

national hellenic FREE PRESS

VOL. 39

NO. 394

CHICAGO, IL.

OCTOBER, 2018

The Last Judgement

Louis A. Palivos



Monastery of St. Panteleimon, Crete.

The Lord Jesus Christ has revealed that in His *Parousia*, The Second Coming, He will judge both the living and the dead.

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world’ Matt. 25:31-34. Also, ‘Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.’” Matt. 25:41.

“And these (the cursed) will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. Matt. 25:46. The Nicene Creed also states and we confess, “He shall come again to judge the living and the dead.”

St. Paul also revealed how and when the Lord Jesus Christ shall come, as follows: --or the Lord Himself will descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the pet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in

(Continued p.2)

Kotzias, the search for solutions, his combative style

TOM ELLIS

Former foreign minister Nikos Kotzias, who resigned recently, is a unique personality. He had tense relations, not just with Defense Minister Panos Kammenos and officials from the opposition, but also with people inside the government – even inside the prime minister’s office.

With deep knowledge of foreign affairs issues and firm views, he fostered an active foreign policy. He dared to seek solutions to chronic problems whose



perpetuation did not benefit Greece, and he promoted regional and international cooperation schemes with several countries, including Israel and Egypt, as well as Greece’s Balkan neighbors.

This does not mean that his approach was always correct. Many have raised objections over

the policies he followed on specific issues, and with reason. However, he was a minister who wanted to close pending issues – and this was also the impression he gave abroad – so that he could invest more diplomatic capital in what he considered the most important problems facing Greece, such as relations with Turkey.

Kotzias has a temper, and his positions often caused reactions, which did not help him form consensus with the opposition, despite the fact that those in charge of foreign policy in New Democracy and the Movement of Change are respected and reasonable people.

His decision to declassify and publish internal Foreign Ministry documents to expose the strategies followed by his predecessors and support his own position on the name dispute with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was a mistake. Some sensitive aspects of the nation’s foreign and security policies should have remained above partisan politics.

His departure comes at a very sensitive time for the region. FYROM’s constitutional reform remains uncertain and one cannot exclude early polls in the neighboring country. The completion of the agreement with Albania to resolve bilateral issues remains pending, Ankara is questioning Cyprus’s exclusive economic zone and is planning its own exploratory drilling in the Eastern Mediterranean, and the gradual delimitation of Greece’s EEZ with Egypt is still being discussed. At the same time, relations with Russia remain foggy.

On the Greek-US front, the former minister was planning to inaugurate the bilateral Strategic Dialogue with his US counterpart Mike Pompeo in Washington in December. Now it seems that relations with the United States will be handled by Alexis Tsipras himself.

Tsipras’s warning that he will not allow two-faced behavior by anyone was mainly directed at Defense Minister and junior coalition partner Panos Kammenos, who in a recent visit to Washington seemed to promote his own agenda on the name deal and other issues.

The prime minister’s decision to lead the Foreign Ministry – as late prime minister Constantinos Mitsotakis had done in 1992 after removing Antonis Samaras from the post – means he will be personally credited with or criticized for any successes or failures in foreign affairs.

Finally, there is also the domestic politics dimension of Kotzias’s resignation. Nobody knows what his next move will be as head of the Pratto movement, which includes two more MPs, Nikos Toskas and Georgia Gennia, who are allied with SYRIZA. Whether he will create problems for the government, or even threaten its parliamentary majority, remains to be seen.

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.

Untapped potential in Greece's food and agricultural sector



Greece's agricultural and food sector could bring an additional 12.2 billion euros per year into the economy and create 200,000 new jobs if it was brought up to modern European Union standards, according to a study by the Financial Analysis Department of the National Bank of Greece that was published this week.

The sector in Greece benefits from the country's climate, geography and wide variety of crops that grow here and has managed to withstand the pressure of the economic crisis. Still, it has not matched the achievements of its counterparts in other EU states and elsewhere, the study notes. This is one of the main pillars of the Greek economy, accounting for 13 percent of the entire business domain in added value terms (compared to an EU average of 7 percent).

Significantly, the agricultural and food sector managed to maintain its sales at a stable level over the course of the crisis, against declines of up to 40 percent in other sectors, the study supervised by Jessie Voumvaki showed.

On the other hand, global demand for food and drinks has soared 160 percent and global exports have jumped by 210 percent in the last 20 years, while Greek food and agriculture products have lost international market share.

In contrast to other EU states, land productivity in Greece has been in decline, and there is huge untapped potential in the area of cooperatives when compared to other EU countries: In the bloc's Mediterranean countries 42 percent of food sales are done through cooperatives, while the figure for the EU as a whole is 39 percent, against just 17 percent in Greece.

Therefore the study concludes that the key reforms required in the sector are the following:

- Increasing the percentage of Greek products sold under a label/brand from the current 40 percent, compared with 70 percent in Western Europe.
- The utilization of opportunities resulting from the reformed Common Agricultural Policy toward a more professional approach to agricultural production.
- Making agricultural cooperatives more business-orientated, with boards featuring producers, scientists and commercial officials.
- The promotion of Protected Designation of Origin products and the creation of synergies with sectors such as tourism for the best branding of Greek produce.

The Last Judgement

Louis A. Palivos

from p. 1)

the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. I Thes. 4:16-17

We shall not all sleep but we shall 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. I Cor. 15:52

Almighty God, "Is long suffering towards us not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." II Peter 3:2. Therefore, Almighty God loves both the saved and the unsaved. He wishes that all people would be saved. However, unsaved persons have rejected His offer. A human analogy may be that of a human who goes to the hospital to get well. However, another human refuses to go to the hospital to receive healing. Likewise, humans refuse God's offer of healing their soul. The healing from hospitals is for here and now, but the healing from the church (hospital) is for eternity. Man willingly has to pursue the illumination of his heart so that he will see God's uncreated glory. Man does this synergistically by joining his will to God's will.

This is the reason that Holy Scripture states that "God Makes his sun to rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." Matt. 5:45

However, "we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ so that everyone may receive the things done in his body according to that which he has done whether it be good or bad." II Cor. 5:10.

Judgment is therefore not a punishment created by God, but a creation of man's revolted liberty; and that Judgment is made by each person either to be faithful to God or to be unfaithful. The decision that each person makes is completely free and everlasting. *A decision which is respected by God, eternally and absolutely.*

Accepting the above, then, it's reasonable to infer that there is a "Particular Judgment" which consists in assigning the soul to the state proper and this action takes place in and by the conscience of the soul itself, the conscience being its accuser and judge, upon a person's repose (death).

The *Last Judgment* consists in the Resurrection of the body and its reunion with the soul at which time the person awakens from "sleep" or from a "dream" and awakens in a state that beholds either the "radiance" or the "fire" of Jesus Christ. The saved persons recounting their great gain in having their sins blotted out and how great is God's Love.

Sadly, however, the unsaved persons shall awaken to understand how great a love and mercy they have willingly rejected. The Love of God and the Uncreated Glory of God now becomes a "River of Fire" that burns them. However, the saved persons see God's Love as a fire that illuminates and leads towards *Theosis*.

At the Last Judgment, the souls will be reunited with the body for eternity and either be placed into the Kingdom of God or be placed in Hell.

Dante Alighieri's, John Milton's and James Joyce's, ideas that visually seeing God is Paradise and not visually seeing God is Hell are at odds with the Holy Scriptures and Holy Tradition. In addition, that there is punishment and suffering in a created hell (Gk. Kolasis) which burns and punishes, is at odds with Holy Tradition and Holy Scripture. The Patristic view is that man fails and refuses to accept the Divine Grace to attain Paradise by selfless love. Man is self-punished and self-condemned, and not judged or punished by God.

After death, is there a second chance? There are a few written accounts such as the man from Northumbria, Athanasius of the Kiev Caves, and Mr. Uekskuell who returned and begged for obedience and repentance.² Further, *YouTube* has numerous testimonies of persons dying and coming back to life³, as well as books and videos by Dr. Maurice S. Rawlings and Dr. Moody.

Why do some people get a second chance? Why have some had *near death experiences* (NDEs) and come back from Hades or Paradise? Perhaps like St. Paul, they were zealously seeking God, but either did not pursue holiness or pursued holiness improperly. Perhaps the prayers of someone living, or perhaps the prayers of someone in Paradise or Hades, altered God's will. Yet again, perhaps the blessing of a prior generation allowed one to have a NDE and come back to repent. Many credible persons have given testimonies that they got a second chance!

In so far as Paradise and Hades, the Patristic view is:

1) Paradise and Hades are mentioned in both the OT and NT; 2) Paradise and Hades are two different states, not places; 3) Man's goal is to acquire purification, illumination and deification; 4) Many people will reject both God's uncreated glory and grace; and 5) Paradise and Hades are an uncreated reality and beyond human experience.

The Last Judgment leads to the second eternal death.

Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the *Book of Life*. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written

in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and earth and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the *Book of Life* was cast into the lake of fire. Rev. 20:11-15 As an aside, there are over 10 resurrections in the Holy Scriptures, where are the souls of these persons? Where were the souls of these people when they were asleep? Based on the prior writings, a strong case can be made that they were in paradise awaiting the Second Coming for their souls to be reunited with their bodies. Lastly, do black holes or super massive black holes provide a scientific "hint" as to what happens *after* the second death? Accordingly, "If you fell into a black hole, the theory has long suggested that gravity would stretch you out like spaghetti, though your death would come before you reached the singularity. But a 2012 study in *Nature* suggests that quantum effects would cause the event horizon to act much like a "wall of fire", instantly burning anyone to death."⁴ For those who haven't accepted Jesus Christ as Lord, repent, for the Kingdom of God awaits you!

THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO HOLDS 3rd ANNUAL MID-WEST HELLENIC DANCE FESTIVAL



With the blessings of His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Chicago held its 3rd Annual Midwest Hellenic Dance Festival, during this past Columbus Day Weekend, October 5th through 7th, 2018. All events were hosted at the Chicago Marriott in Oak Brook, IL. This year’s event included participants, nine years through adult, from parish and independent dance troupes throughout the Metropolis. The weekend event consisted of adult and youth



workshops on Friday evening and Saturday, instructed by Dean Avdallas and Joe Graziossi for the adults, and Vasiliki Grosso, Tina Anagnos, and Adamantia Siomos for the youth. On Saturday morning, Christina Yanoulis led the children on a service project to benefit ‘Soles for Souls’.



On Saturday night, over two hundred people enjoyed a “Paradosiako Glendi” with the presence of His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael. The youth participants began the evening’s dancing by performing what they had learned in the morning workshops. The dancing would continue with all the participants and the amazing traditional Greek music provided by the band ENDASI.

(Continued p. 4)

Greece expects Hellenic Petroleum bids next month, says source



Greece expects to get final bids for a majority stake in its biggest oil refiner Hellenic Petroleum next month after a key regulatory decision on the process, a source close to the sale said on Thursday.

The country’s privatisation agency has shortlisted Anglo-Swiss Glencore Energy and Switzerland’s Vitol Holding as potential buyers of a 50.1 percent stake in Hellenic that Greece and Paneuropean Oil and Industrial Holdings are jointly selling.

The sale is part of a privatisation plan that Athens and its lenders have agreed under the country’s last bailout which ended in August. The country aims to raise 2 billion euros (\$2.30 billion) from the asset sales plan this year and another 3 billion next year.

An official close to the sale said that bids for Hellenic were expected to be submitted “towards the end of November” after the country’s securities regulator decides whether the prospective buyer will have to make a mandatory offer to buy the remaining shares.

Paneuropean Oil owns 45.5 percent and the Greek government holds a 35.5 percent stake in Hellenic which has a current market value of 2.1 billion euros, according to Refinitiv’s Eikon data.

Greece and Paneuropean Oil want to maintain a stake of about 15 percent each in Hellenic after the sale.

Under Greek law, an investor who acquires more than a third of a company’s shares needs to make a tender offer for the remaining stake unless the company is being privatised, which is the case with Hellenic.

But the securities regulator’s legal advisers have argued that a mandatory offer will be needed since the stake is being sold jointly by the state and a private investor, the official said.

The official said the regulator would decide on the issue “soon” and definitely before the final bids. “Investors want to know what level of financing will be needed.” [Reuters]

WEF report sees a government without direction

The Greek government is heading to the future without direction or program, according to the World Economic Forum’s latest Global Competitiveness Report.

In the subcategory Future Orientation of Government – one of many in the report, but which is of major significance for a country seeking its path toward growth – Greece ranks 135th among 140 countries, sharing the bottom spot on the list with the governments of Brazil and Venezuela.

It is therefore no coincidence that this country has lost four places in the Global Competitiveness Report’s chart, dropping from 53rd last year to 57th this year, although Greece is mentioned to have successfully emerged from its bailout program. This slide confirms that despite its small growth Greece is losing ground compared to other countries that are moving on faster and better in terms of competitiveness.

In last year’s report Greece had appeared to be in 87th position among 135 countries, but the WEF has since updated its methodology, applying it in this year’s report and adjusting last year’s. Greece’s overall competitiveness marks this year come to 62.1 out of 100 – marginally higher than last year’s 61.8 points.

Out of the 12 policy domains (pillars) that the WEF examines, Greece scored below 50 out of 100 in two: They are Financial System, where it scored 49.4 points and was ranked 114th due to the non-funding of small and medium-sized enterprises, and Innovation Capability, where it scored 45 points and was ranked 44th.

In the Institutions pillar, Greece is worryingly ranked 87th, with 50.5 points; this includes the subcategory of Future Orientation of Government, where Athens only scored 19.4 points. According to the WEF, that is because this subcategory reflects the ability of a government to prepare for the future, as well as political stability, speed in responding to changes, long-term vision and the adaptability of the institutional framework to technological changes.

Entrepreneurship is also suffering in Greece due to the obstacles raised by legislation that make doing business difficult. Greece was ranked 131st in the world in this domain.

THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF CHICAGO HOLDS 3rd ANNUAL MIDWEST HELLENIC DANCE FESTIVAL

(From page 3)

The weekend culminated with a farewell luncheon on Sunday, where exhibition performances were offered by the senior and junior groups of the Perifania Hellenic School of Music and Dance, the Aidonia of St. John the Baptist Church in Des Plaines, the Hellenic Cathedral Dancers of Merrillville, Indiana, the Floga Dancers of Saint Spyridon



in Palos Heights, and Paradosis Dance Troupe of St. Nicholas in Oak Lawn.

The Midwest Hellenic Dance Festival is dedicated to promoting, preserving and perpetuating the traditional Greek dances and music of our Hellenic Heritage by inspiring our Greek Orthodox youth and young adults through dance, music, and fellowship. Through this annual event, we wish to develop an awareness, appreciation and love for our Hellenic culture and create a greater communion and stronger ties with fellow Greek Orthodox. We pray the Festival will continue to be a valuable ministry for generations to come.

Mark your calendars for MHDF 2019 on October 11-13. For more information please visit the MHDF website at <http://www.mhdf.il.goarch.org> and facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MidwestHellenicDanceFestival>

Photos provided by Yiannis Sotirakos, YS Photography

Island power linkup delay has cost country dearly



Electricity consumers would have been some 4 to 5 billion euros better off if Greece's island's had been hooked up to the mainland's power grid 10 years ago, according to the chairman of Terna Energy, Giorgos Peristeris. Instead, they have to pay a charge for the extra cost of supplying the islands with expensive, locally produced power.

Addressing the listed company's extraordinary general meeting on Thursday, Peristeris made special mention of the problems that Crete will face in terms of electricity sufficiency due to delays in the implementation of the interconnection project through an underwater cable. He confirmed that his corporation had already proposed some solutions in 2016, adding that it is still awaiting the decision of the competent authorities.

Peristeris criticized the policy of delays in interconnections and the necessary regulations for energy storage investments, which, as he said, could have turned Greece into "a battery" for the European south, and strengthened the country's energy security and autonomy.

In particular, he cited the planned investment of Terna Energy at Amari on Crete, saying that "if it had proceeded, the problem of energy sufficiency on the islands could have been tackled."

Tsipras: FYROM has no 'alternative' to name deal



The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) will only be able to join NATO and the European Union if it implements the name change deal with Greece, Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras has said.

"If [Skopje] rejects the accord, it should know that there will not be another such opportunity to enter the EU, international organizations and defense alliances," Tsipras told his party's central committee Saturday.

"We shall not accept the accession of the neighboring country under the constitutional name 'Republic of Macedonia,' Tsipras said.

On Friday, Defense Minister Panos Kammenos, who is also leader of the junior coalition partner Independent Greeks (ANEL) defended his earlier proposal for an alternative to the name accord signed between Athens and Skopje in June.

"Those of us who hold positions of responsibility in this country, should learn to work more, to be more effective, and to talk less," Tsipras said in an apparent dig at his coalition partner.

"Above all, we must speak when we have to, not when we don't."

No change appears in IMF opinion on pensions



The International Monetary Fund has shown no indication that it has changed its position regarding the need for planned Greek pension cuts set to come into force in January 2019, according to an announcement by Greece's Finance Ministry on Minister Euclid Tsakalotos's meeting with IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde and the Fund's European Department chief Poul Thomsen in Bali on Friday.

The ministry reported that the two IMF officials "listened with interest" to Tsakalotos's arguments against the pension cuts that the government has already voted for, but pointed to the European institutions for the next steps. This is likely to add to the uncertainty of the markets, which always take the Fund's views into great consideration.

In this context Athens will send its 2019 draft budget to Brussels without the pension cuts or the offsetting measures on Monday, according to Finance Ministry sources. There will also be some additional interventions to the first draft, the same sources added.

**ΛΥΣΤΕ ΤΟ ΠΡΟΒΛΗΜΑ ΤΩΝ "ΠΑΡΑΣΙΤΩΝ" ΣΤΑ
ΡΑΔΙΟΦΩΝΙΚΑ ΜΑΣ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΑ. ΑΚΟΥΣΤΕ ΜΑΣ
ΑΠΟ ΤΟ ΚΟΜΠΙΟΥΤΕΡ ΣΑΣ ΠΕΝΤΑΚΑΘΑΡΑ ΚΑΙ
ΜΑΛΙΣΤΑ 24 ΩΡΕΣ ΤΟ 24ΩΡΟ.
WWW.THECHICAGOGREEKHOURS.COM**

EU has earmarked a total of 1.69 bln in migrant aid



The European Union has earmarked a total of 1.69 billion euros in emergency aid to help Greece tackle the refugee crisis, according to data released this week by the European Commission.

Greek authorities will receive 794 million euros of this amount while 506.67 million will go to the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and another 119.7 million will go to the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

The European Asylum Support Office (EASO) and nongovernmental organizations linked to the European Commission will get 26 million and 201 million respectively.

Gaia's Diet

online chat

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

www.gaiasdiet.gr
@gaiasdiet.gr @Gaia'sDiet



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

Piraeus port considered “the head of the dragon”



Piraeus seems like it's on its way to becoming the number one port in the Mediterranean and Europe, according to a Bloomberg report, while playing a key role in China's One Belt One Road initiative.

It adds that Cosco, which controls Piraeus Port Authority (OLP), is one of the biggest port utilization companies and is spearheading this Chinese initiative.

The report says that China considers Piraeus to be “the head of the dragon” and a strategically significant transit junction.

Cosco, which is a Chinese state company, has already invested millions in Piraeus since undertaking the operation of Terminal II in 2009, strengthening Piraeus's position in the new order that Beijing is promoting.

Bloomberg comments that this investment has proven a great hit, describing the Chinese company's timing as perfect.

Piraeus has become the third largest port in the Mediterranean and the seventh largest in Europe, according to official data for 2017, posting 200 percent growth compared to a decade earlier, the report highlighted.

Kammenos strikes again from the US



Greece's coalition government appears to be walking a tightrope again following the latest round of acrimony between its two partners, leftist SYRIZA and right-wing nationalist Independent Greeks (ANEL).

Tension was fueled on Friday after ANEL leader Panos Kammenos defended his proposal earlier this week for an alternative to the name deal signed between Greece and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) and the creation of American bases on the Greek mainland.

Kammenos said that, as a “a governing partner, I submit a proposal that only binds me.” Referring to US bases on the mainland, he said they are “already operating.”

The ANEL chief also took aim at the SYRIZA-affiliated newspaper Efimerida ton Syntakton (Efsyn), which, he said, falsely reported that he had a phone conversation with Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras. Efsyn, he said, continues to publish false stories.

“I have not talked to the prime minister because nothing has changed with regard to what has been agreed,” he said.

Kammenos also posted a news story that claimed that France and the US have been added to the alliance Greece and Cyprus has with Egypt and Israel.

He added sarcastically that the permission of Parliament Speaker (and SYRIZA member) Nikos Voutsis must be secured for the addition of France and US to the alliance “as axes annoy him.”

His comments drew a response from Shipping Minister Fotis Kouvelis, who noted that his stance is “not helpful” for the government and that “this situation must not continue.” Meanwhile, Nikos Xydakis, a parliamentary spokesperson for SYRIZA, said Kammenos's remarks do not “serve the country's credibility or its long-term interests.”



From the very successful “Gida Party” of the organization “The Hellenic Senior Citizens of North Shore Chicago” In the picture: executive board members and members of the board. The organization started by a group of friends who meet at McDonald's by Pfingsten & Willow Rd. in Glenview. Every Autumn they get together with their wives for dinner and recognize some members for their contributions or achievements.

Ποιοί είμαστε

«Το Χαμόγελο του Παιδιού» ιδρύθηκε το 1995 από τον 10χρονο Ανδρέα Γιαννόπουλο, ο οποίος λίγο πριν φύγει από τη ζωή εξέφρασε στο ημερολόγιό του την επιθυμία να δημιουργηθεί ένας σύλλογος για να έχουν όλα τα παιδιά όσα ο ίδιος είχε απλόχερα: αγάπη, στοργή, ενδιαφέρον, σεβασμό.

Το όνειρο του 10χρονου Ανδρέα έγινε πραγματικότητα και σήμερα ο Οργανισμός «Το Χαμόγελο του Παιδιού», έχοντας αναγνωριστεί διεθνώς, με όραμα: το Χαμόγελο κάθε παιδιού, υλοποιεί πανελλαδικά, 365 ημέρες το χρόνο, 24 ώρες την ημέρα, αποτελεσματικές και άμεσες δράσεις για την πρόληψη και αντιμετώπιση συγκεκριμένων φαινομένων που απειλούν τα παιδιά.

Μέχρι σήμερα «Το Χαμόγελο του Παιδιού» έχει στηρίξει περισσότερα από 1.200.000 παιδιά και τις οικογένειές τους. Παιδιά θύματα κάθε μορφής Βίας, Παιδιά θύματα Εξαφάνισης, Παιδιά με προβλήματα Υγείας, Παιδιά που βρίσκονται ή απειλούνται να βρεθούν σε κατάσταση φτώχειας, έχουν βρει λύση.

Ο Οργανισμός στελεχώνεται από εξειδικευμένο επιστημονικό προσωπικό με την πολύτιμη υποστήριξη εθελοντών, ενώ στηρίζεται στους πολίτες και τις εταιρείες, οι οποίοι εμπιστευόμενοι το έργο του, το στηρίζουν έμπρακτα μέσω δωρεών και χορηγιών.

Τα οικονομικά στοιχεία, τα οποία και δημοσιοποιούνται, ελέγχονται από το Διεθνές Σύμα Ορκωτών Ελεγκτών Ernst and Young.

Healthy Teeth & Gums for Life!

IFANTIS
DENTAL CARE
IMPLANT, COSMETIC, AND ORTHODONTIC FAMILY DENTISTRY
DR. JOHN IFANTIS, D.D.S.

Gentle Doctor,
Friendly & Professional Staff,
Relaxing Environment,
Convenient Appt. Times

NEW PATIENT OFFER
\$39 Reg. \$299 Save \$230!
Complete Exam • Personalized Consultation
All Necessary 3D Digital X-Rays
Professional Cleaning
*Unless certain dental conditions exist. Expires 7/31/18. ScanQR

847.443.8243
9251 WAUKEGAN RD. | MORTON GROVE
WWW.IFANTISDENTALCARE.COM

GREEK NEWS

State Department thanks Kotzias for 'dedicated service,' reiterates support for Prespes accord.



The US State Department thanked Greece’s former foreign minister Nikos Kotzias for his "dedicated service" to improving Greek-US relations and for his role in achieving the “historic” name deal with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), following the Greek official’s unexpected resignation on Wednesday.

It also reiterated its strong support for the agreement reached between Athens and Skopje last June to end the decades-old name dispute.

“The US strongly supports the agreement’s full implementation, which will allow Macedonia to take its rightful place in NATO and the EU as the Republic of North Macedonia,” a State Department official told state-run news agency ANA-MPA.

“As Macedonia’s parliament continues deliberation on constitutional changes, we urge leaders to rise above partisan politics and seize this historic opportunity to secure a brighter future for the country,” the official added.

Kotzias submitted his resignation Wednesday, a day after a tense cabinet meeting during which he clashed with Defense Minister Panos Kammenos over the Prespes accord. Kammenos has opposed the deal.

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras took over the post of foreign minister to ensure the successful completion of the accord.

Albanian FM thanks Kotzias for 'genuine cooperation



Albania's Foreign Minister Ditmir Bushati on Wednesday thanked former counterpart Nikos Kotzias for his efforts to resolve long-standing bilateral issues, following the Greek minister's tumultuous resignation from Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras' cabinet.

“There are few joys in this profession, but the most treasured ones derive from genuine cooperation and a spirit of collegiality. Thank you Nikos Kotzias for your efforts in jointly opening a new page of collaboration, trust and good neighborly relations between our countries,” Bushati tweeted in his official account.

Greece and Albania had been discussing issues such as the demarcation of the exclusive economic zones (EEZ) of both countries and the rights of ethnic Greeks in Albania.

Tzanakopoulos: Kotzias’ resignation ‘politically incomprehensible’



The resignation of Nikos Kotzias from his post as foreign minister is “politically incomprehensible,” as Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras made clear his support for the Prespes accord, government spokesman Dimitris Tzanakopoulos said on Thursday.

“The resignation of Nikos Kotzias is politically incomprehensible to me,” he told state-run television channel ERT.

“The prime minister is not blackmailed by anyone and does not blackmail anyone. Also, it [the resignation] is somewhat incomprehensible to me because there was never a dilemma for the prime minister between Kotzias and Kammenos,” he added.

Kotzias submitted his resignation Wednesday, a day after a tense cabinet meeting during which he clashed with Defense Minister Panos Kammenos over the name deal with the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, which the latter strongly opposes. Kammenos also reportedly accused Kotzias of mismanaging secret foreign ministry funds.

The former minister felt that Tsipras did not support him against Kammenos’ attacks.

Asked whether anyone defended Kotzias, the spokesman did not answer directly but said there are “absolutely no shadows” concerning the former minister’s

Event highlights contribution of foreign archaeological schools



A two-day conference at the Acropolis Museum starting Thursday aims to highlight the contribution of foreign archaeological schools in Athens to the study and promotion of Greek and European culture.

The event, part of the European Union’s 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage celebrations, is jointly organized by the two main archaeological directorates of the Culture Ministry, namely the Directorate of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities and the Directorate of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Antiquities.

An accompanying photographic exhibition will be inaugurated at the museum on Thursday.

It will run through November 28.

In a statement, the ministry said that “after a century and a half foreign archaeological schools and institutes are now an integral part of archaeological and historical research in our country.”

Turkey increases tension in Mediterranean



Turkey appeared to be stoking tensions in the Eastern Mediterranean on Thursday by sending a Turkish research vessel to a part of the region that includes a segment of Greece’s continental shelf.

The Barbaros Hayreddin Pasa seismic survey vessel started conducting research in the area on Tuesday night, prompting the Greek Foreign Ministry to issue a statement protesting the “new provocation” by Turkey and saying that it had sent a “strong demarche” to Turkish authorities. Greek defense officials issued a radio warning to the Turkish vessel, which retreated. Turkish authorities subsequently dispatched two frigates to the scene and the Hellenic Navy’s Nikiforos Fokas frigate remained in the area on Thursday, monitoring the Barbaros’s movements.

Meanwhile Greek defense authorities were considering their next move. If the Barbaros re-enters Greek waters, Athens will be faced with a dilemma: either to issue another radio warning or to increase Greece’s naval presence in the area to match Turkey’s, a move that could escalate into a standoff.

Greek authorities are keen to avoid the second option as it could fuel tensions in a sensitive region with other foreign vessels close by, including a US Arleigh Burke-class destroyer and a Russian Navy vessel.

On Tuesday, Ankara issued a navigational telex expressing its intention to conduct gas exploration in the East-

ern Mediterranean through February 1. The bulk of the area it has reserved covers Cyprus’s exclusive economic zone, with about 10 percent encroaching on the Greek continental shelf.

ensions peaked on Thursday when Turkish press reports suggested there had been a confrontation between the Barbaros and a Hellenic Navy frigate, claims that were denied by Greek defense sources.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry statement focused on Tuesday’s statement by the Greek ministry, describing it as “completely baseless.” “The insistence of Greece on its unrealistic claims will only be counterproductive and harmful as regards bilateral relations and regional stability,” the statement said, adding that, “Turkey will continue to exercise its sovereign rights.” “We recommend Greece to abstain from the acts that would cause an escalation in the region.”

UN envoy for Cyprus to host meeting between Anastasiades, Akinci



A meeting between the President of Cyprus Nicos Anastasiades and the Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci will take place on October 26, UNFICYP Spokesperson Aleem Siddique has said.

“Deputy Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus, Ms Elizabeth Spehar, will host a meeting of the Greek Cypriot leader, Mr Nicos Anastasiades, and the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr Mustafa Akinci, at the Chief of Mission Residence in the United Nations Protected Area on 26 October at 10 a.m.,” the United Nations spokesperson said.

Repeated rounds of UN-led peace talks have so far failed to yield results. The latest round of negotiations, in July 2017 at the Swiss resort of Crans-Montana, ended inconclusively.

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.xamplasmaw.com

Trump makes new threat over US-Mexico border



US President Donald Trump has threatened to use military force to completely close the US-Mexico border.

The warning, via a series of tweets on Thursday, comes as a new caravan of more than 3,000 migrants from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala heads north. Mr Trump has already threatened to cut all aid payments to the three countries over illegal immigration.

"In addition to stopping all payments to these countries, which seem to have almost no control over their population, I must, in the strongest of terms, ask Mexico to stop this onslaught - and if unable to do so I will call up the U.S. Military and CLOSE OUR SOUTHERN BORDER!," Mr Trump wrote.

The president has previously threatened to cut Honduran aid. The US sent more than \$175m (£130m) to the country in 2016 and 2017, according to the US Agency for International Development.

Since he was on the campaign trail, Mr Trump has lambasted illegal immigrants, and this latest caravan comes after a major crackdown on migrants heading over the Mexican border. Changes to detention rules saw thousands of migrant children detained and separated from their parents earlier this year, sparking national and international condemnation.

The president's threats also come just weeks before the mid-term elections on 6 November, which could see Democrats unseating Republicans on Capitol Hill. Mr Trump's recent comments are probably an effort to bolster support among his base by cracking down on migration.

This isn't the first time President Donald Trump has used an organised group of Central American refugees heading to the US to drum up support for his border security and immigration policies. With the mid-term elections 19 days away, however, the stakes are higher and the rhetoric is sharper.

There could be political benefit to the president's accusations, lobbied toward Democrats, and the warnings to Latin American leaders - but presidential action would have consequences.

Using the military to "close" the border would be enormously disruptive in states like Texas and Arizona (which, by the way, have two high-profile Senate races). The move would also complicate relations between the US and Mexico, as Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador prepares to assume the Mexican presidency in December. A recent Fox News poll shows that probable midterm voters are more interested in preserving healthcare protections and "reining in Donald Trump" than immigration or border security. The president, with his tweets, is trying to change that. If he can't, it will be an election fought on uncomfortable ground for Republicans.

The migrant caravan is currently making its way through Guatemala, mostly on foot, with several of the quickest already arriving at Mexico's southern border by Thursday. Most migrants are carrying few belongings, taking what they can carry in backpacks, as they head out on the nearly 2,800 mile (4,500km) trek from Honduras to the US border. While Mr Trump has sent national guard troops to the border before, it is unclear what he means by shutting it down entirely, and whether that would affect businesses or people with legitimate visas.

And according to international law, the US cannot deport asylum seekers without first determining the validity of their claim. Under pressure from the US to stop the migrants, Mexico has sent federal police to the border, though they are not officially there to stop the caravan. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will be in Mexico this Friday, and US media report that he will discuss plans to stop the caravan.

What will happen to the people?

The Associated Press reports that many migrants do not have passports and have been using national ID cards, which allow them to travel within Central America. Mexico, however, requires a passport at entry. Mexican president-elect Andrés Manuel López Obrador plans to offer work visas to Central Americans when he takes office in December. "It is a plan that we have, that anyone who wants to work in Mexico will have a work visa," he said. "The caravan will probably diminish before it reaches the US-Mexico border, but the whole episode will harden views on immigration in the US on both sides and make Mexico more wary about cooperating with the US," he says.

Why are they leaving?

An estimated 10% of the population of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras have fled danger, forced gang recruitment and dismal economic opportunities. The region has one of the highest murder rates in the world. The UN reported murder rates in 2015 in Honduras standing at 63.75 deaths per 100,000 and El Salvador at 108.64 deaths.

Jamal Khashoggi case: Turkish police 'search forest'



Police in Turkey investigating the alleged killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi have expanded their search, reports say. Unnamed Turkish officials say his body may have been disposed of in the nearby Belgrad forest or on farmland. Mr Khashoggi disappeared after entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul on 2 October, where Turkish officials allege he was murdered. Samples taken from the Saudi consulate and the consul's residence during searches this week are being tested for a match with Mr Khashoggi's DNA.

Separately, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo strongly denied having listened to an audio recording Turkey says is evidence of Mr Khashoggi's murder.

Mr Pompeo also strongly criticised ABC News, which had earlier quoted a senior Turkish official as saying that he had been given access to the recording.

"This is wrong to do to the fiancée of Khashoggi," he added. "This is a very serious matter that we're working diligently on, and so to put out headlines that are factually false does no one any good."

Turkey has previously said it has audio and video evidence of Mr Khashoggi's murder, but these have not been made public. The incident has caused considerable strain between Saudi Arabia and its Western allies. On Thursday, the New York Times reported that Saudi Arabia's leaders are considering blaming a high-level intelligence official close to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for the killing. This, says the newspaper, is being viewed as a recognition of the international outcry over the scandal. US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and UK International Trade Secretary Liam Fox are the latest senior figures to pull out of a major investment conference in Riyadh next week. The summit is being hosted by Saudi Crown Prince Mohamed bin Salman to promote his reform agenda. However, a number of major businesses - including Pepsi and EDF - are still intending to go despite growing pressure for a boycott.

What happened to Jamal Khashoggi?

It is not clear. Mr Khashoggi was last seen entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul on 2 October, to pick up paperwork that would allow him to marry his fiancée Hatice Cengiz. Turkish officials believe Mr Khashoggi was killed by a team of Saudi agents inside the consulate, and his body then removed. Saudi Arabia has denied the claims, and initially insisted Mr Khashoggi had freely left the embassy.

Is there any evidence?

Turkish media with close links to the government have published gruesome details on the alleged audio recording, saying screams, and the voice of the consul, Mohammed al-Otaibi, could be heard in the recording.

Did Apple Watch record Khashoggi killing?

What we know about Saudi journalist's disappearance. The Yeni Safak newspaper, which is close to the government, quotes him as telling alleged Saudi agents sent to Istanbul: "Do this outside. You're going to get me in trouble." Meanwhile, Turkish media say they have identified a 15-member team of suspected Saudi agents who flew into and out of Istanbul on the day of the disappearance.

However, Saudi Arabia says reports on Mr Khashoggi's death are "completely false and baseless" and that it is "open to co-operation" to find out what happened. Several high-profile human rights groups have demanded that Turkey ask the UN to investigate the possible killing of Mr Khashoggi.

On Wednesday and Thursday, Turkish investigators spent almost nine hours searching the Saudi consul's residence, before moving on to the consulate itself about 200m (650ft) away, according to Reuters news agency.

Several vehicles with Saudi diplomatic number plates were filmed by CCTV cameras moving from the consulate to the residence just under two hours after Mr Khashoggi entered the consulate.

The Dutch and French finance ministers, and the head of the International Monetary Fund, are amongst those now boycotting the summit. US President Donald Trump told the New York Times it appeared that Mr Khashoggi is dead, vowing "severe" consequences for those responsible. Mr Trump said his conclusion was based on "intelligence coming from every side."

Russian President Vladimir Putin has said it is a pity that Mr Khashoggi has gone missing, but that Russia cannot damage relations with Saudi Arabia without hard facts.

Who is Jamal Khashoggi?

Mr Khashoggi is a prominent journalist who has covered major stories for various Saudi news organisations. He served as an adviser to top Saudi officials, but later fell out of favour with the government. He went into self-imposed exile in the US last year, and wrote a monthly column in the Washington Post. On Thursday, the Washington Post published Mr Khashoggi's latest column - a call for press freedom across the Arab world.