



HELLENIC LINK–MIDWEST Newsletter

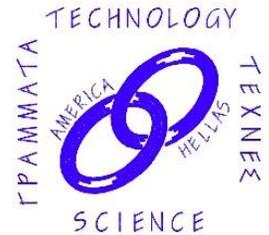
A CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC LINK WITH GREECE

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Upcoming Events

Amazing Advances in Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Therapies

On Sunday, October 20, 2019, Hellenic Link–Midwest presents Doctor Chadwick Constantine Prodromos, MD, in a lecture titled *"Amazing Advances In Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Therapies"*. The event will take place at 3:00 pm in Room 1610, at the Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016. Admission will be free.

In this lecture, Dr. Prodromos will discuss in non-technical terms the amazing advances in medical stem cell therapies that have become recently available. Compared to traditional treatments, stem cell therapies can offer better outcomes without drugs or surgery. Stem cell therapies can treat osteoarthritis and avoid joint replacement surgery; and rheumatoid arthritis and Crohn's disease without toxic immunosuppressive drugs. In clinical trials, stem cell treatments have slowed the progression of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and even more so multiple sclerosis (MS). Retinal stem cell treatments are literally restoring sight. New treatments for diabetes, brain cancer, and numerous other severe afflictions will also be discussed. Dr. Prodromos will also explain the legal and regulatory issues involved, and educate the audience on how to differentiate legitimate from illegitimate stem cell treatments. He will provide information on how to locate available stem cell clinical trials for any condition of interest, and where to find already established stem cell treatments.

Dr Prodromos received his BA from Princeton University, and his M.D. from Johns Hopkins University. He did his surgical internship at the University of Chicago, his orthopedic surgery residency at Rush University, and his fellowship in orthopedics and sports medicine at the Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital. He taught as assistant professor of orthopedic surgery at Rush for twenty-seven years, and he is the editor of the orthopedic surgical textbook *"The Anterior Cruciate Ligament: Basic Science and Reconstruction."* He is medical director of the non-profit Foundation for Orthopedics and Regenerative Medicine, and President of the Illinois Sports Medicine and Orthopedic centers. He is a founding member of the American College of regenerative medicine, and board certified in both orthopedic surgery and regenerative medicine. He is the

author of dozens of peer-reviewed medical publications and a reviewer for numerous orthopedic journals.

On the Verge of War?

On Sunday, November 10, 2019, Hellenic Link–Midwest presents Endy Zemenides, in a lecture titled *"On the Verge of War?"* The event will take place at 3:00 pm in Room 1610, at the Oakton Community College, 1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines, IL 60016. Admission will be free.

The Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean have perpetually been flashpoints between Greece and Turkey. The international law is on the side of Greece and Cyprus. In recent years, a number of diplomatic developments have raised the international standing of Greece and Cyprus. Turkey has responded with unprecedented levels of peacetime military provocations, violating Greek airspace and territorial waters thousands of times and infringing on the Republic of Cyprus' Exclusive Economic Zone.

US Ambassador to Athens Geoffrey Pyatt repeatedly declares his concern over the possibility of an "accident" happening between Greece and Turkey in the Aegean, and Turkey consistently threatens to use force against Greece and Cyprus.

How real is the prospect of war in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Aegean? How do the improved bilateral relations between the US and Greece and souring relationship between Washington and Ankara shape the equation? How does Turkey's turn away from the West affect the prospects for the reunification of Cyprus?

Endy Zemenides is the Executive Director of the Hellenic American Leadership Council (HALC), a national Greek-American advocacy organization. He oversees staff and fellows in Chicago, New York and Washington, D.C., and leads the organizations advocacy efforts at the federal, state and local levels, as well as HALC's public education programs. Zemenides is in the Leadership Circles of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs (CCGA), where he also was one of the CCGA's Emerging Leaders Fellows.

He served as Senior Advisor to former Illinois State Treasurer and Democratic nominee for the United States Senate, Alexi Giannoulias; has served on the editorial board and board of advisors of the National Strategy Forum, as a participant in the Aspen Institute's Socrates Program, and has lectured in international relations and American foreign policy in DePaul University's political

science department.

He received a BA from DePaul University, an MA from the University of Essex (UK), and his JD from the Georgetown University Law Center, where he served as a fellow for the Harrison Institute for Public Law and an Editor of the Georgetown Journal of International Law.

In Brief

Erdogan: Unacceptable that Turkey Can't Have Nuclear Weapons

Although Turkey has signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1980, and has also signed the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which bans all nuclear detonations for any purpose, on August 14, 2019, Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan said it was unacceptable for nuclear-armed states to forbid Ankara from obtaining its own nuclear weapons, but did not say whether Turkey had plans to obtain them.

"Some countries have missiles with nuclear warheads, not one or two. But (they tell us) we can't have them. This, I cannot accept," he told his ruling AK Party members in the eastern city of Sivas.

"There is no developed nation in the world that doesn't have them," Erdogan said. However, this is not true. Most developed countries do not have nuclear weapons.

"We have Israel nearby, as almost neighbors. They scare (other nations) by possessing these. No one can touch them," he said

Energy Cooperation – U.S, Greece, Cyprus and Israel

On August 7, 2019, the following statement was released by the governments of the United States of America, the Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Cyprus, and the State of Israel regarding cooperation in the field of energy.

"The Energy Ministers of the Hellenic Republic, Kostas Hatzidakis, the Republic of Cyprus, Georgios Lakkotrypīs, the State of Israel, Yuval Steinitz and the Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources of the United States of America, Francis Fannon, met today in Athens regarding cooperation in the field of energy, while affirming their shared commitment to promote peace, stability, security, and prosperity in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

Mr. Fannon underlined the increasing and tangible support of the US government for the establishment of a structured quadrilateral mechanism for cooperation that focuses on energy matters.

The Ministers and the United States identified several significant areas of common interest, including, inter alia, infrastructure projects, renewable energy and energy

storage, emergency preparedness, environmental protection and cyber security, while agreeing to establish a High Level Working Group (HLWG) that will highlight specific energy projects and propose ways of promoting their implementation. The Ministers have agreed to work towards signing an agreement for a joint emergency preparedness and response mechanism for offshore oil and gas operations. The HLWG will report its progress to the Ministers of Energy on a regular basis.

The Ministers and the United States agreed to support their countries' energy independence and the establishment of an Energy Corridor of the Eastern Mediterranean, contributing thus to the energy security of the European Union by actively promoting the diversification of import sources and routes.

The Ministers and the United States reiterated their full support and solidarity for the Republic of Cyprus in exploring and developing its resources in its Exclusive Economic Zone and express their concern with recent provocative steps underway in the Eastern Mediterranean. The United States also reaffirmed its position that the island's oil and gas resources should be shared equitably between both communities in the context of an overall settlement.

The Ministers expressed strong support for sovereign states' rights in order not to endanger peace and stability in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Aegean Sea.

The Energy Ministers of the Hellenic Republic, the Republic of Cyprus and the State of Israel, reaffirmed the support of their countries for the implementation of the East Med gas pipeline, a project of major significance for the energy security of the European Union, that also establishes a strategic link between Europe and Israel.

The Ministers recalled that the relevant Intergovernmental Agreement, has been finalized by Greece, Cyprus, Israel and Italy in December 2018 and approved by the European Commission in February 2019 and shall be signed at the earliest possible convenience by all interested parties."

The Black Hole in Greek Education

<http://www.ekathimerini.com/244529/opinion/ekathimerini/comment/the-black-hole-of-education>

The annual report of the Authority for Quality Assurance in Primary and Secondary Education (ADIPPDE), indicated that a large percentage of 11th graders, in particular, at regular and technical public high schools in Greece face the risk of going through life with functional illiteracy.

The problems identified in high school can be traced to elementary and middle school and it is imperative for education policy to intervene pre-emptively at both levels.

Greek families spend more than 2.5 billion euros per year on covering the educational needs of their children.

However, exam results are so poor!

For some years now, another form of “illiteracy” has been spreading. Thousands of students are leaving high school without being able to understand a text, express themselves, describe the premise of a film, write a proposal, combine knowledge they supposedly have, explain an event or seek an interpretation of a phenomenon, or even just describe their day.

This inability to express themselves, inevitably associated with an inability to think critically, runs through Greek society: from the family and the media, to education and the overall atmosphere in general. It is a big, deep hole in which efforts are lost.

From Our History

The Approval of the Turkish Invasion of Cyprus by the Governments of U.S and UK

Telegram from the U.S. Embassy in Turkey to the Department of State, Ankara, July 17, 1974, 1329Z. 5629. Subject: Cyprus Coup: American Ambassador in Turkey – Meeting with the Turkish Prime Minister.

For U.S. Secretary from Ambassador. Ref State 154148.2

Source: <https://hellasjournal.com/2019/07/prin-apo-tin-eisvoli-o-athlios-kisigker-proteine-quot-dipli-enosi-quot-tis-kyproy-me-ellada-toyrkia/>

I had an eighty minute meeting with PriMin noon (local time) July 17. Acting Foreign Minister (normally DefMin Isik) and DCM Bergus also present. After I had made points outlined para 1, ref tel 3, PriMin responded as follows:

1. Current Government of Turkey (GOT) assessment of situation:

A. Coup appears to have succeeded. While there are still undoubtedly Makarios resources on island, they probably are lying low now so as to avoid risk of exposure and destruction at this time.

B. Coup completely engineered by Greek Govt.

C. GOT does not fear de jure enosis move in immediate future. On contrary, Turks believe that Athens will maintain fiction of separateness, as this will enable GOG (Government of Greece) in effect to have two votes in UN, while it has one foot in NATO camp and another in non-aligned world.

D. GOT does not accept this as an internal Cypriot problem. On contrary, it is international matter involving violation of an agreement to which Turkey is a party and guarantor.

E. Deterioration of position of Turks on island is inevitable, if new regime stays in power.

F. Vulnerability of Turks on island greatly increased by lack of their having secure access to sea coast.

G. Current situation therefore completely unacceptable to the GOT. If acceptable situation not recreated, Turkey will have to directly intervene with military force on island.

H. If intervention necessary, it will be “bloodier” the longer it is put off. Therefore, GOT not prepared to delay intervention beyond “few days”.

I. Situation has brought to head growing GOT conviction that Greek - Turks cooperation within NATO must be terminated (see separate telegram).

J. GOT seeking to work closely with British as a “joint-guarantor” on this situation. (Shortly after his advising me that they were seeking high level meeting with British, message was handed to PriMin saying UKG (United Kingdom Government) had agreed to such meeting right away in London. PriMin read me message and indicated that he and Isik would be leaving immediately for UK. He will arrive there tonight. He expected visit to last for day or so.)

K. With respect to Soviet attitude, PriMin said Russians were restless over situation, and not keeping this a secret. He saw considerable significance in official TASS statement that Cyprus developments endangered détente. Sov Amb had repeated this statement in meeting with President Koruturk last night.

I said that we had heard of Soviet offer to put troops on island and that was one thing situation definitely did not need.

2. GOT objectives:

A. PriMin said that GOT basic objective is restitution of Cyprus’ constitutional govt. By this he meant return of Makarios to his head of govt position, or if this not feasible, that Makarios successor should emerge through previously established constitutional procedures.

B. That Greek officers of Cyprus National Guard must leave the island.

C. That a secure corridor to the sea must be obtained for Turkish community.

3. I asked PriMin if he and British should reach agreement on above objectives during London meetings, how he expected them to be brought about. PriMin said “*We will see. They have bases there. If they do not use them now what are they for? We will see what the British think. We will explore all peaceful solutions before considering others.*”

4. At end of conversation PriMin summarized situation as follows:

A. New regime on Cyprus completely unacceptable to GOT. GOT hopes status quo ante can be restored without Turkish military intervention. If this is not done, GOT prepared carry out military intervention. It believes latter would be better done within a few days rather than waiting weeks or months.

B. If new regime retains control of island, GOT might be willing hold off military intervention if a corridor to the sea

guaranteed to Turkish residents of island. This, combined with clear Turkish military superiority in area, would give GOT assurance that it could rescue Turkish population if that were needed.

5. PriMin wishes to stay in close touch with USG (United States Government) and would be very grateful to have Secretary Kissinger's comments on foregoing. He expressed hope that these could be conveyed to him while he was still in London.

From the Riches of Our Cultural Heritage

Ποίηση Οδυσσέα Ελύτη

ΗΛΙΚΙΑ ΤΗΣ ΓΛΑΥΚΗΣ ΘΥΜΗΣΗΣ

Ελαιώνες κι αμπέλια μακριά ως τη θάλασσα
Κόκκινες ψαρόβαρκες πιο μακριά ως τη θύμηση
Έλυτρα χρυσά του Αυγούστου στον μεσημεριάτικο ύπνο
Με φύκια ή όστρακα. Κι εκείνο το σκάφος
Φρεσκοβγαλμένο, πράσινο, που διαβάζει ακόμη στην ειρήνη
του κόλπου των νερών *Έχει ο Θεός*

Περάσανε τα χρόνια φύλλα ή βότσαλα
Θυμάμαι τα παιδόπουλα, τους ναύτες που έφευγαν
Βάφοντας τα πανιά σαν την καρδιά τους
Τραγουδούσαν τα τέσσερα σημεία του ορίζοντα
Κι είχαν ζωγραφιστούς βοριάδες μες στα στήθια.

Τι γύρευα όταν έφτασες βαμμένη απ' την ανατολή του ήλιου
Με την ηλικία της θάλασσας στα μάτια
Και με την υγεία του ήλιου στο κορμί - τι γύρευα
Βαθιά στις θαλασσοσπηλιές μες στα ευρύχωρα όνειρα
Όπου άφριζε τα αισθήματά του ο άνεμος
Άγνωστος και γλαυκός, χαράζοντας στα στήθια μου
το πελαγίσιο του έμβλημα

Με την άμμο στα δάχτυλα έκλεινα τα δάχτυλα
Με την άμμο στα μάτια έσφιγγα τα δάχτυλα
Ήτανε η οδύνη—
Θυμάμαι ήταν Απρίλης όταν ένιωσα πρώτη φορά το
ανθρώπινο βάρος σου
Το ανθρώπινο σώμα σου πηλό κι αμαρτία
Όπως την πρώτη μέρα μας στη γη
Γιόρταζαν τις αμαρυλλίδες - Μα θυμάμαι πόνεσες
Ήτανε μια βαθιά δαγκωματιά στα χείλια
Μια βαθιά νυχιά στο δέρμα κατά κει που
χαράζεται παντοτινά του ο χρόνος

Σ' άφησα τότες

Και μια βουερή πνοή σήκωσε τ' άσπρα σπίτια
Τ' άσπρα αισθήματα φρεσκοπλυμένα επάνω
Στον ουρανό που φώτιζε μ' ένα μειδίωμα.

Τώρα θα 'χω σιμά μου ένα λαγήνι αθάνατο νερό
Θα 'χω ένα σχήμα λευτεριάς ανέμου που κλονίζει
Κι εκείνα τα χέρια σου όπου θα τυραννιέται ο Έρωτας
Κι εκείνο το κοχύλι σου όπου θ' αντηχεί το Αιγαίο.

Poetry by Odysseas Elytis

AGE OF BLUE MEMORY

Olive groves and vineyards as far as to the sea
Red fishing boats farther still to memory
Golden cricket husks of August in a midday sleep
With shells or seaweed. And that boat's hull
Newly built, green, that in the water's peaceful embrace still
reads: *The Lord Will Provide*

Like leaves like pebbles the years went by
I remember the young men, the sailors, leaving
And painting the sails in their hearts' image
They sang of the four corners of the horizon
They wore the north winds tattooed on their chests

What was I looking for when you came painted with the
sunrise The age of the sea within your eyes
And on your body the sun's vigor—what was I looking for
Deep within sea-caverns amid spacious dreams
Where the emotions foamed of a wind
Anonymous and blue, engraving on my chest its sea emblem

With sand on my fingers, I would close my fingers
With sand in my eyes, I would clench my fingers
This was torment—
It was April, I remember, when I felt for the first time your
human weight

Your human body of clay and corruption
As on our first day on earth
It was the festival of the amaryllis—But you suffered,
I remember,

The wound on the bitten lip was deep
And deep the nailmark on the skin where Time is forever
engraved

I left you then

And a thundering wind swept up the white houses
The white emotions freshly washed
On a sky that illumined all with a smile

Now I shall keep beside me a jug of immortal water A form
of freedom's ravaging wind
And those hands of yours where Love shall be tormented
And that shell of yours where shall echo the Aegean..