

RAHBEK, BYRON, AND THE GREEK CAUSE Philhellenism in Copenhagen and London 1821

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The lecture presents an evaluation of different Danish reactions to the events of the Greek uprising in the early months of 1821. Focus is on how the news of the press about Greece were reported and regulated by censorship in the absolute kingdom of Frederic VI. A central figure in this context was the liberal author and Copenhagen editor *Knud Lyne Rahbek* (1760–1830), who, in his monthly periodical *Hesperus*, informed about the political developments in Greece. To Rahbek the Greek freedom fight was connected to his own fight for the freedom of expression, and it is fascinating to see the ways in which he used literature to circumvent the Danish regulations of censorship. One example of this, is his translation and publication in *Hesperus* September 1821 of *Lord Byron's* pro-greek poem *Parga*.

