical content were addressed to the audience of EO members, or to a more specialized audience such as the Teaching Federation, the Secondary Education Federation, the Student Fellowship (FS) etc. The listeners were students, scientists, educators, and workers, politicians, academics, people with intellectual concerns. From 1928 onwards the lectures were divided into scientific ones, open to members and non-members, and were apparently part of the tutorial courses organized by the EO in 1928 and 1929.

In November 1911, Ramas gave a lecture entitled *If we had free education*. In 1912, lectures were held by Kazantzakis, Boutoura, Chrysafis, Delmouzos. Delmouzos dealt with school life and the principle of love and freedom as the basis of education. He referred to the Higher Girls' School of Volos, the arrangement of the material, the balance of physical and historical-philological

<sup>3</sup> Document, M. Triantafyllidis, *The work of the Group*, Archive of Triantafyllidis, 1916, p. 2.

<sup>4</sup> Document, A. Delmouzos, *Personal invitation to speeches*, F. 12, Archive of Delmouzos, 1913-14.

<sup>5</sup> It is mentioned in one footnote: *Boutouras spoke to a cleaning woman with several elements of elementary education*, «DEO», vol. 2, n. B, 1912, p. 155.

courses, and the real meaning of national education, emphasizing the importance of our demoticist tradition.

On January 12, 1912, Chrysafis, in his lecture, emphasized the diversity of the way to satisfy the physical and mental needs of the child and referred to his rights. Kazantzakis made a speech on February 25, 1912 at the EO, where she had presented the basics of raising Greek children: religiosity (faith, consolation in sorrows), love for the country, noble feelings<sup>6</sup>. On April 1, 1912, the lecture was given to the EO on the subject: Impressions from the schools of the municipality of Athens by K.K.K. In 1913 the lectures began with the lecture of G. Kazantzakis at the beginning of December 1913. Every Monday and Wednesday there were meetings, and every Thursday the teaching of Delmouzos to the teachers<sup>7</sup>. The effort of EO became more intensive during 1913 and a series of speeches were organized<sup>8</sup>. In 1913-14 Delmouzos taught a series of courses on the history of Greek philology. At the same time, the meetings of the members continued, once or twice a week with the aim of closer communication between them and the clarification of certain issues. A few popular studies of language and literacy were published, and Goethe's translation of Iphigenia was freely distributed. From 1913 it was decided to publish in the journal only studies in the demotic<sup>9</sup>.

In 1913, speakers in speeches were: Kazantzakis, What our children are reading, Delmouzos with the title: Three years teacher, Chrysafis and Vlastos. In 1913 the increase in the number of listeners at the EO led to the decision to hold the talks elsewhere due to space constraints. The need for a larger hall created problems for the EO, due to the non-allocation of rooms for the EO as in the early years there was a strong prejudice against the EO from the intellectual circles of the ruling class of Athens<sup>10</sup>.

For 1914, it was announced that the members' meetings would continue in a place other than the EO, four times a week, for reasons of limited space<sup>11</sup>. This year, Palamas gave two speeches to the EO, the first on January 8, 1914 on the subject of O Ar. Valaoritis<sup>12</sup>. For the next few years, the situation was problematic. According to Vournas, the activity of the EO in the organization of speeches-lectures had a rapid pace mainly from 1920 onwards, where meetings with speeches were again organized. The meetings were accompanied by the expression of opinions, questions and thoughts of the listeners. With an audience of hundreds of young spiritual people, writers, teachers, there are lectures,

<sup>6</sup> Document «LZ244/f 4», *Summaries of speeches by G. Kazantzakis and others to the group*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>7</sup> Document «1868», I. Dragoumis, Gennadios Library, Digital archive of I. Dragoumis, ASKSA.

<sup>8</sup> *Various*, «DEO», vol. 3, 1913, p. 333.

<sup>9</sup> *The work of the group*, «DEO», vol. 5, 1915, p. 6.

<sup>10</sup> *Various*, «DEO», vol. 3, 1913, p. 333.

<sup>11</sup> *Miscellaneous*, «DEO», vol. 3, 1913, p. 333.

<sup>12</sup> K. Palamas, *Aristotle Valaoritis*, «DEO», vol. 4, 1914, p. 1.

discussions on sociological-pedagogical issues and more about the Group's program. Key speakers were the three pioneers of EO, Sotiriou, Theodoridis, Giannis and Rosa Imbriotis, M. Kountouras, K. Dimaras and others<sup>13</sup>. In 1921-22 meetings-speeches were also held on Saturday. At the same time, the philology tutorial was established, where the main speaker was Miliadis with philological analyzes and it had a great response<sup>14</sup>. The group's philological Thursdays had included various more specialized topics for discussion. Some are listed below.

<i>Thursday Philological Meetings</i>		
<i>Topics</i> <sup>15</sup>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Date</i>
The poet Hermonas Royal Matesi Hasis The Soots P. Paparigopoulos Varnalis, Roidis, Rabagas, Kambysi Giannopoulos-Dragoumis Butter	Agras Miliadis Chouliadakis Augeris Michalopoulos	December 9 January 15 <sup>th</sup>

In 1920-1921 lectures were organized on Friday and Saturday with Glinos as the main speaker. On March 5, 1921, N. Hatzidakis, a partner of the Group, in his speech at the invitation of Glinos, referred to the educators who had moved to Germany and to the educational reform in neighboring Turkey. On Friday, March 12, 1921, Glinos' speech was about the ministry's report on language and the formulation of a specific plan of proposals for the implementation of its findings.

On the following Friday, March 19, 1921, Cleanthus made a presentation on the schools of the previously subjugated Greece and especially on education in Macedonia<sup>16</sup>.

On May 21, 1923, Glinos gave a speech for the Monday evening on the subject of universities and university education – science, life, work, the university organ of creative life, with reference to the concept of university

<sup>13</sup> T. Vournas, *Dimitris Glinos*, Athens, Afos Tolides Publications, 1975 p. 42 and S. Someritis, *The great turning point testimonies memories 1924-1974 (Part A)*, Athens, Olkos, 1975, pp. 189-196.

<sup>14</sup> G. Gatos, *The great passion of educational municipalism. 41 letters of Glinos to Delmouzos*, Athens, Greek letters, 2003, pp. 110-132, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> letter.

<sup>15</sup> Document «XG392-2», D. Glinos, *Chronicle of Saturday, Friday and Thursday sermons*, 1920-21, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>16</sup> Document «XG 392», D. Glinos, *Chronicle of the Friday speeches (1921-1920)*, Archive of Glinos.

education: science, society and science, science and life, science and work, national intellectualism, Greek university: its history and criticism, the synthesis of modern Greek life (creative historicism-modernism, futurism), the university organ of healthy culture, creative life, the two paths of rebirth of the university: the revolutionary and the organic<sup>17</sup>. In January 1926, Glinos gave three speeches to the Student Fellowship, on the subject of the implementation of the EO program. Glinos made a broad historical review of the role of the scientist and the spread of demoticism and the phase of educational demoticism, the reform efforts in Germany and the influence of the German right and left<sup>18</sup>.

In 1927 after the dissolution of the EO, Glinos gave the following speeches on behalf of the EO: 4 speeches to the EO on 29 March 1927, a speech to the Society of Social Sciences on 29 March 1927, a speech to the Federation of Public Teachers on: agricultural culture and agricultural education<sup>19</sup>. On the same day, Glinos gave a speech to the social science society about Spinoza and another speech to the public teachers' federation<sup>20</sup>. On April 1, 1927, in his presentation in Piraeus, Glinos had referred to the right of the people to claim their education, he had presented statistics on the high rate of illiteracy of men and women in Greece and data on school dropout with the final conclusion «that 15% of children acquires the basic knowledge of school, so folk school is non-existent». He mentioned three main problems of education, the organizational one, the organization of education in six years of compulsory schooling and the issue of teacher training<sup>21</sup>.

On April 17, 1927, Glinos delivered his lecture, in the municipal theater of Piraeus, on the subject of the folk school. He defined the concept of the popular school, referred to the popular classes of other countries, to education as a right of the people<sup>22</sup>. He spoke about the concept of education in civilized countries such as France, Switzerland, Scandinavia, and raised the question of whether there was popular education in Greece, giving a negative answer. He made use of statistics which speak of illiteracy among men and women, the need for compulsory schooling of pupils, the effects of illiteracy in all aspects of the life of the citizens, the condition of the slum-like school buildings, the responsibility of teachers and of each. He presented three problems: the organizational one, the question of the decentralization of education, and the establishment of a six-year course, and the question of teacher training. He ended with the exhortation

<sup>17</sup> Document «H 45», D. Glinos, *Universities and university education* (May 1923). *Speech chart at the EO*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>18</sup> Document «XD408/1», D. Glinos, *Plan for an announcement to the Student Fellowship*, 1925/26, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>19</sup> Document «I/55/d», D. Glinos, *Speeches of Glinos in 1927*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>20</sup> Document «I/55a», D. Glinos, *Speech diagram for the folk school*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>21</sup> Document «I/56», D. Glinos, *Lecture of Glinos transcribed on 17/4/1927*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>22</sup> Document «I/56», D. Glinos, *Speech diagram for the folk school*, and *Lecture of Glinos shorthand*, Archive of Glinos.

to assert the rights of the people and with the exhortation to the teacher: to help the people to conquer their rights.

On April 17, 1927, Glinos gave a speech at the reception of the representatives of the teaching federation on the topic: Educational reform and the teacher, and on May 4, 1927, a speech in Piraeus on the People's School<sup>23</sup>. On May 7, 1927, in the Karapanou palace, he delivered a speech to the secondary education federation on the subject: the organization of education<sup>24</sup>. On May 7, 1927, the subject of his lecture was educational reform and the teacher. Glinos made a brief review of the educational reform, its linguistic period, the educational one with EO and Delmouzos and its social period. He presented its evolution, adaptation and extension in their time. He also addressed the teacher and reform, and explores the relationship of educational theory to policy<sup>25</sup>.

In his lectures at FS on May 10, 1928, Glinos focused on the need for ideological orientation of young people, so that Greek scientists could become creators of the new Greek culture by creating a socialist progressive current against the conservative one and develop social action. He clearly stated that education is primarily a social problem, which needs the application of the theory of historical materialism, as the bourgeoisie failed to resolve it, due to its compromise with the conservative forces of the past. He urged FS to become a vanguard union<sup>26</sup>.

On July 20, 1928, thanks to the teaching federation, he gave a speech on the subject of the organization of education and on July 21 on the subject of the administration of education<sup>27</sup>.

In 1929, in addition to the scheduled speeches of Glinos, three speeches were organized in the Club hall under the responsibility and initiative of the Student Association (FS) in the Kotopoulis theater, on the subject of the problem of illiteracy developed by Glinos and Degiannis, general secretary of the teaching Federation<sup>28</sup>. The speech of Glinos, at the request of the FS, was repeated once more to a very large audience and a special resolution accepted by the FS was approved<sup>29</sup>. In the resolution, the bankruptcy of the historical orthography, the *katarevousa*, the pseudo-classical ideal and the educational system was mentioned as the cause of illiteracy and the government and the parliament were asked to take measures with basic demands: the establishment of a demotic language, the simplification of the Greek orthography, the seven-year popular

<sup>23</sup> Document «I/55/d», D. Glinos, *Speeches of Glinos in 1927*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>25</sup> Document «55b», D. Glinos, *Glinos Lecture to the Student Fellowship on May 7, 1927*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>26</sup> Document «ADG I58», D. Glinos, *Glinos Lecture to the Student Society*, May 1928, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>27</sup> Document «I55/a», D. Glinos, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>28</sup> *Comments*, «Neos Dromos», January vol.1, 1929, p. 5. Their speech was published in three sequels in the pages of «Neos Dromos», the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

<sup>29</sup> *Student association*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 7, February 1, 1929, p. 7.

education, compulsory vocational education, the establishment of systematic education for illiterates, five-year high schools, popular reading rooms, writing books in elementary school and free scientific books for students<sup>30</sup>.

On February 2, 1929, the EO took the initiative and convened the FS, the Society of Socialist Studies and the Scientific Discussion Group and their members to the Kotopoulis theater, where relevant speeches were made with the main theme of expressing their protest against the government's proposal of the idiom to the parliament that aimed at the change of the democratic state, the abolition of freedom of speech, asking the parliament to vote against it. A relevant resolution was drawn up and delivered by the presidium of their Boards of Directors to the competent bodies<sup>31</sup>. For this purpose, an invitation was released with the cooperation of the EO, the Student Union and the Society for Socialist Studies<sup>32</sup>.

On February 18, 1929, a meeting was held after the speeches of S. Someritis on the development of democracy, in which D. Rakopoulos, M. Oikonomou, Glinos and G. Miliadis expressed their opinions<sup>33</sup>. Glinos gave a lecture to the Student Society on March 12, 1929 on the subject: the social morphology of our educational problem. He tried to connect the educational problem with the theory of historical materialism, he made a historical review of Greek education. On April 19, 1929, Glinos' speech was given on the subject of urban society and urban culture in relation to the educational morphology of the time, from 1780 to that time in Greece and Europe. In the first lecture, Glinos tried to approach the educational problem as a social problem by applying the theory of historical materialism. He referred to the inherent inability of Greek education to achieve its purpose, the period of bourgeois civilization and the revolutionary period of the proletariat. He raised the language issue and the reasons. In the second lecture, he referred to the role of the bourgeoisie in Europe, to its effect on Greek education<sup>34</sup>.

On March 28, 1929, Glinos delivered a speech on the Action Program of the EO. In it, Glinos, under the pressure of passing the anti-communism bill, reviewed the history of the split of the EO, the socialist movement in Greece, and dealt with the definition of the concept of politics. Then Glinos explained the objectives of the Action Program of the EO: enlightening the teachers and the people and studying the educational problems in Greece. Finally, he concluded by reflecting on the Group's action, after the passing of the bill on

<sup>30</sup> *The life and activity of the educational group*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 7, February 1, 1929, p. 8.

<sup>31</sup> *Resolution of protest*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 8, February 15, 1929, p. 1.

<sup>32</sup> ITH «121(2)», *Invitation EO-Presumption*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>33</sup> *The life and activity of the educational group*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 8, February 15, 1929, p. 8.

<sup>34</sup> Document «ADG159», D. Glinos, *Glinos' lectures to the Student Society in March-April 1929*, Archive of Glinos.



communism, posing the questions: will its goals be limited? The members, the Social Democratic Group? why not; no educational members?<sup>35</sup>

From the distribution of the speeches it can be seen that their number was greater after the split of EO, where Glinos was the almost exclusive speaker. Regarding their content, one can distinguish a shift of the subjects from literary and pedagogic subjects to subjects related to educational reform, the administration of education, the education of the people, the more general political consideration.

Distribution of EO speeches-lectures (approximate numerical value)							
1913 (3)	1914 (2)	1921 (13)	1923 (1)	1926 (3)	1927 (6)	1928 (2)	1929 (12)

## 2. Organization of Tutorial courses

Since the start of operation of the New EO, Glinos had announced for his members the realization of tutorials with the aim of clarifying issues of educational, scientific and social content. Attendance was provided for non-members with an entrance fee of 5 drachmas for each speech<sup>36</sup>. They consist of suggestions by the EO partners and a discussion with the listeners after each discussion. It seems that they aroused a lively interest in listeners other than the members of the EO<sup>37</sup>. The planning of the EO also included the publication of the Seminar's lectures in a special booklet<sup>38</sup>. The tutorials were scheduled to take place in the political and social science society hall every Thursday from November 22 onwards. The relevant announcement of the Training Center for its members was signed by G. Doulas. The speakers and their topics were Hr. Chomenidis, Biology and Social Sciences, beginning on Thursday, November 22, 1928, S. Someritis, the evolution of democracy, from Thursday, January 10, 1929, G. Georgakopoulos, what we know about matter and energy from Thursday, February 7, 1929 and D Glinos, the philosophy of Lenin, beginning March 7, 1929<sup>39</sup>.

At the first meeting of the tutorials on Thursday, November 23, 1928, where the members of the EO were present, Glinos, first analyzed their purpose and

<sup>35</sup> Document «I/61», D. Glinos, *Speech on the action program of the EO on March 28, 1929*, Archive of Glinos and Document ITH 102, *Manuscript of EO's memorandum on school programs*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>36</sup> *The life and activity of the educational group*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 1, November 1, 1928, p. 8. And Someritis, *The great turning point testimonies memories 1924-1974 (Part A)*, cit., p. 232.

<sup>37</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 232.

<sup>38</sup> *The life and activity of the educational group*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 5, January 1, 1929, p. 7.

<sup>39</sup> *The life and activity of the educational group*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 1 November 1928, p. 8.

methodology, followed by the first speech of X. Homenidis on the subject of the theories of biology for the evolution of life. The speech was attended by more than 70 listeners, who are not members of the EO<sup>40</sup>. Chomenides' speech continued on November 29 and December 13, and the (recapitulation) debate took place on December 20<sup>41</sup>. On December 20, during the discussion of the topic of Chomenides' speech, Stavropoulos, Prokopiou, Someritis and Glinos took part, raising their objections to the speaker's views. The next Workshop was scheduled for January 10 with four lectures on the development of democracy and sub-topics: The philosophical beginning and the sociological explanation of the Liberal Democracy, The political principles of the Liberal Democracy, The new powers, Thoughts and conclusions. The speeches were made on January 10, 17, 24 and 31, 1929<sup>42</sup>. On February 18, 1929, a discussion took place within the framework of the tutorial, on the speeches of S. Someritis on the evolution of democracy. S. Rakopoulos, M. Oikonomou, D. Glinos and G. Miliadis participate and Someritis gave the relevant explanations<sup>43</sup>.

<i>Tutorial courses</i>			
<i>Name of speaker</i>	<i>lecture date</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Topic</i>
<i>Boutouras</i>	February 4, 1912	EO	<u>On positive and negative action</u>
<i>Delmouzos</i>	January 12, 1912	EO	<u>Higher Municipal Girls' School of Volos</u>
<i>Chrysafis</i>	January 25, 1912	EO	<u>About the physiology and needs of the child</u>
<i>Kazantzakis</i>	February 12, 1912	EO	<u>Basics of raising Greek children</u>
<i>Kazantzakis</i>	1913	EO	
<i>Palamas</i>	"	EO	<u>What are our children reading (DEO, pp. 216-230)</u>
<i>Delmouzos</i>	"	EO	
<i>Chrysafis</i>	"	EO	<u>Ar. Valaoritis</u>
<i>Shoot</i>	"		<u>Three years teacher</u>
<i>Glinos</i>	"		
<i>Triantafyllidis</i>	"	EO	<u>Our education &amp; its language</u>
<i>Delta, P.</i>			

<sup>40</sup> *The life and activity of the educational group*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 4, December 1, 1928, p. 7.

<sup>41</sup> *Spelling*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 1, November 1, 1928, p. 8.

<sup>42</sup> *The life and activity of the educational group*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 5, January 1, 1929, p. 7.

<sup>43</sup> *The life and activity of the educational group*, «Neos Dromos», vol. 8, February 15, 1929, p. 8.

<i>Glinos</i>	1923	EO	<u>Our reading books</u>
<i>Glinos</i>	“		
	“		
<i>Glinos</i>	“		
<i>Glinos</i>	March 29, 1927	EO	
<i>Glinos</i>	March 29, 1927	Society of Social Sciences	Agricultural culture and agricultural education Educational reform and the teacher The people's right to education
<i>Glinos</i>	May 2, 1927	Federation of public teachers	The Folk school
<i>Glinos</i>	May 7, 1927	Karapanos Palace	Educational reform and the teacher The organization of education, The administration of education
<i>Glinos</i>	April 1, 1927		
<i>Glinos</i> ,	April 20, 1927	Piraeus	
<i>Glinos</i>	May 10, 1928	Municipal People's Theater of Piraeus	The ideological orientation of young people The social morphology of our educational problems
<i>Glinos</i>	March 12, 1929	ME Federation	
<i>Glinos</i>	April 19, 1929	FS	
		FS	
		FS	

### 3. *Announcement of the competition for writing a reading book for the 1<sup>st</sup> grade of the primary school*

EO in the context of its reforming presence in 1912, announced a competition for the writing of an alphabet suitable for Greek children. The committee set the deadline for sending the manuscripts until December 31, 1913. Seven candidates had participated in the competition with seven alphabets with specific sayings as a distinguishing mark and the Elective Committee (EC) (Delta, Delmouzos, Triantafyllidis, Glinos) decided to leave the deadline open as and on April 30, 1914, as also published in magazine «Noumas»<sup>44</sup>. He received two more alphabets until the new deadline. After examining the alphabets, he had decided that he does not single out any for award, although he noted the progress in several areas and the drawing of useful conclusions for the future. It stated «that it is reserved for the distinction of the alphabet that will be the light and joy of children made by teachers with enlightened minds, in a second

<sup>44</sup> *Review*, «DEO», vol. 3, 1913, p. 332. For the publication in «Noumas», see *Notice of Competition for the alphabet*, «Noumas», vol. 476, April 21, 1912, p. 241.

competition of the Group»<sup>45</sup>. The initiative to announce a competition for the writing of textbooks by private individuals was a progressive initiative in the context of the EO's propaganda activity towards parents, as initially it was envisaged that the writing of the textbooks of the EO's Model School would be based on practice<sup>46</sup>. However, it was not the first reading competition in Greece, as in 1906 Noumas had already organized a similar competition with the aim of writing a human and reading book.

The committee seated the following rules for the contestants: reference to the reading material of the 1<sup>st</sup> grade of primary school, with fairy tales, short stories-poems for children, teaching it alongside reading and writing, freedom to choose a method, other than the literacy method, content with meaning for children, written in the spoken language that respects the Panhellenic pronunciation of words and not the dialectic. A prize of 1000 drachms (Greek coin of the time) was given to whoever is distinguished for their book, artistic printing of the book at the expense of the EO and 50% of the profits remain with the author when the book was sold. Finally, the intention to announce the writing of other textbooks in the future was formulated<sup>47</sup>. The books participating in the EO competition were nine and had as their distinguishing feature the following statements:

1. Work as much as you want and God gives you as much as he wants.
2. Joy does not count hours, sadness counts them.
3. A lamb that God sees, the wolf does not eat.
4. A person who has patience, desires things, considers them.
5. The letters need a home (2 parts).
6. Let our new generation be happier (2 parts).
7. Hollow teeth hurt, but when they come out we keep quiet.
8. The child is wise, before he is hungry he cooks (2 parts).
9. (The proverb is not known due to the loss of the particular manuscript of the book).

In fact, the committee expressed its apologies and asked the author to resend his manuscript to the next competition. This showed the EO's plan to re-announce a book writing competition in the near future, which ultimately did not take place.

In the presumption about the crisis for the alphabets that had been sent, Glinos wrote that the first attempts to write new books have been made in 1895 in Polis, by I. Proios with his reading book the childhood friend, in Odessa, in

<sup>45</sup> Document D12, *The competition for the alphabet*, Archive of Glinos (*The committee thanks those who worked...; The conclusions are beneficial to produce a liberating alphabet for our children in the future*), The competition had announced in «DEO», vol. 2, 1912, p. 93.

<sup>46</sup> Document «LA/223/e 2», D. Glinos, *Letter from Dragoumis to Glinos on May 18, 1911*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>47</sup> *Review*, «DEO», vol. 3, 1913, p. 332.

Macedonia ecc. He commented on the progressive outlook of urbanism as it cares not only for the recognition of living language but also for substance and method before the establishment of EO. Glinos emphasized the relationship between the language and the educational issue and the contribution of EO to the difficult task of educational renaissance, despite the negative historical-political circumstances (due to the Balkan wars). He acknowledged that «the idea of striking the defects of our present life where they first sprouted in our souls, namely at school, is not an innovation of the Group». He focused on the need for the group effort of those who recognized the reality and grieve and the contribution of the competition to the specific challenge and need<sup>48</sup>. He himself justified the obsession with writing the alphabet, because it was the first book that the child takes into his hands, the first approach to national wisdom, which became a sample and a mirror of the ideology of the teachers of the genus and of any progress or stagnation educational<sup>49</sup>.

<sup>48</sup> Document «D12», D. Glinos, *The alphabet crisis*, Archive of Glinos.

<sup>49</sup> Document «D17(5)», D. Glinos, *The alphabet crisis*, Archive of Glinos.