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FROM THE CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

Take care of our water supply to avoid a Toledo- like nightmare

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR August 10, 2014



A big thanks to the Chicago Sun-Times for highlighting the vital importance of protecting Lake Michigan (“Don’t let Lake Michigan become another Lake Erie,” Aug. 5). The recent algae bloom off the shores of Toledo was cause for public alarm — and with good reason. Thankfully, it has ignited an important discussion about how to keep

the Great Lakes safe.

An algae bloom occurs rapidly and can wreak havoc on a region’s ecosystem and water supply. We cannot afford to take the relative health of Lake Michigan for granted. In many ways, we are doing the right things. At the systemic level, our water treatment plants have been designed to capture phosphorous and divert it from the water supply.

As the Chicago Sun-Times’ editorial rightly pointed out, however, each of us can take steps to protect our lake’s health. Rain barrels can help reduce runoff. Urban and suburban gardeners can choose fertilizers that don’t contain phosphorous. Limiting how much water we use in our homes during rainstorms can lessen the stress on water treatment facilities. Knowing how to properly dispose of common household items like pharmaceuticals can positively impact the health of our water.

Lake Michigan is an exceptional resource. Each of us can and should help protect it.

Mariyana Spyropoulos,

commissioner,
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Early elections would be suicide, says Samaras



Prime Minister Antonis Samaras warned on recently that Greece would be committing “political suicide” and risking a “return to chaos” if it fails to elect a new president early next year and has to hold early national elections instead.

Samaras’s speech at the Thessaloniki International Fair (TIF) focused on three main themes: Greece’s economic recovery, tax cuts and the danger of failing to elect a successor to President Karolos Papoulias in March. Samaras used the presidential issue as a platform for an attack on SYRIZA, which he accused of craving instability.

“Greece is gradually finding its feet... but there are those who would do whatever they can so nothing changes,” the prime minister said in reference to the opposition party. “They are not even afraid to play with the Constitution.

“They failed to bring down the government from the sidewalks so now they will try with the presidential election.”

Samaras insisted that a growing number of people believe the government’s candidate will be able to attract the minimum number of 180 votes needed in Parliament to be elected. Nevertheless, he argued that a failure to achieve this target would be disastrous for Greece.

“An early trip to the ballot box would be political suicide,” said Samaras, describing as “dangerous” those who “want to lead the country into the worst possible situation at the worst possible moment.”

(Continued opposite page)

What Does Sexual Activity do For Our Health?

After all is said and done, much has been said about the health benefits of sexual activity with your spouse. But as it turns out, your weekly frequency is an important factor when determining which health benefits you actually get.

Once a week: Good for your weight

"Sexual activity guides the brain to release oxytocin that often improves your quality of sleep", says Helen Fischer, a Doctor of Biology. "And since sleep regulates our hunger hormones - Ghrelin and leptin, good sleep leads to reduction of weight."

Twice a week: Good for a cold

People that have sex twice a week have 30% more hemoglobin A, proteins that are part of the immune system and provide protection from infection, bacteria and parasites that cause diseases. So claims a study made by Wilkes University.

Three times a week: Good for the heart

Sex increases not only the heart beat but good blood flow, so says a study from Bristol University. The researchers claimed that "People who have sexual intercourse at least 3 times a week can reduce their risk of fatal heart attack by as much as 50%."

Four times a week: Good for the skin

People that have sex 4 times a week look 4-7 years younger. So says a group of scientist from Royal hospital, Scotland. The reason is that sexual activity increases the rate of growth hormones while reducing fat mass and softening the skin, which gives you a younger look.

Five times a week: Good for performance

"Having sex often is tied to increased optimism, energy, focus and creativity," say Dr. Helen Fischer, "and you don't have to stay in bed to enjoy the benefits of the relationship. In addition, focus and motivation will help you at work, as well."

Six times a week: Good for the brain

People that have sex 6 times a week pump more blood to the brain, which increases the rate of hormone production, the same hormones that improve cognitive function. Some claim it may even help the production of new brain cells.

Seven times a week: Good for the mood

"Frequent sex lowers tension and anxiety," says Jonathan R. Cole, an expert on internal diseases from California, "and this is usually attributed to the rise in endorphin production."

(From page 2)

"Who wants to take this risk? And to achieve what? A return to chaos?" Samaras said that Greece should seek to be a beacon of stability when so many countries in the wider region are suffering serious problems. "In Greece, which is so close to the volcano, instead of protecting our stability, safeguarding the security offered by the European Union and NATO, are we going to risk elections, a new round of instability and new friction with our partners?"

The prime minister also argued that with the first signs of growth emerging,



Greece's public debt would soon be deemed sustainable.

"Although debt is still high, it has started to ease marginally and the drop will soon be even greater when measured against gross domestic product," he said.

Samaras also pledged to cut the cost of electricity for businesses and to create, with EU backing, a special economic zone in Thessaloniki to help keep firms from moving to neighboring Balkan countries, where labor costs and overheads are cheaper.

The New Democracy leader also announced significant taxation plans. First on the list was his declaration that the consumption tax on heating oil would be reduced by 30 percent. He said the heating fuel benefit would remain in place, which should mean that those receiving the handout this winter pay no more than around a euro per liter for their fuel.

The prime minister also pledged that the unified property tax (ENFIA) and solidarity tax on incomes would be reduced. More details are expected in the 2015 national budget, which is due to be drafted over the next few weeks. He further indicated that taxpayers owing money to the state would be granted more installments in which to pay it back. The latter is still being discussed by the Greek government and the troika, with the former aiming for an agreement on 72 to 100 installments.

Letter to President of Chicago Area Brotherhood regarding the persecution of Fr. Angelo Artemas

George D. Karcazes, July 22, 2014

Rev. Fr. James Greanias, President. Metropolis of Chicago Clergy Syndesmos
c/o St. Iakovos Greek Orthodox Church, 602 E. Monroe Street, Valparaiso, Indiana 46383

Fr. Jim,

You are listed as the current leader of the Clergy Brotherhood of our Metropolis. I have been a steward of the Parish of Saints Peter & Paul for almost 40 years. Twenty years on the Council, three of them as President. I served as a delegate to several Diocesan Assemblies and ten Clergy-Laity Congresses. I stepped off the Council three years ago to make room for others to serve. I know that our Clergy follow "church news" more than the average parishioner, and you are aware of the double-switch of our priest, Fr. Angelo Artemas for Fr. James Dokos from Milwaukee. This switch was engineered by Bishop Demetrios, the Chancellor of our Metropolis. You also know that Fr. Dokos has been charged with felony theft by the District Attorney in Milwaukee. He was removed from our parish by the Metropolis. Our Council met with the Chancellor in accordance with the UPR that provides for "consultation" between the Metropolis and the Council with respect to the assignment of a priest as our Proistamenos. More than 400 of our stewards have signed a petition asking that Fr. Angelo be returned to our parish. The Chancellor has responded that Fr. Angelo will never be returned to Saints Peter & Paul, and that the Council can suggest the name of any priest in the Archdiocese except Fr. Angelo. The Chancellor did not explain why he will not return Father to our parish or why he wants to remove him from this Metropolis. Fr. Angelo wants to return. The parish wants him to return.



I believe that you and your brother clergy — and everyone who has read The National Herald and followed the story in the press know that the Chancellor received thousands of dollars from Fr. Dokos. The evidence acquired by the Parish Council in Milwaukee from the bank in Florida was turned over to the authorities while Fr. Angelo was the priest at that Parish. It is apparent to me that Fr. Angelo has been singled out for retribution by the Metropolis because he failed to prevent the Council from turning over what they found to the authorities. The Metropolis is treating him as a whistle-blower who must be punished for doing the right thing. Is there even one among you who believes that Father should have participated in a cover-up for the "good of the Church"?

What is the position of the Clergy Syndesmos? Is there an outcry over the persecution of Fr. Angelo from you and your brother priests? Effective leaders lead by example; they inspire their followers to follow willingly, even enthusiastically. Leaders who try to lead by threats and intimidation always fail. I have informed the Chancellor that the only win-win solution for the situation that has brought our Parish into such a state of despair is for him to relent and assign Fr. Angelo to our Parish. He should return the money he received from Fr. Dokos to the Annunciation parish in Milwaukee to which it belongs. He will win the approval of the overwhelming majority of our stewards. He will prove that he is not punishing Fr. Angelo and his family. He will begin the process of restoring his tarnished reputation. Many priests have told me that the laity must speak out because as priests, they cannot. If individual priests do not speak out because of fear of reprisals from the Metropolis then you should speak as a group. The beginning of the end of Archbishop Spyridon's term as Archbishop was when over 100 priests signed a respectful letter to the Eparchial Synod asking them to act. As Priests leading Parishes you must show the courage and moral fortitude to speak out with a single voice in support of Fr. Angelo and his family. You and your brotherhood are facing a moral choice. A teaching moment for your own children and those in your Church Schools. How will you answer your children when they ask: "Father, what did you do when Fr. Angelo was being persecuted?"

I know that you and your brother priests are familiar with Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German Lutheran pastor, theologian, and anti-Nazi dissident. He was executed by hanging in a Nazi concentration camp on April 9, 1945 just two weeks before Allied forces liberated the camp and three weeks before Hitler's suicide. This Christian martyr is best known for the following quote:

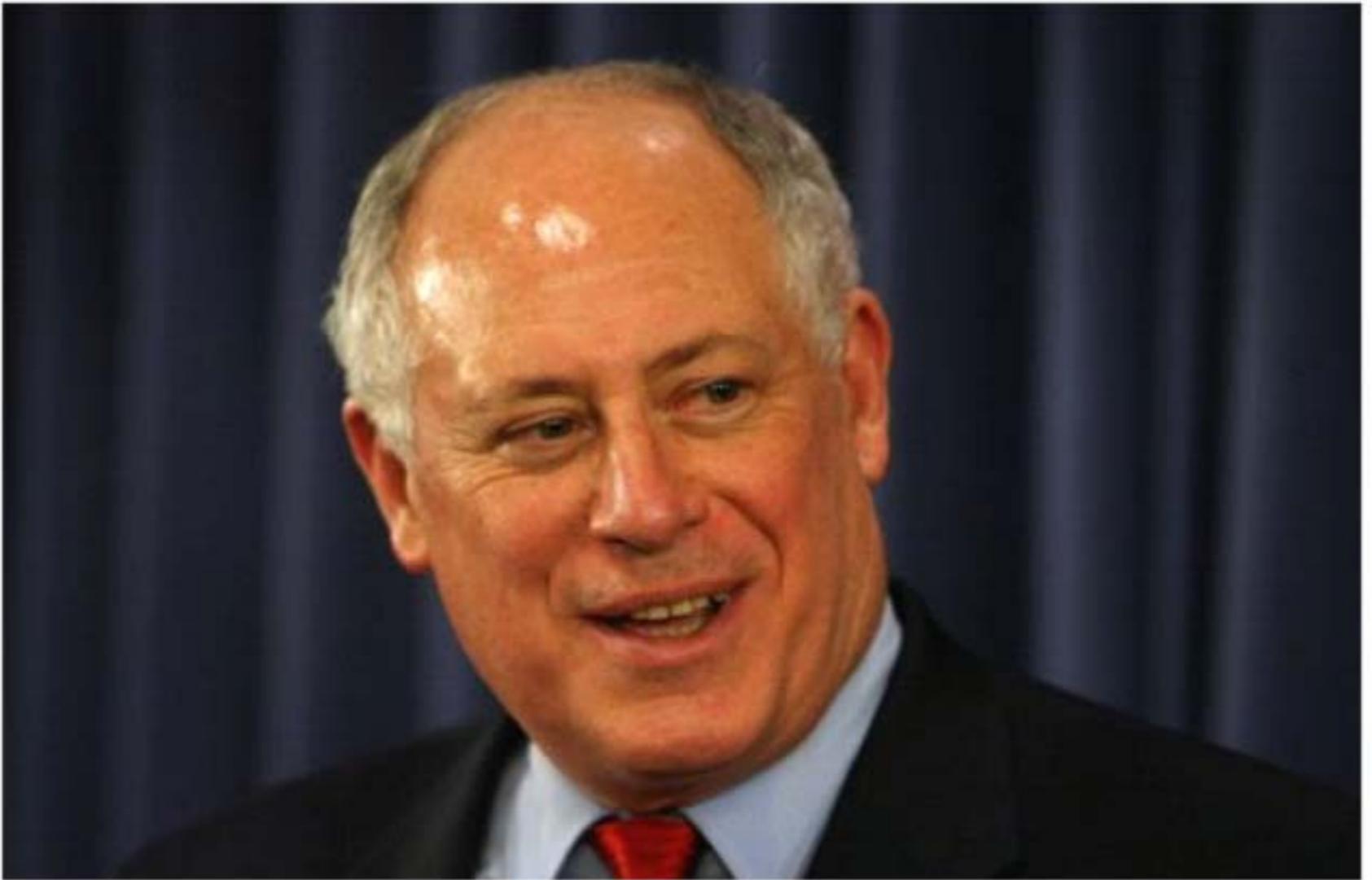
First they came for the Communists, but I was not a communist so I did not speak out. Then they came for the Socialists and he Trade Unionists, but I was neither, so I did not speak out. Then they came for the Jews, but I was not a Jew so I did not speak out. And when they came for me, there was no one left to speak out for me."

Please forward this to all of your fellow priests in this Metropolis and through-out this Archdiocese. I urge you to defend Fr. Angelo and his family. It is the right thing to do. It is what your parishioners expect you to do.

Yours in Christ,

George D. Karcazes Wilmette, Illinois

Source: [Orthodox Christian Laity](#)



Ο Ελληνισμός του Ιλλινόι στηρίζει την επανεκλογή του Πατ Κουίν στη θέση του Κυβερνήτη

Ο Πατ Κουίν κατά τη διάρκεια της θητείας του ως κυβερνήτης έφερε νέο ήθος και διαφάνεια στη διακυβέρνηση της Πολιτείας του Ιλλινόι. Έχοντας υπηρετήσει την Πολιτεία επί 30 χρόνια από διάφορα κρατικά αξιώματα γνωρίζει σε βάθος τα ζητήματα που μας απασχολούν.

Με την εμπειρία του αυτή συνέβαλε σημαντικά στην ανάκαμψη της οικονομίας της Πολιτείας. Ανέπτυξε τους τομείς της Επιστήμης και Τεχνολογίας, επένδυσε και δημιούργησε νέες υποδομές στην Εκπαίδευση, τις Μεταφορές και τη Υγειονομική Περίθαλψη ανοίγοντας διαρκώς νέες θέσεις εργασίας.

Ο Πατ Κουίν στάθηκε πάντοτε στο πλευρό του Ελληνισμού της περιοχής, στηρίζει και συμμετέχει στις εκδηλώσεις του και αποτελεί εγγύηση για τη συνεχή ανάπτυξη και πρόοδο της Πολιτείας μας διατηρώντας την ανταγωνιστική στην δύσκολη παγκόσμια οικονομική συγκυρία του 21ου αιώνα.

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Australia says NO

This will be the second Time Julia Gillard has done this!

She sure isn't backing down on her hard line stance and one has to appreciate her belief in the rights of her native countrymen. A breath of fresh air to see someone lead with guts and determination. Australian Prime Minister does it again!!



"Muslims who want to live under Islamic Sharia law were told on Wednesday to get out of Australia, as the government targeted radicals in a bid to head off potential terror attacks."

Separately, Gillard angered some Australian Muslims on Wednesday by saying she supported spy agencies monitoring the nation's mosques. Quote: *'IMMIGRANTS, NOT AUSTRALIANS, MUST ADAPT... Take It Or Leave It. I am tired of this nation worrying about whether we are offending some individual or their culture. Since the terrorist attacks on Bali, we have experienced a surge in patriotism by the majority of Australians.'*

'This culture has been developed over two centuries of struggles, trials and victories by millions of men and women who have sought freedom. We speak mainly ENGLISH, not Spanish, Lebanese, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, or any other language. Therefore, if you wish to become part of our society, learn the language!'

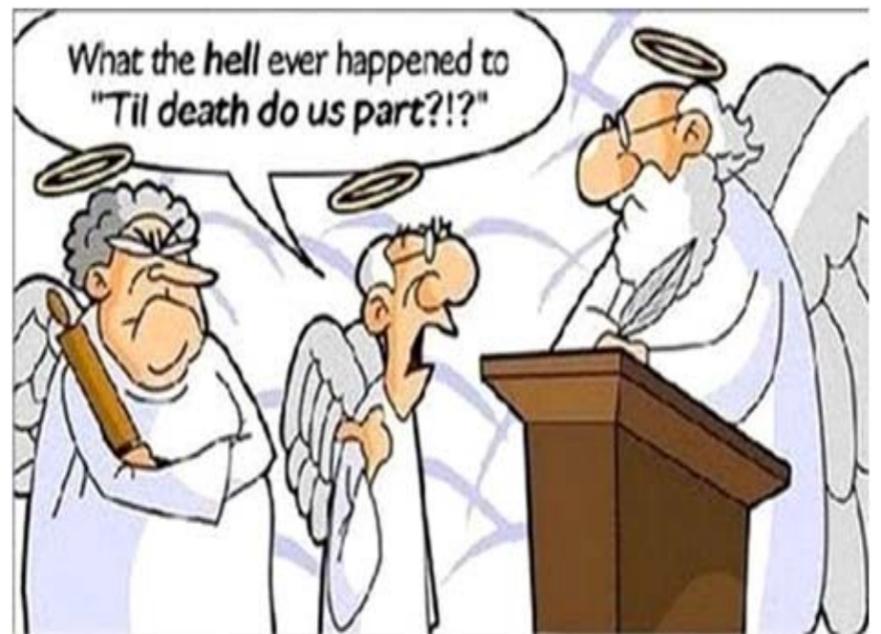
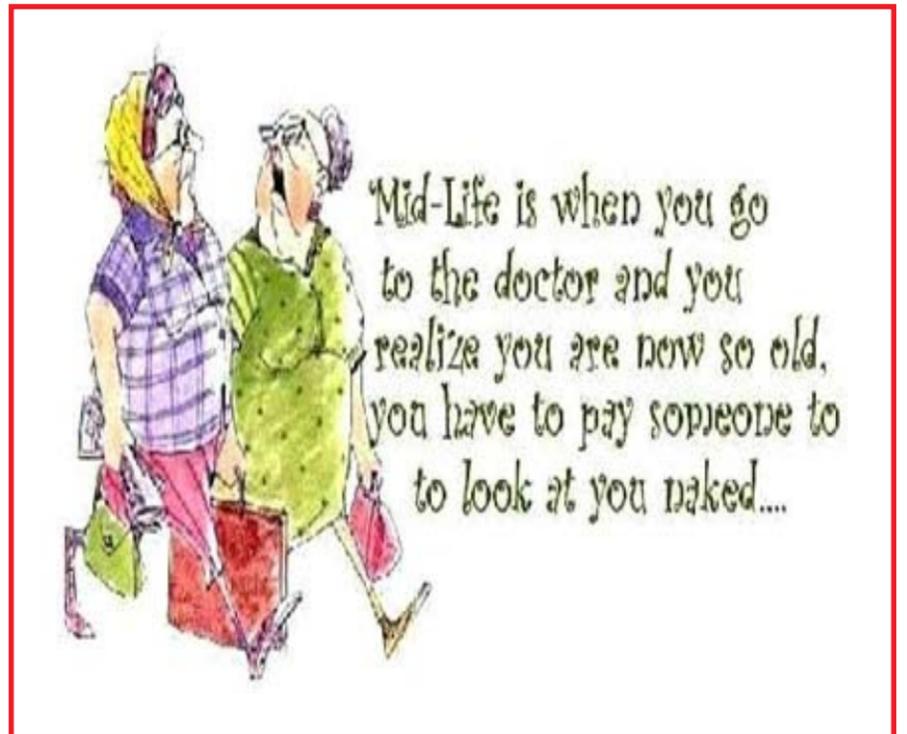
'Most Australians believe in God. This is not some Christian, right wing, political push, but a fact, because Christian men and women, on Christian principles, founded this nation, and this is clearly documented. It is certainly appropriate to display it on the walls of our schools. If God offends you, then I suggest you consider another part of the world as your new home, because God is part of our culture.'

'We will accept your beliefs, and will not question why. All we ask is that you accept ours, and live in harmony and peaceful enjoyment with us.'

'This is OUR COUNTRY, OUR LAND, and OUR LIFESTYLE, and we will allow you every opportunity to enjoy all this. But once you are done complaining, whining, and griping about Our Flag, Our Pledge, Our Christian beliefs, or Our Way of Life, I highly encourage you take advantage of one other great Australian freedom, 'THE RIGHT TO LEAVE'.'

'If you aren't happy here then LEAVE., We didn't force you to come here. You asked to be here. So accept the country that accepted you.'

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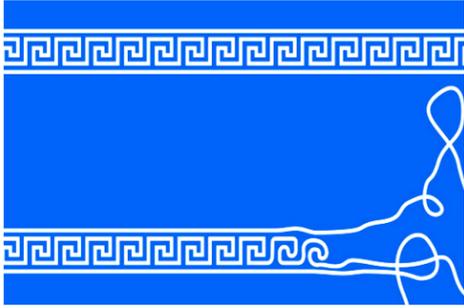
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NEWS FROM GREECE

Self-destructing political system

By Costas Iordanidis

It finally seemed as if we had found some peace of mind. The vast majority of Greek MPs chose to abstain from festivities on August 15, also known as Assumption Day, thus sparing us from the cacophony of vacuous political statements in the midst of the summer season.



Life will of course soon settle back into its normal course. And the familiar protagonists of public life will resurface on center stage. Some of them will once again hand out promises of economic recovery and well-being against the gloomy predictions uttered by their political rivals. Nothing but the same old shadow-boxing always aimed at saving the nation.

Hopefully, Prime Minister Antonis Samaras will have realized by now that his government can in fact achieve a lot more than it has so far with only half the amount of en-

ergy and effort as long as it keeps a cool head and avoids embarrassing blunders like the ENFIA property tax fiasco. We have had enough of the scaremongering, polarization, election talk and pointless attempts to forge a fresh division within society that can only cause harm on all sides. The role of the government is not to trade blows with the main opposition party – even less so when the opposition is represented by the politically shallow party that is SYRIZA.

For his part, leftist leader Alexis Tsipras is employing all sorts of tricks, such as his recent visit to the monastic community on Mount Athos. Tsipras has obviously failed to see that the voters who flocked to his SYRIZA party did not necessarily do so in reaction to the brutal austerity measures. The repeated debunking of illusions cultivated by successive administrations over the past four years or so has undermined the political system as we knew it until May 2010. Because there can be no other explanation for the fact that although Greece was not the only nation in the European south to be hit by the economic crisis, it was still alone in seeing its political system come undone.

Greece was the only state to see a radical left party – SYRIZA – and

a far-right party – Golden Dawn – make record gains, and all that at a time when the conservative party was led by Antonis Samaras, a man with right-wing, patriotic credentials.

The failure of the Greek elite began to seal the fate of Greece when it became a member of the EEC and continued to do so after the country joined the eurozone. After the crisis struck, the political system undermined itself further. It destroyed the Greek middle class in a bid to save a ruling elite that emerged during the post-dictatorship era.

The new season will hopefully see common sense prevail over cheap politicking. A pleasant thought, albeit most probably an exercise in futility.

Greece due to secure EC job it targeted

Greece is confident that its representative on the new European Commission, Dimitris Avramopoulos, will take over a newly created post that will include the immigration, human rights and interior portfolios.

The new president of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, is due to announce the new lineup this week after naming the 27 commissioners, including the minimum of nine women that he wanted, on Friday.

Avramopoulos met Juncker on Wednesday in Brussels and Kathimerini understands that it was agreed at the meeting that the outgoing Greek defense minister would take over the amalgamated portfolio.

Athens is very pleased by this development as it is keen to see the European Union revise the Dublin II Regulation, which requires asylum applications to be examined by the country where the applicants entered the EU. Greece feels this places an unfair burden on southern European countries. The government also wants Brussels to step up its efforts to deal with irregular immigration.

The only job announced so far, that of EU diplomatic chief, went to Italian Foreign Minister Federica Mogherini. Former French Finance Minister Pierre Moscovici and Finland's ex-Premier Jyrki Katainen are favorites for the post of economic affairs commissioner.



Juncker's team includes four former heads of government in addition to himself: Katainen, former Estonian Premier Andrus Ansip, ex-Lithuanian Premier Valdis Dombrovskis and one-time Slovenian PM Alenka Bratusek.

There are also 13 ministers or former ministers and six European commissioners from the outgoing setup. Juncker's appointments will also have to be approved by the European Parliament next month.

Union advises Greek primary school teachers to skip evaluations

The union representing primary school teachers has asked its members not to cooperate with the government in its bid to evaluate their performances due to fears that this will lead to job losses.



Ahead of the start of the new academic year this week, the primary school teachers' federation (DOE) advised its members not to submit the details being requested by authorities so they could "annul the Education Ministry's attempts to impose an evaluation of quotas and sackings."

The union vowed to join forces with the secondary school teachers' federation, OLME, in the fall to protest the government's plans.

It is estimated that the government will need to hire as many as 22,500 substitute teachers to cover for a lack of staff at schools around the country.

So far, it has secured funds to pay for 19,500 educators.



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K.D.S. Electric, Inc., Kailis Tom, Kakates Basilios, Kapsimalis Kosta & Gloria, Karabatsos Nick & Helen, Karas Despina, Karasmanakis Athanasios, Karras Dr. Louis, Karras Konstantinos, Katerinis George, Katrakis Gina, Katsikas Vasiliki, Kazakos Catherine, Koliopoulos Andreas & George, Koliopoulos Andrew & Angela, Konstantinidis Alex, Konstantinou Yiannis, Kontos Chris & Vicky, Korliouros Thanos, Kormas Vasilios & Fereniki, Kotis Steve & Marina, Kotsionis George, Koulogeorge Sofia, Koumbis Eudoxia & Anastasia, Koutavas Angelo & Anna, Koutsogiorgas Gus, Koutsonicolis Nicolas & Demetra.

Lampros Debbie, Lardakis Christos, Laris Cynthia, Las Vegas John, LLC., Lekkos Dimitrios, Liakopoulos Odysseas & Christine, Liakouras Andreas & Chryssanthi, Logothetis Demetrios & Marianna, Loukas Stavros & Helen, Maheras Pete & Penny, Manor Realty, Inc. Mantanes Lela, Mantis Panagiota & Dimitrios, Mantis Diamantis & Athanasia, Maratos Maria, Marinakis Christ & Constance Marinakos Leonidas, Marinis Peter & Louiza, Mariantis Joanne, Marlantis, Steve, Mastro Taso, Mavrikos Steve & Judith, Melhem, Mike & Sophia, Meligala Society, Mellos Pete, Meragias Dimitrios, Mesoloras Tasos & Terie, Metropoulos Panagiotis & Joanne, Metropoulos Nikoleta, Mitsakopoulos Peter & Chris, Murrar, Emad.

N.S. Precision Lathe, Inc. Nafpaktian Brotherhood Society Roumeli of Pennsylvania, Neo Kyma Messinias, Nichols Peter & Helen, Ninos Gus & Kathy, Ntovas Christos.

Olympic Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc., Order of AHEPA Little Fort Chapter No. 218, Osburne Janet.

P.F.A. Arcadian Society Mantinea, Pahigianis John & Chloe, Palas Takis & Vasiliki, Palivos Louis, Pallas Dr. Dimitri, Pan Arcadian Brotherhood of America, Panagiotidis Dimitrios & Konstantina, Panagiotopoulos Christos, Panhellenic Society of Chicago, Panos Chris Papadimitriou Kostas, Papagiannis Tom & Angie, Papaioannou Christopher & Camilla, Papaioannou Demetrios & Vasillios, Papaioannou Athanasio & Golfo, Papaioannou Ilias & Eleftheria, Papaionnou John & Katina, Papatitsa Michael & Harriet, Papanikolaou Bill & Antonia, Papanos John, Papantoniou Andreas, Pappas Cynthia & Golfo, Pappas Joanne & Samuel, Pappas Peter & Athanasia, Pappas Gus & Georgia, Paraskevopoulos Evangelos, Pasalich Frances, Petridis Peter, Pitsis Toula, Poulos Harry & Antonia, Prassinis Sam, Professional Construction, Inc., Prosiliakos Peter & Dora, Psihogios Dino & Lonis, Psihos Sprios.

Raftis Paul, Regas Jim & Allyson, Rekoumis John, Ress Dina, Rigatos Nickolaos & Virginia, Rogaris Loukas, Rolley Larissa, Roumeliotis Peter & Vasiliki.

S.S. Memmos, Sakellariou Martha, Sakoufakis Helen, Sarantis James, Sarantopoulos Dimitrios & Dionisia, Sarris Irene, Sauter William & Ida, Sedares Emily, Sharko Sean, Sianis Sam, Sigiols Christine & John, Sikaras Frank & Helen, Simopoulos Magda, Skordilis George & Camille, Skordilis Nicholas, Skordilis Nicholas Alice & George, Skourletos Nick & Mary, Sotos, John, Sourounis Georgia, Sourounis, Evengelica, Sourounis, George & Christina, Spiliotopoulos Aris, St. Haralambos Philoptochos, Staninakos Peter & Efstathia, Stephenson Angeliki, Stolis Dimosthenis & Maria, Stoykos Keriakos & Stacy, Stratokopos Society, Strubulis Vasilios & Georgia, Stylianou Kostas, Sukru Errol & Erasmia, Szymczyk, Ronald & Michelle.

Talaganis Angelo & Georgia, Tavoularis George, Thanoukas Tony, Theodorakakis Sarantos & Hadzopoulos Nick, Theofanous Steve & Maria, Theoharis Konstantinos, Theotakatos Takis, Topalis Tom & Betty, Toto Michael & Hermioni, Tourloukis Dr. Kiki, Tsalatzidis Theodore, Tsapas John & Voula, Tsoukas Konstantine Irene & Nektarios, Tsoutsias Alkis, United Purchasing Co., Inc.,

Valavanis Maria, Varnavas Dimos & Soula, Vasdekis Pantelis & Debbie, Vaselopoulos Peter & Athanasia, Vaselopoulos Popi in Memory of Tom Vaselopoulos, Vaselopoulos Spyros & Katina, Vasilopoulos Vasilios, Verges Theodore, Village Market Place, Village Squire North, Inc. Vlahopoulos, Spiros Vlahos, John & Debbie.

Xenos Dennis & Lea, Zafiridis, Christopher afiris, Thomas & Alexandra Zarmakoupis, Peter & Loukia Zouzias, Elias.

IN COOPERATION WITH THE ATHENS COMMITTEE OF CHICAGO SISTERS CITIES INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM 2011