Borrowing derivational affixes: the case of *-ing* in Greek nominalizations

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In this talk, I will address *-ing* formations in Greek of the type in (1), where English *-ing* combines with a native root:

(1) gop-ing > gopa (cigarette butt) + ing = removing cigarette butts

Such formations are relatively productive in certain registers and characterize Greek slang. Thus, unlike what has been reported for e.g., French (Sleeman 2025), *-ing* is a productive nominalization affix in Greek, combining with native roots and constituting a case of direct borrowing of a nominalization affix.

I will survey the properties of borrowed *-ing* and address the question of how its distribution can inform our theories of borrowing, word formation, and types of affixes as well as to how it contributes to our understanding of register variation.