

national hellenic FREE PRESS

VOL. 38

NO. 387

CHICAGO, IL.

JANUARY 2018

The Soul

Louis A. Palivos

Part I Philosophers, Psychologists



Have you lost a loved one and began to ask questions? Is there a soul? Where does the soul come from? What is the soul? If there is a soul, do humans have a soul? Do animals have a soul? Do plants have a soul? Is the soul part of the human body or separate from the body? Is the transient or eternal for humans, animals or plants? When a person, animal or plant dies, what happens to the body and/or the soul? This is the first of a four part series of articles on *The Soul*, which will include Part I: Philosophers, Psychologists; Part II: Holy Scripture and

Apostolic Fathers; Part III: The Virtues and Vices of the Soul and the Body; and Part IV: The Soul After Death, Life After Life.

Philosophers

One of the earliest philosophers to query about the soul was Socrates. Socrates was a *dualist* who believed that the soul was independent of the body. He believed that the soul is the seat of consciousness, that is, intellect, will and emotion. He believed that the soul was immortal, invisible and directs the body. He believed that death is not the end of existence, but the separation of the soul from the body. Would Socrates voluntarily have drunk the hemlock in the cup if he had no hope of a future? No! Socrates believed in “the hope that there is something in store for those who have died... much better for the good than for the wicked.”¹ Another philosopher who believed that the soul exists was Socrates’ protégé, Plato. Plato believed that the soul always existed; that it is eternal; and that it is separate from the body. Plato articulated three elements of the soul:

1. The Appetite(s), (*επιθυμία*), *epithymia*, myriad of them which can also be in conflict with each other;
2. The Spirited, (*θυμός*), *thymos* or hot-blooded part that perceives justice, victory or honor; and
3. The Mind (*νοῦς*), *nous*, or conscious awareness (*λογιστικόν*) *logistikon* which thinks, analyzes, weighs what is best and truest overall.²

An analogy used by Dr. Kearns to understand Plato’s elements is a Charioteer (*nous*), driving a chariot with two horses: a white one, the spirited (*thymos*), and a black one, the appetite(s) (*epithymia*).

Psychology

Modern day Psychologists study the behavior of humans and animals, their mental processes, attempting to query about personality, consciousness, mind and/or brain.³ There are various schools of Psychology: Behavior, Cognitive, Neurological, Psychoanalytic, Humanistic and/or Experimental. These schools overlap with each other and have divergent theories.

For example, Sigmund Freud believed that the human personality had three structures: The *id*, the *ego* and the *superego*. The *id* in the unconscious satisfies primitive biological needs, hunger or tension. The *ego* in the conscious, preconscious and unconscious, is the rational part. The *superego* is the internalized parent of the person. Therefore, according to Freud, psychological health is a matter of *ego* strength.⁴

Psychologists attempt to define personality but not the soul. Personality is “a pattern of relative traits and unique characteristics that give both consistency and individuality to a person’s behavior.”⁵

Bishop Kallistos Ware, and the other translators, of the *Philokalia*, a collection of texts written from the fourth century through the fifteenth century A. D. by

(Continued p.3)

The ‘Macedonia issue,’ beyond diplomacy

It is becoming ever more evident that the effort to solve the “Macedonia issue” will demand skillful handling domestically as well as on the diplomatic front. With the red lines, the emotions and the harsh language that define our political debate, the signs are not good.



The position taken by the Church of Greece, and the Foreign Ministry’s response, in which an unnamed source asked whether “the Church’s leadership has decided to align itself with the neo-Nazi entity of Golden Dawn,” suggest that a difficult situation is likely to get dangerous.

It is likely to get dangerous.

If our institutions and citizens all knew each institution’s responsibilities and its limits, the Holy Synod’s intervention on Wednesday would have been no more and no less than the expression of the Church’s position on an issue of national interest.

The “Macedonia issue” concerns every Greek and the Church is no exception. Responsibility for solving the problem, however, lies solely with the government.

The problem is that the Church, the government and citizens all believe that – whether they agree with its positions or not – the Church exerts disproportionately great influence.

Hence the Foreign Ministry blunder: Instead of commenting, “We note the Church’s position but we continue with our efforts,” it resorted to rage and insult.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras sought to repair the damage with a letter to Archbishop Ieronymos along these lines, but the ministry source’s initial comment cast a long shadow.

The ministry’s mistake is not so much the angry words as the effort to present everyone who disagrees with the government’s efforts as camp followers of Golden Dawn.

This shows reckless indifference to the danger of bestowing on the group a significance and size that it does not merit.

In the past, SYRIZA had no problem with Golden Dawn’s presence, so long as this strengthened the “anti-bailout” front in demonstrations, in Parliament, in the 2015 referendum. Now, the government wants to tar its opponents with Golden Dawn’s brush.

After years of expecting national triumph on the issue, and after having grown used to the impasse, it is difficult to persuade everyone that an honorable compromise is better than the risk of a post-dated defeat.

After so many real defeats in recent years, many citizens and groups see the “Macedonia issue” as a battle of the greatest national import – symbolically and literally.

The danger of disappointment is great. But it is the duty of responsible politicians and others in positions of power to handle reality and not illusions; to seek consensus and not provoke extremism and foster division; to inspire confidence in citizens, not despair.

Because it is not only names that define us, but our actions, too. Our politicians, our clergy, and every citizen should remember this.

Kathimerini

NATIONAL HELLENIC FREE PRESS

PUBLISHER
SOTIRIS REKOUMIS

EDITOR
DENISE REKOUMIS

LAYOUTS
JOHN REKOUMIS
CONTRIBUTORS

DR. STAVROS BASSEAS, JOHN REKOUMIS,
DENISE REKOUMIS, DR JORDAN TSOLAKIDIS,
CHRIS MERENTITIS DR. LOUIS PALIVOS

THE PLATFORM OF THE GREEK PRESS

1. To applaud the achievements of our ethnic group
2. To support the ideas of the Hellenic-Christian tradition
3. To promote the preservation of the Greek language
4. To encourage all worthy Community causes
5. To assist all the Greek-American fraternal, cultural patriotic and religious organizations
6. To install Americanism in the Greek-American community
7. To advance the just causes of Hellenism.
8. To promote the ideals Greece has given to humanity.

Gov't breeding a free lunch mentality



The government is introducing a new structure to family benefits, changing the size of the allowance and the income criteria used to help families with up to two children, according to the final form of the bill, seen by Kathimerini, that will be present to Parliament this week.

The redistribution of the budget for family benefits, which has been boosted by 40 percent to 910 million this year from 650 million euros in 2017, will result in an increase to the allowance received by 698,800 households. On the other hand, some 14,529 families, most of them with three children and with an annual income in excess of 33,000 euros, will lose the benefit entirely.

Critics of the new system argue that it is part of the government's policy of offering handouts rather than creating jobs and helping the economy. This policy is also creating serious distortions in the market, they add.

All of the one-off benefits and other bonuses – such as power bill reductions, housing allowances, social dividends, heating oil subsidies, etc – are being granted according to identical terms and criteria, critics say, making taxpayers increasingly reluctant to declare their real incomes in their tax declarations, as they know this would possibly entail losing of money they could get without having to make any effort.

The Soul

Louis A. Palivos

Part I Philosophers, Psychologists

(From p.)

Orthodox Holy Fathers, gave us a preliminary definition of the soul that incorporates some of the above concepts:

The “Appetitive Aspect of the Soul, or the soul’s desiring power (**το επιθυμητικόν**): one of the three aspects of powers of the soul according to the tripartite division formulated by Plato (see his Republic, Book iv, 434D-441C) and on the whole accepted by the Greek Christian Fathers. The other two are, first, the intelligent aspect or power (**το λογιστικόν**: see Intelligent); and, second, the incensive aspect or power (**το θυμικόν**), which often manifests itself as wrath or anger, but which can be more generally defined as the force provoking vehement feelings. The three aspects or powers can be used positively, that is, in accordance with nature and as created by God, or negatively, that is, in a way contrary to nature and leading to sin. For instance, the incensive power can be used positively to repel demonic attacks or to intensify desire for God; but it can also, when not controlled, lead to self-indulgent, disruptive thought and action.

The appetitive and incensive aspects, in particular the former, are sometimes termed the soul’s passible aspect (**το παθητικόν**), that is to say, the aspect which is more especially vulnerable to pathos or passion, and which, when not transformed by positive spiritual influences, is susceptible to the influence of negative and self-destructive forces. The intelligent aspect, although also susceptible to passion, is not normally regarded as part of the soul’s passible aspect.”

In closing, Plato’s idea of the immortality of the soul, as well as, other ancient religions, has been accepted by Christianity but with conditions. According to Professor Ioannis Zizioulas, “there are three extremely important conditions: first, the soul is not eternal but created; second, the soul is not man and man is not the soul, man is a psychosomatic being; and third, the most important, is that human immortality is not based on the immortality of the soul but on the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and the future resurrection of the bodies.” St. Paul wrote that the *resurrected bodies* are eternal, powerful, imperishable, spiritual and deified,

“But someone will say, “How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?” Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies. And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain—perhaps wheat or some other grain. But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body. All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a *spiritual body*. There is a natural body, and there is a *spiritual body*. And so it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being.” The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Author’s Ph.D. Dissertation was on the *Nature of Jesus’ Resurrected Body*. The Author believes that the Faithful Believers’ resurrected bodies will be like the Lord’s Jesus Christ’s body that transcends space, time and matter. In the future, the body will be reunited with its soul. The Author’s Ph.D. Abstract is at www.Louisapalivoslaw.com.

So, what is it worth to lose your soul?

1. *Plato, Phaedo, In: The Collected Dialogues of Plato Including the Letters*, Editors: E. Hamilton and H. Cairns, Bollingen Series LXXI, Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. 1961.

2. *Plato’s Three Parts of the Soul*, Dr. Tom Kerns, <http://philosophycourse.info/platosite/3schart.html>.

3. *Introduction to Psychology*, Ernest R. Hilgard, Richard C. Atkinson, Rita L. Atkinson, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., N.Y. 1975.

4. *Psychology*, Richard L. Morgan, Westinghouse Learning Press, Cal. 1977.

5. *Theories of Personality*, Jeff Feist, Gregory J. Feist, Tomi-Ann Roberts, McGraw- Hill, Inc., N.Y. 2013.

6. *The Philokalia, the Complete Text*, compiled by St. Nikodimos of the Holy Mountain and St. Makarios of Corinth, Vol. I, translated from Greek to English by G.E.H. Palmer, Philip Sherrard and Kallistos Ware, Faber and Faber, Inc., 1979.

7. *Synaxis*, Volume 6, Greece.

Europe: What surprises are in store for 2018?



Talk about a poisoned chalice ... Yet if we've learned anything at all from the last couple of years in European politics, it's that hedge betting is a far more comfortable path to take than prediction-making.

A year ago who could have foreseen the Macron phenomenon, taking over the French presidency and dominating the country's parliament?

Who, last December, predicted with any certainty the current painful contortions in German politics or the timings of the Catalan independence explosion?

But Brexit, we knew, would dominate the EU agenda to a large extent, as it will again in 2018.

How we laughed - in hollow tones - when European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker insisted a while back that only 15 minutes per week would be spent talking Brexit in EU circles. The future of Europe, he insisted, was far more important.

Euro-scepticism goes mainstream

In 2017, the EU's future certainly seemed brighter. United over Brexit, the once squabbling member states fell, obediently, in line behind their chief negotiator, Michel Barnier.

The eurozone was on the up, illegal migration figures down. Right-wing populist, anti-establishment, Euro-sceptic politicians failed to reach pole position in election after election; such as in the Netherlands, France, Austria and Germany.

But the EU apple was actually never as shiny as all that in 2017.

They may not have won outright, but Euro-sceptic populists performed phenomenally well in elections across Europe - most recently in the Czech Republic, which hosted a meeting of European far-right parties in December.

The populist discourse has also bled into mainstream politics as traditional parties scramble to get ahead in the polls. Just tune in to the Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte to get a taster.

Anti-immigration, Euro-sceptic and anti-political Islam messages no longer raise eyebrows in Europe. In fact, these themes look like vote-winners in Italy, heading for elections in spring 2018.

The emperor and the queen

So, to steady the EU course and strengthen resolve, Brussels nursed the hope of a new, roaring Franco-German motor at the European helm after Emmanuel Macron became France's president in April. This is something I'll be watching closely in 2018.

M&M - aka Merkel and Macron - certainly want to work together. He needs her to boost his gravitas and to get any of his ambitious eurozone reforms passed.

And she needs him to re-energise her sagging image. Most Germans describe France rather than the US as their closest ally these days. They are charmed by Monsieur Macron (though hesitant about his plans for the euro).

In 2018, I'm interested to see if Mr Macron - dubbed "the emperor" by some - lives up to the hype at home and abroad. Or will this be a case - rather like Barack Obama who famously received a Nobel Peace Prize before he really achieved anything - of peaking too early?

Mr Macron's EU BFF Angela Merkel is certainly in no fit state to purr as part of anyone's motor. Formally known as the Queen of Europe, she'll spend the first months of 2018 focusing inwards while she tries to cobble together a new government. This will inevitably impact the wider EU.

Weaker Germany

As leader of the bloc's biggest, richest nation, Chancellor Merkel pushed for EU vigilance vis-à-vis Russia, prudence when it comes to Donald Trump and involvement in trying to contain Iran.

A fervent believer that EU unity is in Germany's best interest, she liked to keep her beady eye on the bigger picture and her finger on the EU control button.

Her waning influence plus the huge gap the UK will leave behind when it quits the EU has other member states now jockeying for position.

2018 will give us front seats in Europe's bear pit. Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands - as well as the countries of central and eastern Europe - want to avoid what they view as protectionist, federalist France gaining the upper hand in EU debates.

Mark Rutte has challenged French and German efforts to bring EU countries closer together. They're also keen to have less, not more, Brussels in their lives. And they're not unhappy to see a weaker Germany

Brexit gets real

So much for the EU unity touted by Brussels; much boasted about in Brexit talks. There was a lot of it about in 2017. But then, EU countries had a common goal: money - getting the UK to agree to pay as much as possible in terms of financial liabilities before it leaves.

But in 2018 we move to phase two of Brexit negotiations: talk of the future. .

Donald Trump's 'racist slur' provokes outrage



Mr Trump said he would prefer to take in migrants from nations like Norway, whose prime minister he met on Wednesday

US President Donald Trump has sparked outrage by reportedly using crude language to describe foreign countries in an Oval Office meeting.

Mr Trump insists he did not insult Haitians and appeared to deny calling any nations "shitholes", as was reported, prompting a global outcry.

Democratic Senator Dick Durbin said Mr Trump called African countries "shitholes" and used "racist" language.

But two Republicans present said they could not remember those comments.

Senators Tom Cotton and David Perdue, of Arkansas and Georgia, said they heard the president "call out" what they described as "the imbalance in our current immigration system".

Amid widespread coverage of his remarks at the private meeting with lawmakers to discuss immigration legislation on Thursday, Mr Trump on Friday tweeted that his language at the meeting had been "tough". But he added that the words attributed to him were "not the language used".

Media caption Dick Durbin: "Trump said these hate-filled things, and he said them repeatedly"

Many US media outlets reported the comments on Thursday, quoting witnesses or people briefed on the meeting. The White House did not deny them.

"I cannot believe that in the history of the White House, in that Oval Office, any president has ever spoken the words that I personally heard our president speak yesterday," Mr Durbin told reporters on Friday.

House Speaker Paul Ryan, a top Republican, said the reported comments were "unfortunate" and "unhelpful".

Mr Trump ignored press questions about the issue as he signed a proclamation declaring a holiday in honour of civil rights hero Martin Luther King Jr - as presidents do every year.

He said Americans were celebrating that "self-evident truth" that "no matter what the colour of our skin or the place of our birth, we are all created equal

Tom Sianis – Experience That Matters

- ▶ Special Assistant Attorney General for the Illinois Attorney General's Office
- ▶ Enforcement Division Chief of the Illinois Securities Department
- ▶ Cook County Assistant State's Attorney
- ▶ Owner of the Billy Goat Tavern
- ▶ Qualified and Recommended by all of the evaluating bar associations
- ▶ Endorsed by the Cook County Democratic Party

"I strongly support Tom Sianis for Judge of the Circuit Court. He is qualified, honest and fair. He will make an outstanding judge."

– Jesse White

Tom Sianis is "Qualified" for the office of Circuit Court Judge. Mr. Sianis has substantial trial and administrative law experience and is well regarded for his legal knowledge, diligence, integrity, and calm demeanor.

-The Chicago Bar Association

Mr. Sianis is considered to have good legal ability. He has substantial litigation experience in both bench and jury matters, and is praised for his temperament. The Council finds him Qualified for the Circuit Court.

-The Chicago Council of Lawyers

P.O. Box 641171 • Chicago, IL 60664 • (847) 778-5034 • tomsianisforjudge@gmail.com

by God".

CHICAGO
JOE'S
Live



**NIKOS
 MAKROPOULOS**

SATURDAY **03** FEBRUARY



**KOSTAS
 KARAFOTIS**



**GIOULI
 TASSOU**

FOR TICKETS CALL 312.451.5001
 WWW.GMLSHOWS.COM



Greece of 2018 must shed habits of 2008

Soon, Greeks will have a chance to show if they have indeed drawn the right conclusions from their recent history.

Greece's bailout program is close to an end. The country's European peers would be reluctant to have their parliaments vote on yet another aid program for the debt-racked nation. The unwillingness is admitted in private conversations, but also in public. Eurozone governments and taxpayers are fed up with the Greek case. The International Monetary Fund would rather stick to an advisory role.



In eight months from now, Greece will enter a new era. With or without a precautionary credit line, with or without monitoring or supervision (some regrettably still prefer to deal in spin rather than economic substance), the country will have to steer through a new environment. We will have to get by with what we produce.

The existential question that we need to answer is whether we – as a country and a people, as well as our politicians – have learned anything from the eight-year crisis. Have we realized that this was our fault and not somebody else's?

Sure, our European partners made some serious mistakes as they were unprepared to contain a major crisis inside an EU member-state, and saving their banks turned out to be their first priority (as officials have recently admitted in public). The International Monetary Fund also acknowledged that it made mistakes with regard to its projections and fiscal multipliers.

But this was, first of all, a Greek problem. We made too many hirings, we granted the salary and pension hikes. We allowed the deficits and debt to spin out of control.

Have we learned from our mistakes? Have we realized how much populism cost the country? Have we acknowledged that it was us who caused the crisis that led to the bailout programs, and not the other way round? Have we realized that the transition to normality will come through cooperation and not through conflict with "those outsiders"?

Soon, the Greek people will have an opportunity – and indeed the responsibility – to show if they have indeed drawn the right conclusions. If they have changed for real. Will they reward those who dare to speak the hard truths, or will they side with those who utter convenient lies? The majority of politicians (with some bright exceptions) have proven to put self-interest before the interest of the country. But we've had enough of short-term partisan gains. As another tough year comes to a close, the Greece of 2018 will have to make an effort to be radically different to the Greece of 2008. This is the only way that the country can get back on its feet and grow in a viable fashion. If this is to happen, we must change. All of us. TOM ELLIS










Κλείσε την online συνεδρία σου με έναν από τους καταρτισμένους διαιτολόγους μας.

www.gaiasdiet.gr
 @gaiasdiet.gr  @GaiasDiet



Founded by Peter Parthenis Sr. in 1974 and still family-owned today, Grecian Delight Foods is proud of its rich Greek heritage. We manufacture and market top quality authentic Greek and specialty Mediterranean foods for the foodservice and retail industries. From the best gyro meats to Greek yogurt, hummus and fine pastries, people rely on Grecian Delight Foods' commitment to provide superior products made from the finest ingredients.

Grecian Delight Foods is always looking for candidates who strengthen our ability to grow and maintain the high standards of our customers. Our success is base on superior performance, competitive strategies, professional integrity, quality products and our people. We remain steeped in Greek tradition and encourage you to inquire about career opportunities. Please email your resume to jadelman@greciandelight.com

Ask for Grecian Delight Foods at your favorite Chicago restaurants and grocery stores!






GYROS • HUMMUS • SPREADS • GREEK YOGURT • PITA • FLATBREADS
 SHAWARMA • FALAFEL • MOUSAKA • PASTICHIO • BAKLAVA • AND MORE
 847-364-1010 • www.greciandelight.com

Turkey raises energy stakes as drillship sails through Aegean



The passage of a Turkish drillship through the Aegean on Thursday was seen as a loud message to Athens that Ankara plans to play a part in energy exploration in the Eastern Mediterranean and the wider region

Although the Deep Sea Metro 2 and the Turkish corvette Bafra escorting it were traveling in international waters, their journey from an area southeast of the Peloponnese through the Aegean heading for Istanbul was viewed in Greece as a display of Ankara's determination not to be left out of the region's unfolding energy map, at a time when Athens has already begun initiatives to partially extend its sea zones.

Thursday's route taken by the Deep Sea Metro 2 – chartered by Turkey for exploratory offshore drilling in the Mediterranean Sea in 2018 – and the Bafra was known to Greece in advance, and for this reason both the Hellenic Armed Forces General Staff (GEETHA) and the navy were put on alert.

According to reports, navy frigate Elli began to monitor the situation when the Bafra met up with the drillship south of the Peloponnese.

Several reports said on Thursday that the drillship will be renamed in a special ceremony in Istanbul, which could bring confirmation of recent Turkish media reports claiming that the drillship has been purchased and not chartered.

Turkey's plans to explore for gas in the Eastern Mediterranean and its non-recognition of a part of Cyprus's exclusive economic zone has raised concerns in Nicosia, wary of intrusions into its EEZ.

Will Cape Town be the first city to run out of water?



There's water all around Cape Town, South Africa, but little of it is drinkable. Cape Town, home to Table Mountain, African penguins, sunshine and sea, is a world-renowned tourist destination. But it could also become famous for being the first major city in the world to run out of water.

Most recent projections suggest that its water could run out as early as March. The crisis has been caused by three years of very low rainfall, coupled with increasing consumption by a growing population.

The local government is racing to address the situation, with desalination plants to make sea water drinkable, groundwater collection projects, and water recycling programmes.

Meanwhile Cape Town's four million residents are being urged to conserve water and use no more than 87 litres (19 gallons) a day. Car washing and filling up swimming pools has been banned. And the visiting Indian cricket team were told to limit their post-match showers to two minutes.

Image copyright Getty Images Image caption South Africa's Western Cape region is suffering its worst water shortage in more than a hundred years

Such water-related problems are not confined to Cape Town, of course.

Nearly 850 million people globally lack access to safe drinking water, says the World Health Organization, and droughts are increasing.

So it seems incredible that we still waste so much of this essential natural resource. In developing and emerging countries, up to 80% of water is lost through leakages, according to German environmental consultancy GIZ. Even in some areas of the US, up to 50% of water trickles away due to ageing infrastructure.

A growing number of technology companies are focusing their work on water management - applying "smart" solutions to water challenges.

Ifantis Dental Care

John Ifantis, DDS, PC

9251 Waukegan Rd. Morton Grove, IL 60053

(847)663-0003

All that is good begins with a SMILE.

At Ifantis Dental Care, **your smile is our top priority!** Dr. Ifantis and his entire team of dental professionals is dedicated to providing you with the personalized, quality care that you deserve. When you visit Ifantis Dental Care you will experience all that modern dentistry has to offer, in one location. The dental care we provide includes a comprehensive list of general, restorative, cosmetic, orthodontic and periodontal services to meet the needs of the whole family, at an affordable price. Our goal is to assist each patient in achieving and maintaining long term dental health and a beautiful smile. Some of the services we provide include:

- Exams & Cleanings
- Extractions
- Fillings
- Root Canal Therapy
- Dental Implants
- Crowns & Bridges
- Braces
- Invisalign "clear braces"
- Veneers
- Teeth whitening
- Partial & Full Dentures
- Neuromuscular (jaw joint) treatment
- Snoring & Sleep Apnea treatment



Flexible financing options and easy pay plans are available.

We cordially invite you to call for more information- (847) 663-0003 or send an email to whitenyourteethom@gmail.com

Visit us to find out why are patients refer us to their friends and family!

GREEK NEWS

Former PM Lucas Papademos decries 'polarized climate'



Lucas Papademos, who was seriously injured when a letter bomb exploded in his car in May last year, has told Kathimerini in an interview that he does not regret assuming the post of prime minister at the peak of the country's crisis and decried a "deeply polarized political climate" which, he said, created fertile ground for terrorist attacks.

Asked about the attack on him in May, the 70-year-old economist and president of the Academy of Athens said that the spread of misinformation and fake news had poisoned the climate in Greece.

"Such a deeply polarized political climate foments hostility and hate and creates the conditions that can inspire or encourage acts of violence or terrorism," he said. "The attack on me boosted those concerns," he added.

Referring to the May 25 attack, for which police arrested a suspected member of the Conspiracy of the Cells of Fire urban guerrilla group in October, Papademos said that he did not faint but did think about the things he had not said to or done for his loved ones.

The bomb blast in the car left him with serious injuries, particularly a thigh wound which he said still hurts. But the impact of the blast would have been worse had he been in a car with reinforced windows instead of a conventional vehicle.

In spite of his ordeal, Papademos said he does not regret his choice to lead the country from November 11 to May 2012. "My decision to assume responsibility for governing the country was essentially influenced by the dangers that the country faced then," he said. "Whatever the personal risk, I would not have changed my decision."

FYROM deputy PM says Greek concerns in name dispute are 'laughable'

The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) wants to find a way to break the 26-year deadlock with Greece over its official name, Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Radmila Sekerinska told the Guardian on Friday.

"The next year is crucial. We need to show that there are developments – people do not expect everything to be solved tomorrow – but they expect progress because we

have been stuck for 10 years, Sekerinska said, just a few days after talks restarted from a three-year hiatus between Greece and FYROM in Brussels early this week, under United Nations mediator Matthew Nimetz.

"What happens will create either inspiration or frustration right across the Balkans," she said.

Sekerinska suggested that Athens's concern that FYROM has



irredentist ambitions by calling itself after the northern Greek region of Macedonia are "laughable."

"No one in Macedonia has territorial pretensions, literally no one. It is laughable," she told the Guardian. "The only time when we might occupy Greece is when we pour to the Greek beaches as tourists."

The new government is Skopje appears more eager than its predecessor to break the deadlock with Athens, which would pave the way for the small Balkan country of roughly 2 million people to join NATO and the European Union.

Breathing space for tobacco firm

The Komotini administrative court lent tobacco company SEKAP some breathing space on



Friday, putting off its definitive decision regarding the firm's 38.2-million-euro fine until January 17.

SEKAP, owned by Russian-Greek investor Ivan Savvidis, has appealed against the fine, which concerns customs violations dating from 2008. The Thrace-based company has warned that if the fine is not overturned, it will be forced to go bankrupt. It also said that, if necessary, it will take the case to the Council of State.

The Komotini court issued the injunction that SEKAP requested until a final verdict is reached, which gives the tobacco firm some time to seek out a solution regarding its future.

In an extraordinary board meeting on Thursday SEKAP reached the decision to stop paying its dues if the fine is not can-

celed. It also appointed Stavros-Constantinos Papaspyrou as its new general director.

Government spokesman Dimitris Tzanakopoulos said on Thursday, "We will take any initiatives we can so that the 170 jobs are not lost," while New Democracy spokeswoman Maria Spyraiki proposed the company reaches a settlement with authorities to pay off the fine in installments.

Onassis' Skorpios to regain international sparkle



Few places so small have enjoyed such great and long-term international sparkle as Aristotle Onassis' Skorpios Island.

When Onassis was alive, the billionaire's private island, with its gorgeous beaches and lush forests, hosted the crème de la crème of the international jet set. And of course it was the site of Onassis' wedding to Jackie Kennedy.

Now, the Greek government has approved an ambitious development plan by Russian oligarch Dmitry Rybolovlev, who purchased the island from Onassis estate heiress Athina Onassis Roussel, in 2013.

Rybolovlev plans to build 20-22 luxury villas with an area of 500-1200 sq.m. each, a spa, a training centre, and restaurants, all of which he hopes will again make Skorpios a magnet for the rich and powerful.

Of the total 20,000 sq.metres maximum construction space that Rybolovlev is allowed based on building code terms, he is expected to add 1,600 sq.m. to the 4,000sq.m. in constructed spaces already on the island.

The government's Inter-Ministerial Committee on Strategic Investments, chaired by Economy Minister Dimitris

Papadimitriou, yesterday approved a 120 million euro plan for moderate tourist development of the island, with tourism infrastructure and a VIP Club that will attract and host "high-level" guests.

The construction projects will be undertaken by Rybolovlev's Mykinai S.A. company.

ND says gov't must make its mind up on name

New Democracy leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis said on Friday that he will not participate in a council of political party leaders to discuss the name dispute between Greece and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) unless the coalition government comes up with a clear and unified stance on the issue.


"I will not go to any council of political party leaders unless the government clarifies what its position is," he told journalists on Friday at a lunch marking the new year.

He made his remarks against the backdrop of comments by Panos Kammenos, the leader of junior coalition partner Independent Greeks (ANEL), who has repeatedly stated that he will never back a solution that includes the term "Macedonia."

The stance of Kammenos and other ANEL officials on the matter has prompted criticism that the coalition does not have a unified stance on the issue.

Mitsotakis said that it was nonsensical for the government to ask for consensus on the matter from other parties when at the same time it engages in behind-the-scenes talks on the matter without briefing other parties and employs divisive rhetoric.

THE LAW OFFICE OF GEORGE C. XAMPLAS • 25 E WASHINGTON ST, SUITE 700, CHICAGO, IL 60602 • (312) 345-0510



Xamplas


Helping our clients navigate the labyrinth of Greek law

- GREEK REAL ESTATE
- GREEK TAX ISSUES

- GREEK INHERITANCE & WILLS
- IMMIGRATION & PASSPORT

- POWER OF ATTORNEY
- GREEK BUSINESS LAW

www.xamplalaw.com



Trump's world: his impact so far and what to watch in 2018

The president's disregard or disdain for established US foreign policy has alarmed enemies and allies and got experts nervously shortening the odds on a major war. The Trump effect on international relations is likely to be studied for generations to come, but first we have to survive it. With the presidency sliding towards two major conflicts, that is no foregone conclusion.



Experts on nuclear weapons and the institutionalised madness of mutually assured destruction, are increasingly making nervous jokes about living outside the blast radius in Washington DC and not bothering to buy wines that age well.

Some of these dangers would be on the rise anyway. The standoff with [North Korea](#) was bequeathed by the previous administration. But Trump's carnival-barker demagoguery has steepened the incline of the slippery slope to conflict in Asia and the Middle East while his blithe lack of concern about climate change is a serious hindrance to efforts to rescue the planet.

[Analysis Trump's bullying and bluster on Jerusalem is bad news for the UN](#)

US hard-power diplomacy over Israel will end up being an expensive clash if Washington cuts its funding to the UN

The only time the [two presidents met](#), Barack Obama warned Donald Trump about the threat posed by North Korea's weapons programmes. Kim Jong-un was already well on the way to making an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) with a nuclear warhead. "It won't happen!" Trump [tweeted](#) soon after. But it did, in spades. Pyongyang now has (most likely) a hydrogen bomb, and, quite possibly, a missile capable of reaching Washington.

On to this conflagration-in-waiting, Trump has poured his own form of gasoline: epithets ("[Little Rocket Man](#)", "[short and fat](#)") combined with threats, to "[totally destroy](#)" North Korea with "fire and fury". On two occasions when his secretary of state, Rex Tillerson, raised the prospects of dialogue, he has been humiliatingly [rebuked](#) by Trump or the White House, raising questions of how long Tillerson can stay on. The national security adviser, HR McMaster, has talked about a "[preventive war](#)" and a view has taken hold in the White House that a nuclear-armed North Korea would not be deterrable, and therefore will have to be confronted militarily, whatever the risks. Korea watchers have been weighing the chance of a conflict in the coming months, and at least [one widely respected expert](#) puts them at 50%. Those are not good odds for such a horrifying outcome.

[China](#). Trump wants to achieve two objectives in his relations with [China](#) that are fundamentally in conflict. He is seeking to make it the battleground for America First policies abroad, remaking a trade relationship in the US favour, while trying to enlist more help from Beijing in tightening the vice on North Korea. How this conflict resolves itself and which goal gains primacy will shape much of the geopolitics of north-east Asia. The Chinese government's decision to start [building refugee camps](#) suggests it is now planning for regime collapse in Pyongyang or war on the Korean peninsula.

[Iran](#) Hostility to Iran is one of the few constants in Trump's foreign policy. In part this seemed to be grounded in his desire to destroy Obama's flagship foreign policy legacy, the 2015 deal in which [Iran](#) accepted curbs on its nuclear programme in return for sanctions relief. Trump [refused to certify](#) this deal in October and threatens to torpedo it entirely in mid-January, when he could clear the way for sanctions by simply not signing a waiver. That would put the Trump administration on a confrontation course with Iran, forsaking Washington's traditional allies in [Europe](#) along the way, in favour of alignment with Israel's Benjamin Netanyahu, the Saudi crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman and his Abu Dhabi counterpart, Mohammed bin Zayed, who are determined to push back Iranian influence in the Gulf.

[Syria](#) The Trump-Netanyahu-Salman axis has no real plan for containing Iran's reach where it has extended most, in Syria. As [Russia](#) reduces its footprint there, Iran is expected to expand its own, rebuilding the Syrian army and bolstering it with proxy militias build on the template of Lebanon's Hezbollah.

The consolidation of Iranian military power from Herat in Afghanistan to southern Lebanon will remake the map of the Middle East, one of the most important long-term consequences of the US invasion of Iraq, followed by Obama and Trump's decisions largely to stay out of the Syrian civil war.

[Russia](#) There is far less unity in the Trump team over Russia. In fact, in his desire to grant concessions to improve the relationship with Vladimir Putin, the president is at odds with almost all his own most senior officials. The secretaries of defence and state, James Mattis and Rex Tillerson, have sought to box Trump in on the issue, digging in already entrenched positions, stipulating that there will be no sanctions relief and no diplomatic thaw until Russia pulls back in Ukraine. It is a fair prediction that in 2018 one of two things will happen. Either Trump overhauls his team, replacing Mattis and Tillerson with more pro-Moscow alternatives, or a newly re-elected Putin sours significantly on Trump. Either way, the drift of both countries from disarmament back to an arms race looks hard to stop. Even if the two leaders stay friendly they have each made nuclear arsenals [totems of their authority](#).

[Europe](#) The UK government's hopes of an extra-special relationship with Washington post-Brexit have [foundered](#) on the rocky shallows of Trump's personality.

Meanwhile, deep differences over Iran, North Korea and climate change have forced Emmanuel Macron and Angela Merkel to plot a European course on global issues that is increasingly independent of the US. That divergence is likely to widen in 2018. Since you're here ...

Western Thrace, minorities and human rights

ARISTIDIS CALOGEROPOULOS-STRATIS*

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan thanks the crowd as he goes to the Minority School in the northeastern Greek town of Komotini, Dec. 8.

The issue of the Greek Muslim minority in Western Thrace has become an almost permanent fixture on the agenda, most recently as a result of comments made by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan during his visit to Greece in early December.

The issue of the minorities in Greece and Turkey stems from the 1923 Treaty of Lausanne, which exempted "Greeks" living in Istanbul, Imbros and Tenedos, and Muslims in Western Thrace from the population exchanges between the two countries. Since then, no major issues have arisen concerning the Muslim minority in the northern Greek region – or at least not until very recently, and with a few exceptions in the 1990s. No Greek government (on the basis of the mutuality principle laid down in the treaty's Article 45)



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan thanks the crowd as he goes to the Minority School in the northeastern Greek town of Komotini, Dec. 8.

has ever subjected individuals or the entire minority population to reprisals prohibited under international humanitarian and human rights laws.

Despite the constant persecution of Greeks in Turkey and significant territorial violations on Imbros and Tenedos, Greece never once considered punishing human beings who were also its citizens in response to a policy of suppression, even when the victims of this policy were of Greek descent. This resulted in the disruption of the equilibrium in terms of the size of the minority population in both countries, which defined the spirit of the Treaty of Lausanne.

Having no Greek element to use as leverage anymore – with the exception of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, which, however, is an issue that stirs reaction from the West and international public opinion – Turkey has in the past few years started using the Muslim minority in Western Thrace via nationalist groups that are often beyond the state's control. This new tactic coincided with a general policy shift in Turkey toward so-called "Pan-Turkism." Kemal Ataturk's pledge that Turkey would become involved only in regard to Turks living within its own borders has gradually given way to the notion that regards all "Turks" living in other countries as "enslaved brothers."

The Treaty of Lausanne grants certain rights to the Muslim Greeks in Western Thrace, and issues governed by international agreements or owing their legal existence to international law cannot by their very nature have a purely domestic character. This is why any issue regarding the minority comes under the purview of the Foreign as well as other ministries. That the Muslims of Western Thrace are Greek citizens does not exclude that some of their rights and obligations may be guaranteed by specific provisions of international law. The same is the case for the Greek minority in Turkey. Showing an interest in the minorities does not perforce mean intervention in domestic affairs. However, the prophetic Article 27 of the Lausanne Treaty explicitly prohibits any "Turkish intervention" on the political, administrative and judicial fronts in Western Thrace.

State and government officials in Turkey, therefore, should be wary of being dragged into a dangerous adventure by the well-known extremist and nationalist elements that surround them. Both Athens and Ankara also need to pay due attention to the issue, as all questions regarding minorities are also broadly about human rights, over which European and international public opinion are particularly sensitive, regardless of political background. They should also consider the huge international political dimensions that any issue regarding ethnicity and ethnic minorities can assume in this day and age.

* Aristidis Calogeropoulos-Stratis, PhD from the University of Geneva, is a former press officer at the Greek Embassy in Ankara and general secretary of European affairs at the Foreign Ministry in Athens.