The experience of war and foreign occupation was traumatic and highly controversial for all European nations, which experienced the Nazi rule during the Second World War. The resistance movements first, and the postwar regimes later prompted a turn to national history, most usually marked by a return to a mythical point of origin. In the case of Greece, this cultural effect took the form of a reenactment of «1821», the Greek Revolution (1821-1828). It was during the Occupation (1941-1944) that antifascist intellectuals, liberals and communists, discovered the Memoirs of General Makriyannis (1797-1864), establishing the text in the canon of national literature, and transforming him into an emblematic figure of the fighting nation. The emergence of the myth of Makriyannis lets us perceive briefly how the legal component of the postwar regime accommodated those heroic narratives into the new realities, and ratified a myth of a "total and unanimous" national resistance through the exclusion of the principal resistance movement from the body politic.