

NEWSLETTER

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HELLENIC LINK Midwest

A CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC LINK WITH GREECE

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Hellenic-Link Midwest Officers And Board Members

As a result of the elections of last May the Hellenic Link Midwest officers and board members are: Nicholas Flevaris, president, Peter Metropoulos, vice-president, George Alexopoulos, treasurer, Stefanos Sakellarides, recording secretary, Takis Georgopoulos, corresponding secretary, George Chiagouris, Yiannis Dalapas, Cleopatra Georgouloupoulou, Christina Prasinou, Constantine Tzanos, and Tassos Zervakis.

Upcoming Events

The Journey of Hellenism from Byzantium to the Present

On Sunday October 25, 1998, Hellenic Link Midwest presents a videotaped lecture by Dr. Stelios Ramfos on "The Journey of Hellenism from Byzantium to the Present - Classical Greek Civilization and Orthodoxy"; 3:00 PM., at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 600 North State Street in Chicago.

Although the Byzantine world was preoccupied with the salvation of the soul, by the tenth century an early Renaissance made its appearance. A return to the study of the ancient Greek civilization started to flourish with an interest for the natural sciences and the world beyond religion. However, the Byzantine society failed to successfully synthesize the two basic elements of our heritage: the ancient Greek civilization and Orthodoxy. At a time when in Italy Saint Thomas Aquinas embraced the Aristotelian philosophy, and effected a philosophical synthesis of faith and reasoning, which opened the doors to the Renaissance in the West, this failure led to the decline and catastrophe of Byzantium. Hellenism has dearly paid for this failure, whose remnants are still affecting the efforts of Modern Greece to find its place in the civilized world that has been built upon the achievements of the ancient Greeks.

Dr. Ramfos has written a number of books, he is writing in Greek newspapers, and is lecturing on ancient Greek philosophy, orthodoxy and Hellenism. This lecture, as well as many other of his lectures, has been presented by the Greek television. He is one of the significant Greek thinkers of our time. He had accepted an invitation of Hellenic Link to come to Chicago, but because of other obligations this trip was postponed.

Anatomy of a Rogue State? Turkey's Foreign Policy in the 1990s and Its Domestic Antecedents

On Sunday November 22, 1998, Hellenic Link Midwest presents Dr. Elizabeth Prodromou in a lecture "Anatomy of a Rogue State? Turkey's Foreign Policy in the 1990's and Its Domestic Antecedents"; 3:00 PM., at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 600 North State Street in Chicago.

Since the end of the Cold War, Turkey has demonstrated a pattern of state behaviors at home and abroad marked by: power cliques which govern through repression of human rights, an inability to function effectively within alliance structures, a defensive posture in the face of international criticism, and a siege mentality reflected in an ambitious military modernization program. In short, Turkey may be developing the profile of a rogue state, a development whose damaging consequences are no more apparent than in Eastern Mediterranean, where Ankara's foreign policy adventurism and revisionism may provoke a Greek-Turkish war over Cyprus and the Aegean. The devolution of Turkey into a rogue state poses potentially crippling results for the strategic capabilities of the Atlantic Alliance in Eurasia, and speaks to the fact that Western policy towards Turkey has degenerated from incentives and rewards into appeasement. Using Ankara's foreign policy in Eastern Mediterranean to illustrate Turkey's emergent profile as a rogue state during the 1990s, this talk will assess the flaws in Atlantic Alliance policy towards Turkey and, most specifically, will concentrate on identifying the domestic antecedents(e.g., crisis of the political class, role

of the military in politics, and Islamist challenge to Kemalism) of Turkey's foreign policy.

Elizabeth H. Prodromou is a Lecturer in the Department of Politics and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. She holds a Ph.D. and an S.M. in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, as well as an M.A.L.D. from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and a BA in International Relations and History from Tafts University. Her teaching and research deal with issues of democratization and religious change, nationalism and conflict resolution, and peace building and security. Her publications include: *"Democratization and Religious Transformation in Greece,"* in Paschalis Kitromilidis and Thanos Veremis, eds.; *"The Orthodox Church in a Changing World"; "Reintegrating Cyprus: the Need for a New Approach,"* in *Survival* (Aug. 1998); *"Paradigms, Power and Identity: Rediscovering Religion and Regionalizing Europe,"*; in *European Journal of Political Research* (September 1996). She is a member of various policymaking groups, including the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America's Non-Governmental Organization at the United Nations and the Board of Directors of the Foundation for Hellenic Culture.

Hellenic Link Midwest Scholarships.

The Board has decided to experiment with combining the Annual Dinner Dance with the New Year Celebration. Thus, the Hellenic Link Midwest Scholarships will be awarded at our Annual Dinner Dance on January 23, 1999. Applications will be accepted up to December 15, 1998.

The Hellenic Link Midwest scholarships are awarded to undergraduate or graduate students who have at least one parent of Greek decent and excel in their studies. The primary selection criteria are scholastic performance and financial need. For an application, please contact the chairman of the Scholarship Committee Yiannis Dalapas at 5857 Hancock Lane, Gurnee, IL 60031, 847 360-1049, 847 360-0530(fax), or via e-mail at tsevi@aol.com.

In-Brief

Free-Movement Zone on the Greek-Albanian Frontier

On August 30, 1998, during a visit to Korce in the southeastern Albania, Greek Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos announced that next year a free-movement zone will be introduced on the Greek-Albanian frontier. The announcement was made during the inauguration of a new

Greek Consulate in Korce. Greeks and Albanians living within the zone, and carrying a special common identification card, will be allowed free movement on either side of the borders inside this zone. This will enable residents inside the zone to live in one country and work across the border in the other country within the free-movement zone. The Albanian Foreign Minister Paskal Milo stressed that the "Albanian government is resolved to forge ahead .. with closer relations with Greece through specific and bigger steps, because this is the will of the Albanian people." The Greek consulate in Korce had closed its doors in 1937, while the last consul was Nobel laureate poet George Seferis.

SAE Fund Raising for Medical Needs of Hellenic Communities of the Former Soviet Union

On May 23 and 24, 1998, a worldwide effort was initiated through a special broadcast of the Greek TV channel ERT3 to raise money for the medical needs of the Greek communities of the former Soviet Union. Up to this time, pledges of about \$100,000 have been received in North America, while about \$600,000 have been raised worldwide. This effort is still continuing and individuals and organizations are encouraged to help with their contribution by calling SAE's office at 312 357-6424, or by mailing their check made out to *The Council of Hellenes Abroad* for the medical relief effort, Council of Hellenes Abroad, 360 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 710, Chicago, IL 60601.

Boston '98: Hellenic Cultural Capital of Americas

SAE of America, with the support of the Greek Ministry of Culture and the Greek National Tourist Organization, has established a program called "*Hellenic Cultural Capital of the Americas*". The objective of the program is to present Greece to the American public and make friends through its cultural wealth. Every year an American city will be designated as the Hellenic Cultural Capital of the Americas. The selection is based on the city's Hellenic history, its national and international importance, and its resource's, ability and interest to facilitate the organization of a series of cultural activities. Boston was selected as the first (1998) Hellenic Cultural Capital of the Americas. The Boston cultural activities include Hellenic Music by the State Greek Orchestra conducted by Stavros Xarhakos, in April 1998, two performances of Euripides' *Medea* by the National Theater of Greece on September 18 and 19, 1998, while an exhibit of post-Byzantine art and a Greek film festival will follow.

From Our History

Sir John Stavridi and the British Offer of 1915.

Excerpts from the Diary of Sir John Stavridi, from the article "Cyprus, the Enosis Struggle, and Greece: Sir John Stavridi and the British Offer of 1915," by John T.A. Koumoulides, *Journal of Modern Hellenism*, No 5 (1988).

The Times, 17th March 1915

The Opportunity of Greece, Timidity of the Crown Council
Rome, March 16

The *Corriere Della Sera* today publishes an interview with M. Venezelos [sic] in which the Greek statesman said that on two occasions since the outbreak of hostilities, the Triple Entente Powers asked Greece to send men to the help of Serbia. The attitude of Bulgaria, however, prevented Greece from doing so.

When the operations at the Dardenelles began, the Triple Entente Powers semi-officially inquired in Athens whether the King was disposed to intervene. The Crown Council was then convened and M. Venizelos proposed that 50,000 men should be sent to aid the allies against the Turks, and urged that, in exchange for their help, Greece should obtain the vilayet of Smyrna. Owing to the objections raised by the Staff, M. Venizelos reduced his proposal to the suggestion that 15,000 men should be dispatched in addition to the cooperation of the Greek Navy and the use of a naval base by the Allies.

The Council then asked whether M. Venizelos would guarantee the safety of the territory received in compensation in Asia Minor, and M. Venizelos, in reply, pointed to the fact that, in recent times, he had twice unconditionally engaged the whole forces of the kingdom and had obtained more than he expected from them. The Council pointed to the impossibility of defending Smyrna against the Turks, but the ex-Premier showed that, if the Allies were victorious, Greece would be the neighbor of Russia and Italy in Asia Minor, and that these three Powers could assist each other against the Turks. M. Venizelos further affirmed that Germany would not wrest the mastery of the seas from Great Britain.

The Council rejected these reasons on the ground of the possibility of an invasion of Greece, in spite of the assurances of the contrary given last May by the Staff.

M. Venizelos expressed his deep disappointment that Greece should neglect this opportunity which, he said, might never present itself again, and finally said that he would shortly lay his views before a series of public meetings to be held in different parts of Greece.- *Reuters*

Friday 19th March

I breakfasted at 8:30 at 11 Downing Street. Lloyd George was as nice and friendly as ever but it is clear that, so far as Greece is concerned, he has considerably cooled down. I pointed it out to him and he replied that he was not the only one whose feelings had undergone a change; all the Ministers nearly feel disgusted with the attitude we have taken up & would prefer to trouble no more with us but leave us entirely on one side. I told him frankly that I wanted to know what would be the attitude of the Triple Entente to Greece if Bulgaria joined them & we did not. He told me that at one time, not so very long ago, both France and England were informed & believed that Bulgaria was of very little use as an ally & of very little importance as an enemy & they were, therefore, willing to neglect her for Greece & Roumania. Bulgaria was supposed to be penniless, her army disorganized & unequipped, and the peasants unwilling to fight again. The Powers, therefore, approached Roumania & Greece, but in both cases, the reply was the same: "If we join you, we lay ourselves open to an attack by Bulgaria & we, therefore, dare not move." The similarity of the replies, & the fear expressed was an eye-opener to the Powers. It showed them that, after all, Bulgaria was not a negligible quantity but, on the contrary, she held in her hand the very keys of the Balkans. If she could be persuaded to join the Allies, Greece & Roumania could follow suit; therefore, their efforts would now be made towards Bulgaria. Whatever standing Bulgaria now had in the eyes of the Entente Powers had been created by Greece & Roumania & we could only blame ourselves if they neglected us for her. He said also that it was merely a question of terms with Bulgaria; she was quite willing to join provided she could get what she wanted. Then Roumania would join us also & the Powers could do without us. I asked what terms Bulgaria had asked; but he was not at the liberty to give me the information. He, however, repeated that if Servia [sic] got Bosnia Herzegovina [sic] & Dalmatia, the Powers would advise her to give up the districts of Ochrida & Monastir to Bulgaria. I then asked: "What about Kavalla?" [sic], to which he replied: "You understand that we must look after those who have helped us, more particularly, those who have given their help at an early hour and did not wait to see who was going to be victorious. We do not care a pin about the neutrals. Kavalla is not ours to give, but if Bulgaria makes its cession a condition sine qua non we shall tell her to take it & that none of the Powers will oppose her; that's all." He also said the Powers would give Andrianople and the Evros-Midia line to Bulgaria; also, that if the proposals made to Greece were withdrawn, they would include not only those covering Smyrna and the littoral, but also the assistance they were ready to give us to enable us to keep Northern Epirus.

Απο Τον Πλουτο Της Πολιτιστικής Μας Κληρονομίας

Κωνσταντίνος Π. Καβάφης

ΤΡΩΕΣ

Είν' η προσπαθειές μας, των συφοριασμένων,
είν' η προσπαθειές μας σαν των Τρώων.
Κομάτι κατορθώνουμε κομάτι
παίρνουμε επάνω μας κι αρχίζουμε
νά 'χουμε θάρρος και καλές ελπίδες.

Μά πάντα κάτι βγαίνει και μας σταματά.
Ο Αχιλλεύς στην τάφρον εμπροστά μας
βγαίνει και με φωνές μεγάλες μας τρομάζει.

Είν' η προσπαθειές μας σαν των Τρώων.
Θαρρούμε πως με απόφαση και τόλμη
θ' αλλάξουμε της τύχης την καταφορά,
κ' έξω στεκόμεθα ν' αγωνιστούμε.

Αλλ' όταν η μεγάλη κρίσις έλθει,
Η τόλμη κ' η απόφασή μας χάνονται
Ταράττεται η ψυχή μας, παραλύει κι ολόγουρα απ'
τα τείχη τρέχουμε
ζητώντας να γλυτώσουμε με την φυγή.

Ομως η πτώσις μας είναι βεβαία. Επάνω,
στα τείχη, άρχισεν ήδη ο θρήνος.
Τών ημερών μας αναμνήσεις κλαίν' κ' αισθήματα.
Πικρά για μας ο Πρίαμος κ' η Εκάβη κλαίνει.

ΦΙΛΕΛΛΗΝ

Την χάραξη φρόντισε τεχνικά να γίνει.
Εκφρασις σοβαρή και μεγαλοπρεπής.
Το διάδημα καλλίτερα μάλλον στενό εκείνα τα
φαρδιά των Πάρθων δεν με αρέσουν.
Η επιγραφή, ως σύνηθες, ελληνικά
οχ' υπερβολική, οχι πομπώδης -
μην τα παρεξηγήσει ο ανθύπατος
που ολο σκαλίζει και μηνά στην Ρώμη -
αλλ' όμως βέβαια τιμητική.
Κάτι πολύ εκλεκτό απ' το άλλο μέρος κανέναν
δισκοβόλος έφηβος ωραίος.
Προ πάντων σε συστήνω να κυττάξεις
(Σιθάσπη, προς θεού, να μη λησμονηθεί)
μετά το Βασιλεύς και το Σωτήρ,
να χαραχθεί με γράμματα κομψά, Φιλέλλην.
Και τώρα μη με αρχίζεις ευφυολογείες,
Τα «Που οι Έλληνες;» και «Που τα Ελληνικά
Πίσω απ' τον Ζάγρο εδώ, απο τα Φράατα πέρα».
Τόσοι και τόσοι βαρβαρότεροί μας άλλοι
Αφού το γράφουν, θα το γράψουμε κι' εμείς.
Και τέλος μη ξεχνάς που ενίστε
Μας ερχοντ' απο τη Συρία σοφισταί,
Και στιχοπλόκοι, κι άλλοι ματαιόσπουδοι.
Ωστε ανελλήνιστοι δεν είμεθα, θαρρώ.

ΘΗΜΗΣΟΥ, ΣΩΜΑ...

Σώμα, θημήσου οχι μόνο το πόσο αγαπήθηκες,
οχι μονάχα τα κρεββάτια όπου πλάγιασες,
αλλά κ' εκείνες τες επιθυμίες που για σένα
γυάλιζαν μέσ στα μάτια φανερά,
κ' ετρέμανε μες στην φωνή - και κάποιο
τυχαίον εμπόδιο τες ματαιώσε.
Τώρα που είναι όλα πια μέσα στο παρελθόν,
μοιάζει σχεδόν και στες επιθυμίες
εκείνες σαν να δόθηκες - πως γυάλιζαν,
θυμήσου, μες στα μάτια που σε κύτταζαν' όπως
έτρεμαν μες στην φωνή, για σε, θυμήσου, σώμα.

ΕΠΙΘΥΜΙΕΣ

Σαν σώματα ωραία νεκρών που δεν εγέρασαν
και τα 'κλεισαν, με δάκρυα, σε μανσωλείο λαμπρό,
με ρόδα στο κεφάλι και στα πόδια γιασεμιά -
έτσι η επιθυμίες μοιάζουν που επέρασαν
χωρίς να εκπληρωθούν χωρίς να αξιωθεί καμιά
της ηδονής μια νύχτα, ή ένα πρωί της φεγγερό.

ΜΑΚΡΥΑ

Θα ' θελα αυτήν την μνήμη να την πώ...
Μα έτσι εσβήσθη πιά... σαν τίποτε δεν απομένει -
Γιατί μακρυά, στα πρώτα εφηβικά μου χρόνια
κείται.

Δέρμα σαν καμωμένο από ιασεμί...
Εκείνη του Αυγούστου - Αύγουστος ήταν; -
η βραδιά...
Μόλις θυμούμαι πιά τα μάτια ήσαν, θαρρώ,
μαβιά...
Α ναι, μαβιά: ένα σαπφείρινο μαβί.

ΕΠΕΣΤΡΕΦΕ

Επέστρεφε: αργά και παίρνε με,
Αγαπημένη αίσθησις επέστρεφε και παίρνε με -
Οταν ζυπνά του σώματος η μνήμη,
κ' επιθυμία παληά ξαναπερνά στο αίμα όταν τα
χείλη και το δέρμα ενθυμούνται,
κ' αισθάνονται τα χέρια σαν ν' αγγίζουν πάλι.

Επέστρεφε συχνά και παίρνε με την νύχτα,
Οταν τα χείλη και το δέρμα ενθυμούνται.