

# NEWSLETTER

22W415 McCarron Road  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

[www.helleniclinkmidwest.org](http://www.helleniclinkmidwest.org)

EDITOR: Constantine Tzanos

EDITORIAL BOARD:

S. Sakellarides, T. Georgopoulos

No. 29, October - November 1999

## HELLENIC LINK Midwest

A CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC  
LINK WITH GREECE



### Website Edition of our Newsletter

For a more extensive edition of our Newsletter, please visit our Website at: <http://www.helleniclink.org>.

### Officers and Board Members

After the elections of last May, the governing body of Hellenic Link - Midwest is: Nicholas Flevaris, president; Peter Metropoulos, vice-president; George Alexopoulos, treasurer; Stefanos Sakellarides, recording secretary; Takis Georgopoulos, corresponding secretary; George Chiagouris, Frank Columbus, Yiannis Dalapas, Nicholas Sarantopoulos, Constantine Tzanos, and Tassos Zervakis, Board Members.

### Upcoming Events

#### Turkish Nationalism - The Pontian and Armenian Genocides

On Saturday, October 2, 1999, Hellenic Link - Midwest presents the Honorable Jim Karygiannis, Ara Sarafian and Hilmar Kaiser in a lecture on *Turkish Nationalism - The Pontian and Armenian Genocides*. The lecture will be held at 4:00 PM, at the Cretan House, 5941 Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

We often think of the Armenian genocide (1915), the destruction of Greeks in Asia Minor (1919-23), the Turkish invasion of Cyprus (1974), the Turkish occupation of the Hatay region of Syria (1938), the genocide against the Kurds (1923-1999), the destruction of non-Muslim minorities in Istanbul (1942-43), the pogrom of the Greeks of Constantinople (1995) as a set of disparate events. Yet, they all form part of a common phenomenon that can not be ignored. This phenomenon is Turkish nationalism and Turkification, both instruments of deliberate state policy.

Ara Sarafian and Hilmar Kaiser will give an overview of each of the above events, and will discuss the systematic destruction of ethnic groups in Asia Minor and beyond. They will argue that countries which border on Turkey can only ignore Turkish nationalism at their peril. The Turkish state has the ideological capacity, as well as the

military ambition, to occupy and destroy the people of new territories under its domination through ethnic cleansing and Turkification policies. This is very well illustrated by the cases of Alexandretta (Syria) and Cyprus. The Western powers can pursue their short term interests by appeasing Turkey, but this is something that neither Turkey's neighbors nor the ordinary Turks can afford.

Ara Sarafian and Hilmar Kaiser, who are archival scholars with extensive work in British, American, German and Turkish archives, will present a case study of the destruction of Greeks in Marsovan near the Black Sea around 1919. They will discuss the facts concerning the destruction of this Greek community, and how information on such events is suppressed in historiographies of the Ottoman Empire and of the Republic of Turkey. The Honorable Jim Karygiannis will discuss the efforts of the Greek-Canadian Community to persuade the Canadian Parliament to recognize this dark period of history.

*Ara Sarafian* is an archival historian specializing on late Ottoman history. His PhD thesis, which is expected to be completed early next year at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), is on the Ottoman Armenian Community. He is also a director of the Gomidas Institute (Ann Arbor, Michigan), which is primarily involved in academic publishing. He is the coeditor of *the Armenian Forum: A Journal of Contemporary Affairs*, an English language quarterly journal, published in Princeton, NJ. He has several publications on the Armenian Genocide. Ara was born in Cyprus to Armenian parents, and speaks Greek and Turkish.

*Hilmar Kaiser* is a historian from the European University in Florence, Italy. He specializes on the late Ottoman period.

#### Turkey's Adventurism with Nuclear Power

On Sunday, October 3, 1999, Hellenic Link - Midwest, in cooperation with the Community of the St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, presents the Honorable Jim Karygiannis, Member of the Canadian Parliament, in a lecture on *Turkish Adventurism with Nuclear Power*. The lecture will be held after Sunday Mass at the Hall of

the St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, 2727 West Winona Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Three international consortia are bidding for a contract to sell nuclear reactors to Turkey. They are led by Atomic Energy of Canada, Limited; Westinghouse of the United States; and Nuclear Power International, a consortium led by Siemens of Germany and Framatome of France. All of the consortia must involve Turkish firms in the bid, and all are required to provide 100% of the financing for the project. The Canadian government is negotiating the sale of two CANDU-type nuclear reactors to the Turkish government. Canada has contributed to the proliferation of nuclear weapons by providing a nuclear reactor to India, which has built upgraded reactors based on what Canada provided, and has produced plutonium. The sale of Canadian CANDU-type reactors to Turkey would arm that country with the same technology that India and Pakistan used to build nuclear bombs.

The proposed site of Turkey's first nuclear power plant, Akkuyu Bay, is situated next to an active fault line. The recent catastrophic earthquake in Turkey underscores the dangers for Turkey and its neighboring countries from nuclear plants built at an earthquake prone Turkish site. Turkey was originally supposed to announce the winning nuclear vendor in June 1998. That deadline has slipped repeatedly, but even after the recent earthquake, Turkey has stated its intent to proceed with the project.

Even after the announcement of the winning vendor, there will be a period of at least six months, during which a contract will be negotiated. A campaign to stop the Akkuyu nuclear plant has been undertaken in Canada. The sale of the Canadian nuclear reactors, as well as of any other type of power reactors, to Turkey is opposed for the following reasons:

Nuclear Weapons Proliferation: India developed its nuclear weapons program based on the transfer of Canadian nuclear technology. It is expected that Turkey will do the same.

Safety: The Akkuyu site is near an active fault line, the Ecemis fault. The Akkuyu region has experienced a number of strong earthquakes over the past 100 years. The recent catastrophic earthquake underscores the safety concerns with nuclear power in Turkey. Southeastern Turkey is a politically unstable region and the danger of sabotage can not be underestimated. The catastrophe at Chernobyl stresses the technical and regulatory competence required for the safe operation of a nuclear plant.

Cost: Today, nuclear power is more expensive than electricity generation from conventional technologies.

Instead of investing billions in nuclear power for covering only 2-3% of its energy needs, Turkey should instead promote energy efficiency and conservation, and exploit its vast reserves of renewable energy.

Environment: the Mediterranean Monk Seal (*monachus monachus*) is one of the ten most endangered species in the world, with only about 200 seals left in existence. A colony of seals live on an island in the mouth of Akkuyu Bay. The water intake and sea traffic for the plant will pose a real danger to the remaining seals.

Jim Karygiannis will discuss the grave dangers from the introduction of nuclear power technology to Turkey, and the efforts to stop the sale of nuclear power plants to Turkey. For additional information on this issue, please visit the website: <http://www.diaspora-net.org/nuclear>

*Jim Karygiannis* is the Liberal Member of the Canadian Parliament for Scarborough-Agincourt. He was re-elected to the House of Commons for a third term, on June 2, 1997. He was first elected in 1988, and served his second term following his October 25, 1993 re-election. Mr. Karygiannis has served as Associate Critic (shadow minister of the opposition party) for Revenue, Multiculturalism, and Small Business. He has been active in the Liberal Party for many years. In 1989-1990, he was a key organizer in Ontario for Jean Chretien, during the federal Liberal Leadership Campaign. He is an effective voice of the people of Scarborough-Agincourt in immigration and many other areas of federal concern.

Mr. Karygiannis is an active voice in the Canadian Parliament for a peaceful solution of the conflicts that have risen in the Balkans, and has promoted peace and safety in the eastern Mediterranean for many years. He has been active in many community organizations. In 1999 he was awarded the distinction of the Order of the Phoenix with the title of an officer by the president of the Republic of Greece .

Mr. Karygiannis graduated with a Bachelor in Applied Science (Industrial Engineering) from the University of Toronto and holds a Fellowship of Business Administration from the Canadian School of Business. He was born in Athens, Greece, and is married, with five daughters.

### **Balkans in Our Times: Recurring Patterns of History**

On Sunday, October 24, 1999, Hellenic Link - Midwest presents Professor Nicholas Stavrou, in a lecture on "*Balkans in Our Times: Recurring Patterns of History*". The lecture will be held at 3:00 PM, at Embassy Suites Hotel, 600 North State Street, Chicago Illinois.

The post-Cold War events in the Balkans confirm the recurrence of historical patterns which, like in times past, have transformed the region into the testing ground of a new world order. This order presupposes: (a) the inevitability of civilizational clashes; (b) a systematic assault on Eastern Orthodoxy by western powers; and (c) the legitimization of the western powers as de facto managers of regional clashes. The emerging politico-strategic scenarios, reminiscent of pre-1912 historical events, have placed the security and ethnic identity of Greece at high risk.

*Dr. Nicholas Stavrou* is Graduate Professor of International Affairs and Political Science at Howard University. His expertise is in Political Theory (Normative and Empirical) while geographically he specializes in Balkan, European and Russian affairs. He is an internationally known specialist on Albanian, Yugoslav, and Greek affairs. He has published over one hundred and fifty articles in professional journals and major newspapers. Dr. Stavrou's publications have appeared in *World Affairs*, *Political and Economic Studies* (Athens), *Global Affairs*, *Politika Themata*, *Mediterranean Quarterly*, and in major newspapers like, *Manchester Guardian*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Borba* (Belgrade), *To Vema*, *Kathimerini*, *Eleftherotypia*, and *Ta Nea*. He has appeared on major TV Channels, and he is a regular political commentator for ANTI TV and Radio (Athens). Dr. Stavrou is the editor of *Mediterranean Quarterly*, published by Duke University Press. He is currently working on a book tentatively titled *Bishops, Commissars and Revolutions: The Role of Comintern in Albania Kosovo*.

Dr. Stavrou received his B.A degree in Political Science from Hunter College (NY) and his M.A. and Ph.D degrees in International Affairs and political Science, respectively, from George Washington University.

## ***In Brief***

### **Kranidiotis' Appeal to Turkey**

Following the recent devastating earthquake in Turkey, in a radio interview on August 19, 1999, the late Greek Foreign Undersecretary of Greece Yiannos Kranidiotis, called on Turkey to abandon its plans to build a nuclear power plant. Mr. Kranidiotis said: "A nuclear power plant would pose a great danger because the site of the plant in Akkuyu, is an earthquake-prone area".

### **Nominee for EC Environment Commissioner on Turkey**

In her recent confirmation hearing before the European Parliament's environment and industry committees, the Nominee for EC Environment Commissioner Margot Wallstrom of Sweden said that Turkey should be pressed about its plans to build a nuclear power plant in an earthquake zone. She also said that in countries applying to join the European Union, nuclear power plants deemed unsafe should be closed as soon as possible.

### **Food For Thought**

*Studies on Modern Greek Society and Politics*, by Professor George Kourvetaris of Northern Illinois University (a member of Hellenic Link - Midwest), was recently published by Eastern European Monographs, Boulder, Colorado. This book includes 16 chapters, mostly authored by Professor Kourvetaris, that cover a wide range of issues and topics dealing with Modern Greek Society and Politics.

### **Turkey Faces Pressure to Halt Nuclear Power Plant**

*From Michael Jansen, in Nicosia (Reprinted from IRISH TIMES, 8/20/99)*

TURKEY: Suddenly it all became too much for Sibel Celik. As another corpse was dragged out of the ruins of Goluk and zipped into a yellow body bag her grief boiled over into anger.

Environmentalists from Turkey, Cyprus, Greece and Canada, as well as Greenpeace, have warned of the risk of a second Chernobyl-type disaster if the planned 1,000 megawatt plant is built at Akkuyu Bay, west of the town of Silifke and about 80 km south-west of Mersin. The bay, an important tourist site, is unsuitable because it is just 20 km from the active Eceemis fault.

Fearful of the consequences of the plant being sited at Akkuyu, the Greek Ministry for the Aegean issued a report early this year which stated: "The existence of the South Anatolian fault in conjunction with the numerous faults in the Aegean makes this a potential site for a major earthquake" and months of aftershocks.

Turkey's last major quake (magnitude 5.1) struck Adana, just 125km northeast of the bay, while last week a quake (magnitude 5.8) was registered in Limassol on Cyprus, a similar distance from Akkuyu. Limassol is still experiencing aftershocks.

Greek scientists, using computers to simulate the spread of nuclear fall-out from an accident at a plant sited at the bay, said radioactive material could be scattered over Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Greece and Cyprus.

Cyprus would be the most seriously affected, particularly in summer when strong breezes could carry away almost all the fall-out from a ruptured plant.

Although a leading Turkish nuclear scientist, Mr Tolga Yarman, warned in the Toronto Star that Akkuyu was the "wrong place" to build such a facility, the Turkish government and companies tendering for the \$4 billion project are reported to be planning to go ahead without carrying out seismological tests.

Canadian scientists working for Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd, the firm most likely to secure the contract, admit that tests made in 1983 by the Turkish Electricity Authority were "incomplete and inadequate in a number of areas."

Other tenders have been submitted by the French-German consortium, Nuclear Power International, and the Japanese multinational Mitsubishi, in collaboration with Westinghouse of the US.

The struggle between proponents and opponents has become a battle between a Goliath of big business, armed with money and influence, and a David represented by the environmental lobby, armed just with words.

In his article, Prof Yarman said that at this stage in its development, "Turkey is not ready for nuclear power. If it were a necessity, many more years of preparation would be required."

Other specialists also say it is not a necessity. The Akkuyu Bay plant would meet only 2 to 3 per cent of Turkey's electricity requirements, which could be met by harnessing natural gas. Turkey has two sources of plentiful cheap gas, Iran and Turkmenistan.

## ***From Our History***

### **Revolution In Corcyra**

*The island of Corcyra (modern Corfu) off the west coast of mainland Greece, played a key role in the events that precipitated the outbreak of the Peloponnesian war in 431 B.C. Originally a colony of Corinth, Corcyra was embroiled in a bitter dispute with its mother city over territorial rights on the mainland, and turned to Corinth's enemy, Athens, for support. Corcyra was a considerable naval power, strategically located on the trade route to Sicily and southern Italy; in spite of the risk of offending Corinth, Athens became Corcyra's ally.*

*By 427 B.C., Corcyra was torn by civil war. Democrats supported by Athens were opposed by oligarchic factions supported by Corinth; blood was shed on both sides. Finally, with the arrival of a strong Athenian naval squadron under the command of Eurymedon, the*

*democrats gained the upper hand and proceeded to slaughter their opponents. Thucydides in his History of the Peloponnesian War follows his account of the horrors of the massacre with what has ever since been regarded as a classic analysis of what happens to political language, ideas, and action in a revolution.*

During the seven days that Eurymedon remained after his arrival with his sixty ships, the Corcyraeans continued slaughtering those of their fellow-citizens whom they regarded as enemies; they charged them with designs against the democracy, but some were killed from motives of personal enmity, and some perished at the hands of their debtors because money was owing to them. Every form of death was to be seen; and everything, and more than everything, that commonly happens in revolutions, happened then. Fathers killed their sons, and suppliants were torn from the temples and killed near them; some of them were even walled up in the temple of Dionysus, and perished.

To such extremes of cruelty did revolution go, and this revolution seemed still worse because it was among the first. For afterwards the whole Hellenic world, one may say, was in commotion; in every city the leaders of the people were struggling to bring in the Athenians or the Lacedaemonians. Now in time of peace, they would have had no excuse for introducing either and no desire to do so; but when they were at war, and each party could obtain assistance to injure their opponents and simultaneously to gain new strength for themselves, interventions were easily procured by those with revolutionary designs. And revolution brought many calamities on the cities, which occurred and always will occur so long as human nature remains the same, but which are more or less aggravated and differ in character with every new combination of circumstances. In peace and prosperity both states and individuals act on better principles because they are not involved in necessities which allow them no choice; but war, stealing away the means of providing easily for their daily lives, is a teacher of violence and assimilates the passions of most men to their circumstances.

When civil strife had once begun in the cities, the later outbreaks, doubtless because men had learned of the earlier, far surpassed them in the novelty of the plans, the ingenuity of the enterprises and the enormity of the vengeance taken. And men changed the conventional meaning of words as they chose. Irrational daring was held to be loyal courage; prudent delay, an excuse for cowardice; sound sense, a disguise for unmanly weakness; and men who consider matters in every aspect were thought to be incapable of doing anything. Frantic haste became part of a man's quality; and if anyone made safety the condition for conspiracy, it was a specious pretext for

evasion. The lover of violence was always trusted, and his opponent suspected. If anyone succeeded in a plot, he was shrewd; if he detected one, even more clever; but if anyone took measures in advance to make plots or detection superfluous, he was regarded as a man who broke up his own party in terror of the opposition. In a word, it was praiseworthy to strike first, while your enemy was meditating an injury, and to incite a man to strike who was not thinking of it. Furthermore, the tie of party came to be closer than the tie of kinship because the partisan was more audacious and made fewer excuses. For party associations were formed, not for men's good under the existing laws, but in defiance of them, for sheer aggrandizement; and mutual pledges were sealed, not so much in accordance with the divine law as by collaboration in some breach of law. Fair proposals by opponents were received by the stronger party with precautionary actions and not in a generous spirit. Revenge was dearer than self-preservation. And if ever sworn treaties were agreed to, they were granted for the moment when no other course was open and lasted as long as neither party had support from outside; but when opportunity offered, whichever party took courage first, on seeing their adversaries off their guard, they were more delighted by perfidious than by open revenge; they reflected that it was taken in safety and that by a triumph of duplicity they had also gained a prize for superior intelligence. It has generally proved easier to call wicked men clever than to call foolish men good, and men are ashamed of folly and proud of cleverness.

The cause of all these evils was the love of power, originating in avarice and ambition; hence, once engaged in the struggles, men were unsparing of their efforts. The leaders on either side in the cities used specious catchwords; one party preferred "a fair share of political rights for the masses," the other, "the good sense of government by the best men"; they professed devotion to the public interest but rewarded themselves at the public cost. They stopped at nothing in their struggle for victory, did not shrink from the most monstrous crimes and proceeded to even more monstrous acts of revenge, observing no limits of justice or public expediency, but each bounded only by his own pleasure at the time. When an unjust sentence gave them the chance or when force gave them the mastery, they were eager to satiate the enmity of the moment. They had no use for scruples; but when they succeeded in effecting some odious purpose, they were more highly spoken of, if they found a plea that sounded well. The citizens who were of neither party were destroyed by both because they were neutral or because men grudged them survival.

Thus, revolutions gave birth to every form of wickedness in Hellas, and the simplicity which is so large an element in

a noble nature was laughed to scorn and disappeared. An attitude of distrustful antagonism widely prevailed, for no words were strong enough and no oaths sufficiently terrible to reconcile opponents; all who obtained the upper hand reasoned that security was not to be hoped for, and were readier to think out precautions against injury than to show a capacity of trusting others. Men of inferior intellect generally succeeded best. Afraid of their own deficiencies and of the shrewdness of their adversaries, fearful that they would get the worst of argument and that the subtle policy of their enemies would find some means of striking at them first, they proceeded boldly to action, whereas the others arrogantly assumed that they would detect their opponents' plans and had no need to take by force what they could get by policy, and were more apt to be taken by surprise and destroyed.