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In-On

Special Term Crete Business Issue

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**Cooperation
regarding
tourism
between Greece
and Australia**



Lee Tarlamis

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Select Committee for the German debts

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Special edition

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Waiver of liability: how to impose a de facto

The indebtedness of both households and companies along with their inability to repay their loans, created the economic crisis of 2007-2008 which initially led to growth reduction and then it was followed by recession. In order to prevent the recession many governments took measures (i.e. bank financing etc) so as to overcome the financial crisis as soon as possible. However, these measures to prevent recession have burdened state budgets and the direct consequence was the gradual alteration of the economic crisis to a crisis of state deficits. The accumulation of state deficits per year increased the total state debt and especially the debt of the southern countries of the euro-zone. The high public debts as well as the government deficits require drastic decisions to stop growing. However, in order to have immediate deficit reduction we should either reduce public expenditure or increase public revenue or both simultaneously. Both actions, though, lead to growth reduction and finally to recession. Growth reduction further reduces government revenue and expands to a higher degree the government deficits. This would require new spending cuts as well as new tax increases so as to curb or reduce deficits. But again these actions further reduce growth, so government revenue is reduced new measures will be taken and therefore, a «vicious» circle of permanent recession appears.

In order to reach the exit of this destructive circle, according to the Keynesian theory, some measures are required which will ensure that consumers will be able to buy and farmers, small crafts and industries will be able to produce so as development to come forth. Following this theory, recently Germany has increased the wages by 6, 5. The northern sound fiscal European

countries have imposed on the indebted southern European countries, hard budget cuts which dramatically reduce the consumers' disposable income, reduce the demands resulting in deeper recession, reducing thus further their ability to repay their debts getting away from any prospect of development. The heavily indebted southern countries are not able any longer to use currency depreciation as a budgetary tool, since they no longer have national currency. In this way they do not have a single tool in their hands to help ensure that the consumers will be able to buy and the producers will produce so as to reach development. Since these countries do not have a financial tool to overcome recession, it is apparent that the only solution now is to delete a big part of the debt before the countries are forced to reach a debt moratorium and insolvency. In such a case, chaotic conditions in both economy and society will appear.

The extent deletions of the sovereign debt of the countries of the southern euro zone will cease the enterprises' daily destruction as well as the citizen's life which is the consequence of debt deleveraging through budget cuts. This is actually the only way that ensures that people will be able to buy and the enterprises will be able to produce so as these countries are led to development again. This will lead to further social peace in Europe, to stability and to the removal of the risk of Euro collapse. Moreover, Europe will become more united and competitive in order to face the intense competition that stems from the emerging countries—China, India, Brazil, Mexico, Russia, Indonesia, Korea, Turkey etc. The countries' indebtedness makes their economies vulnerable towards ‘a crisis of confidence’. In cases like these, the countries must save the com-

mercial banks in order to save the deposits so as to continue to give loans. After that the commercial banks should save their countries by buying government bonds. Finally, the central banks need save both the commercial banks and the countries. This can be realized by issuing Eurobonds which will help buy problematic private and government loans mainly in the southern euro zone. The part of the capital that will not be paid by the borrowers will be deleted. For these loans that there is lack of money to be paid, they will not be paid in the end. Both

lenders and borrowers will benefit by such a substantial debt deletion. In this way, the creditors take part of the responsibility since they have given the problematic loans. Naturally, in the process debt delete should be negotiated between all parties involved. A glance at the table below that shows the financial conditions of Greece gives a hope for Greece after the partial deletion of the government debt, which however, was not enough to overcome the crisis.

Sizes of the central Government according to the State Budget						
Year	2000	2003	2009	2010	2011	2012
	In billion €	In billion €	In billion €	In billion €	In billion €	In billion €
GDP	136,3	185,3	231,7	227,3	215,1	210,4
Public debt	139,2	177,8	299,68	329,5	355,6	262,7*
Debt % of GDP	102,10%	95,90%	129,40%	145%	165,50%	125,09%
Government Revenue	36,5	39,2	50,5	53,9	53,7	56,1
Public Expenditure	40,1	49,5	86,6	77,4	73,3	70,2
Public deficit	3,4	10,3	36,1	23,5	19,6	14,1
% deficit of GDP	(-2,8%)	(-5,9%)	(-15,6%)	(-10,3%)	(-9,1%)	(-6,7%)
Interest on loans	9,9	9,4	12,3	13,2	16,3	13
Primary Surplus (without interest)	6,5	(-3.7)	(-23,8)	(-8,1)	(-6,6)	1,1
Source: State Budget – ELSTAT. Table ç; George Atsalakis. Year 2012 is a prediction. *From the debt of 2011 the debt delete of 107 billion has been removed and the projected deficit of 2012 has been added. There is a possibility that the debt may increase due to the payment of the public debts to the suppliers.						

The public debt dating back the establishment of the Greek government till 2000 reached the amount of 139, 2 billion. Its careless increase after the Olympic Games till 2009 by 122 billion along with the huge annual deficit of 36,1billion in 2009, created the «crisis of confidence» meaning that the country has reached the point where it collects 50 billion and spends 86, 1 billion, in other words it spends more than 70% compared to its revenues. The result was that Greece was no longer able to take loans with low interest rates, being forced, therefore, to resort to borrowing from Europe and IMF in order to face the high annual deficits and the payments of overdue debts. The application of the adjustment program of the last 2 years has already resulted in deficit reduction from 36, 1 billion in 2009 to 19, 6 billion in 2011. The 2012 design shows a reduction to 14, 1 billion so as to bring primary surplus of 1, 1 billion. This aim is also assisted by the recent organized public dept delete by 107 billion, the lengthening of the time of payment as well as the lowering of interest rates. Here, however, there should be a 2-3 years time extension so as to achieve primary surplus and prevent people’s impoverishment. This positive progress towards the achievement of primary sur-

plus sets the basis for negotiating a more organized debt delete, which the European countries will be forced to decide de facto. For Greece it is impossible from the 19,5 billion overall deficit in 2011 (interest included) to reach a surplus and repay the capital loan. Till today, the capital from the loans has not been returned yet, but instead new loans were taken to pay even the interests. Maybe after years Greece will be able to achieve to spend as much as the revenues. However, it will not be able to repay the capital loan. The fact that now the countries themselves are our main creditors makes a debt remission even easier. A further debt delete of 80-100 billion makes the debt sustainable, eases the deficit allowing, then the Greeks to breathe by starting buying again and companies start producing and in this way growth comes. A part of Eurobonds should be allocated to finance long-term development projects which will have a multiple result to the economy. Additionally, another part should be given to cover temporary shortfalls that the elongation of achieving primary surplus will bring for 2-3 more years. Perhaps, towards to this direction, the change in the political scene in France has helped as well as the pressure from the large debt

of Spain. Undoubtedly, this new debt relief does not exempt us from the responsibility to acknowledge and remove those factors that can recreate debt. (if in 2010 there had not been taken immediate measures to reduce the deficit of 36,1 billion of 2009, the public debt alone, only to cover the annual deficit in 10 years that means till 2019, would reach the amount of 660 billion (10x36,1=361 plus the debt of 2009, 299,68 billion 361+299=360 billion)). A series of reforms should be realized for the effective functioning of the country, the economy (price cuts so as to regain the purchasing power of the households) and the society where hard work and capabilities will prevail and delinquency and arbitrariness will be punished. The following measures should be taken:

- Set aside the public and private professional co operations, which deliberately hinder the modernization of the country and the society, in order to defend their gains, at the expense, however, of the society which also drains money through legal tricks having embraced the biggest part of the public debt.
- Stop being governed by incompetent statist politicians, who are unable to make sound decisions for the benefit of the society leaving the problems unsolved. Today, more than ever, people are needed who have knowledge, organization skills, can take initiatives, and possess the ability to adapt and solve problems.
- Replace sinecure unions that close businesses and lead workers to unemployment with healthy ones.
- The public sector should correctly cost its expenditure, technical works etc so as to avoid being plundered by its suppliers.
- Change the existing culture of shots and minor effort in the public sector so as to liberate the citizens’ creative forces and stimulate entrepreneurship.

Many more reforms are considered necessary so as young people start producing and mainly create their own businesses. In this way they will be able to buy, as well and therefore the companies will be able to produce and employ young people who in turn will be able to buy, too and so on. By doing this, the previously mentioned destructive “vicious” circle will reverse and the devastation that the crisis has brought to Greece will convert to an opportunity to create a new Greece. The political parties should stop talking in a manner that shows populism and exploits the desperation of week people especially the unemployed. All parties or at least most of them should sit at the same table and wisely design a strategy in coordination with other south-European countries, for a further public debt delete and a partial private debt delete. And of course, a committee of experts and wise people should design our own development program for the next twenty years, so as no one to be able again to impose new memoranda. As one of the nations with the longest and brightest history on this planet that is the everlasting Greek culture, we deserve to be proud for our past. If we are taught by ancient Greek wisdom and change ourselves first and the way our country operates, our children will be able to continue being proud for our history, the existing crisis will become history and Greece will take the place it deserves in Europe.



PHOTO IGD



«I have been at this post for the last 2,5years, after the retirement of my female predecessor. It is not, therefore, the first time that the Director of the Chamber of Herakleion is a woman», clarified to «In-On» magazine, the Director of the Chamber of Herakleion Mrs. Katia Tzanaki.

The key, then to the development-she continued – of the Chamber is the activation of the female population in the prefect of Herakleion in all levels such as the staffing of the Organization as well as entrepreneurship. Our attempts also aim at the financial development of the female population.

Question: How much has the female perspective contributed to the development of the Chamber of Herakleion?

Answer: The female perspective can make the difference, for that reason the female presence should be strengthened in any field. We, at the Chamber of Herakleion try through various actions to attract the women's interest in order to be involved in business, providing them with information and support in their attempts. Women have clearly proved that are able to achieve a lot because we are more organized and we stay calm in difficult situations. Oddly, in the Chamber of Herakleion, the majority of the employees are women. I am not absolutely sure, though if its good organization is due to this fact, however, it is certain that professionalism and high sense of responsibility towards our business people classifies our organization among the most active Chambers of Greece.

Question: Tell us about the new actions since you took over the direction.

Answer: I have been at this post for the last 2, 5 years, after the retirement of my female predecessor. Actually, this is not the first time that the Director of the Chamber of Herakleion is a woman. What we try to do in every way is to

First Ladies

The key to the development of the Chamber of Herakleion is the activation of the female population providing them with information and support in their attempts.

respond directly and effectively to the needs of our members-businesspeople, especially during these times that are hard for entrepreneurship. The issue of the necessary written material, the information on funding projects, exhibitions and suggested co operations, the organization of events and projects are some of the fields that we give particular emphasis on, so as the business people of our prefect are assisted to overcome competition and strengthen their extroversion.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Katia Tzanaki was born in Herakleion in 1968. Her parents were from Crete and Asia Minor. She is a graduate of the Economics Department at the University of Crete specialized at Economic Development and the Economics of Renewable and Exhaustible Natural Recourses as well as Agricultural Economy. She is also a student at the post-graduate department of the Business Administration Department of the Open University of Cyprus. She speaks English, Spanish and Italian. She is the Chairman of the Service Board of the Public Law in the prefect of Herakleion. She has been a member of the Economic Chamber since 1992. She has been Head of the Division of the Chamber of Herakleion since 2010. She participates in many events and exhibitions in Greece and abroad as well as in all European projects by the Chamber of Herakleion as a member of the project team. She has attended lessons in puppetry, dried flowers, mosaic and stained glass in Renata Georgantopoulou's art laboratory and has also participated in a group exhibition in 1998. She belongs to the corps of Volunteer Rescuers of the Greek Red Cross since 2007. She is an Organ Donor since 1987.

The promotion of Historical Greek monuments in Australia

“The tourist sites and monuments in Greece and Australia are promoted by the Community Association of Australians and Greek-Australians projecting the National Holiday of ANZACS Day, a day of memory and honor for the sacrifice of the Australian and New Zealand troops, who on April 1915 in Kallipolis (it is situated in Turkey) struggled hard despite their young age to conquer the peninsula allowing, therefore, Russia to gain access to Dardanelles”, highlighted in an interview to “In-On” magazine the chairman-organizer of the Community Association of Australian, Mr. Lee Tarlamis.

Our goal is –he continued– to reinforce the infrastructure of suitable monuments as well as thoroughly upgrade the sites between the island of Lemnos where the Australian troops had landed and Kallipolis the place of sacrifice of thousands Australian and New Zealand troops.

It has to be noted that this year –he stressed– was the 97th national holiday of ANZACS Day and a memorial service was realized on the spot of sacrifice in the cemetery of Lone Pine in Kallipolis.

The committee’s priority projects in order to project the historic facts follow:

- The ANZAC a hundred-year celebration is scheduled for 2015 including the contribution of the island of Lemnos to the history of Kallipolis. For example, the harbor of Lemnos is going to be included in the celebration whereas the funding regarding the sites of the island on behalf of the Greek and the Australian Governments is absolutely necessary.

- Projection of materials and files regarding Lemnos and Kallipolis. This has to do with relative letters, photographs as well as other written materials which will be demonstrated in the celebrations by the Memory Committee.

- Promotion and acknowledgment of the role the island of Lemnos played in the mission of Kallipolis through the creation of a suitable monument in Melbourne, Sydney as well as in other relative locations in Australia and New Zealand.

- Promotion of the twinning between the city of Lemnos and the city of Port Philip.

- Promotion of the role of the female nurses during the war as a core factor in the celebrations in Lemnos and Kallipolis with

the participation of the Australian Nursing Federation and the Australian Red Cross.

- Promotion of the celebrations in the mass media in Greece and Australia.

- Reinforcement of the celebrations with Parliamentary Friendship Groups.

Beyond the above basic projects, the Committee is engaged to spot other pieces of work so as to celebrate the historic and military link between Australia and Greece in a wider sense. Using the model of celebration of the Battle of Crete, the Committee will highlight the historical facts:

- The participation of Australia in the mission that was realized in Thessaloniki.

- The assistance given by Australia in the post-war allocation of the Greek refugees from Asia Minor in 1922.

It is interesting to mention that the Committee has the primary goal to fund these works through giving money to appropriate bodies or people so as to establish the original historic path of Anzac in Greece, which will cover this historic era. This could –according to the Committee– include cemeteries, battle sites, preparation sites for aircraft landing, boarding and evacuation, various sites, hospitals, airports, harbors and naval areas, military camps as well as other areas and routes that show the troops’ care behind the lines of the enemy.

The battle of Kallipolis

Kallipolis (purist: Kallipolis, -leos), the current city of Gelimolou (Turkish Gelibolu), is a city situated in the north-west Turkey. It is located on the Kallipolis peninsula (Gelibolu Yarımadası), having the Aegean Sea on the west and Dardanelles on the east. (In ancient times the Kallipolis peninsula was known as the Thracian peninsula). The peninsula was mainly inhabited by Greeks till the onset of World War II.

The mission constituted an attempt to advance through Dardanelles and seize Constantinople. On April 15th 1915, a part of the allied forces of British and French troops as well as the Australian and New Zealand forces (ANZAC) landed on a small bay on the western edge of the peninsula which is officially called today Anzac Cove. The whole mission failed and the Anzac forces departed on December 19th, 1915. There



Lee Tarlamis
Chairman-organizer
of the Community Association
of Australian

were about 180.000 allied casualties along with 220.000 Turkish casualties. This mission has become a legend for both Australia and New Zealand and ANZAC Day is still celebrated as a national holiday in both countries. There are a lot of mementos from the battle of Kallipolis in the Australian War Memorial Museum in Canberra and in Auckland War Memorial Museum in Auckland, New Zealand.

CURRICULUM VITAE

The Greek abroad Lee Tarlamis was born in 1975 and was elected member of the Parliament and member of the South-Eastern Metropolitan Region in the Legislative Council of the

Victorian Parliament, on November 27th, 2010.

Today, he is in the Presidency of the Legislative Council responsible for the electoral matters of the Parliamentary Committee of Environment and Planning.

Moreover, Lee Tarlamis is a magistrate, member of the World Hellenic Inter-Parliamentary Association, member of Noble Park and for 15 years he has been a member of Springvale Charity Association which helps vulnerable people from the surrounding areas. Lee has been a member of the Australian Labor Party since 1993 holding various posts including state and national conference delegate as well as electorate officer.

Creation of a tourist port and a marina in Ierapetra

“The development of the infrastructure regarding the transport of agricultural products along with the promotion of tourism is the goal of the City Council of the municipality of Ierapetra” stressed in an interview to “In-On” magazine, the mayor of Ierapetra, Sifis Anastasakis.

Question: What are the development projects for Ierapetra?

Answer: Our aim is the developmental infrastructure that supports transportation in the agriculture sector and tourism to proceed. In this framework, we promote the road projects that connect Ierapetra with the adjacent municipalities as well as the rest of Crete, establishing the area as a core center in the southern side of Crete.

Thus, the roadwork of the Southern Highway that connects Ierapetra with Vianno and Sitia are in various stages of maturation and implementation. These projects are funded by NSRF with about 25 million Euros. Additionally, the environmental standards have been approved and parts of the road network Ierapetra –Viannos – Agioi Deka – Herakleion are under process. Regarding the provincial road network we steadily proceed to improve the whole of it.

In the field of improvement projects that directly affect the important agricultural production of the area where intense dry and thermal elements exist, there is a single plan of water management of the municipality of Ierapetra that includes a series of enormous irrigation projects, dams and water reservoirs that cover the needs of the agricultural land of the whole region. This is the framework that the single water supply project of the municipality waterfront is included.

The third axis refers to the enhancement of the infrastructure that deals with the citizens and visitors’ daily routine. For example, we move on to urban improvements in the city and the villages as well as interventions that have to do with the reduction of the volume of household waste through recycling and home composting. Our goal still remains which is a factory that processes plant residues and surely we promote organized urban development with city plans.

Question: Tell us your actions about tourist development in Ierapetra

Answer: Tourism constitutes a comparative advantage of the area that has not been exploited to a full extent till today. As a municipality authority we have set priorities in this sector which we regard crucial as far as the issue of tourism is concerned.

In the first place, in the promotion level we have taken initiatives to renew and enrich our information material for the visitors while we promote our stable presence in tourist fairs and at the same time we exploit the award the beaches of Ierapetra have received in a European level.

Furthermore, we are particularly interested in facilitating the creation of new tourist units that are currently being constructed in the area while at the same time we assist the promotion of the units that already operate sharing an excellent cooperation with tourist factors that actively participate in the tourist committee of the municipality and outline the policy and the promotional actions that the municipality participates.

Another significant parameter refers to the natural environment as well as the mountainous regions of the municipality that attract new forms of tourism. The aim is the revitalization of our villages and their projection as second residence through actions that will be developed during the next two years reaching the sum of 2, 5 million Euros. These actions will refer to interventions that have to do with the promotion of culture, tradition and the unique characteristics the settlements on the mountains in our municipality have.

At the same time any intervention on a developmental level demonstrates our prospect on tourism in the area, a fact that within the next years will be evident in the infrastructure that is being implemented or planned. Additionally, regarding the part of infrastructure we promote the creation of a tourist port and a marina for the area of Ierapetra.

Question: Tell us about the archaeological sites of Ierapetra

Answer: Gournia –with the unknown ancient name– is the most characteristic example of an excavation site of medium-size settlement during the Minoan era of prosperity (Late Minoan I era: 1550-1450 B.C).The site is well-preserved and for that reason it was called “Pompeii of the Minoan Crete”. The settlement is situated on a low hill, very close to the sea, at the isthmus of Ierapetra. The settlement of Vassiliki is one of the first Minoan settlements with urban planning stretching along the slopes and the top of the low hill that is near the village of Vassiliki, very close to the Minoan settlement of Gournia. Its existence starts during Early Minoan era II (2600-2300 B.C) and its prosperity is due to not only to its important location where the location of the isthmus of Ierapetra exists, but also due to the fertile valley of the region. Also, the museum was created in the late last century even under Turkish occupation. Often location was changed. Today, it is located in the Commercial Ottoman School, a building which has been declared a traditional-listed building and was given to the Ministry of Culture by the municipality of Ierapetra.

The History of the City.

The fortress which was built by the Venetians is the known as “Kales” to the inhabitants of Ierapetra, and it is situated on the most southern pier of the ancient port facing the side of “Sarakinass”. It belongs to those monuments of the past that its strong



Sifis Anastasakis
Mayor of Ierapetra

construction in coordination with its utility till the last years of the previous century, made it stand there till today, in order to remind the difficult times our Nation has been through and also to make younger generations think and learn so as to avoid the mistakes of the past. The next reference of the fortress was in the 16th century when Sammicheli supervises its construction after the tremendous earthquake in 1508 and the Turkish raids. It is apparent, though, that the damages were very serious and not all the necessary repairs were done. In 1647, Ierapetra was conquered by the Turks and the fortress, despite its bad condition due to the war, was preserved for defense reasons on behalf of the Turks and even though a lot of reforms were made some Venetian elements were kept as well. Its current name “Kales” surely comes from the Turkish word “koules”, which means tower.

In Kounoupaki square, (where the City Hall is located), an oblong building exists known as Ottoman School or Mehtepi. It was built for the young Turks in 1899, after the liberation. Today, the archaeological collection of Ierapetra is housed there, with findings from the area that were not transported to bigger museums in Greece and abroad.

CURRICULUM VITAE

The mayor of Ierapetra was born in 1950 in Agios Nikolaos in

the prefect of Lasithi.

He has been a qualified Civil Engineer graduated from the Aristoteleion University in Thessaloniki since 1975.

In 1998, having formed a complete picture and acquired knowledge regarding the developmental problems of our prefect and more specifically of the shortfall in the infrastructure, he was actively activated in Secondary Administration.

He was elected for the first time as a Prefect Council of Lasithi, taking the responsibility to materialize the construction projects in the prefect as the Chairman of Infrastructure and Construction Committee. During the elections of 2002, he was reelected Prefect Council of Lasithi, second in the order of preference. During the period of 2005-2006, he was the Deputy Prefect regarding Construction and Infrastructure and Chairman of the relative Prefect Committee. At the elections of 2006, he was elected Prefect Council for the third time, first in the order of preference by the citizens of Lasithi and took over the responsibility to materialize the Construction and Infrastructure projects again, from the post of Deputy Prefect.

After the untimely death of the Prefect of Lasithi Antony Stratakis in 2008, the Prefectural Advisors of the “Lasithi – Civil Society” party elected him Prefect of Lasithi by a large majority. He completed his tasks till 31/12/2010.

● Stavros Kallergis The forerunner of the socialist movement of Greece

«FATHER» OF THE LABOR DAY IN GREECE

Stavros Kallergis, the founder of the socialist movement of Greece (1865-1926) was born in Rethymnon (Choumeri- Mylotamos in Crete).

During events commemorating May 1st realized annually in Rethymnon, Crete, his significant work regarding Greeks' labor rights which due to his suggestions and struggles became laws was mentioned.

More specifically, Mrs. Maria Lioni the regional commissioner in the prefect of Rethymnon during a ceremony has mentioned "in our mind he holds the title of the "father" of the Greek Labor May Day as well as the forerunner of the Greek socialistic movement, who had the courage to fight the status quo of his time so as to claim human working conditions not to mention his morality, which inspired his fellow-citizens and awoken the society to struggle for equality and solidarity.

Dreamer, pioneer and fighter are only a few of the characterizations that outline Stavros Kallergis' multifaceted personality. This personality will always constitute a reference point, not only as the founder of the Labor May Day, but also as a man with unique social sensitivities.

Particularly today, when every day we see the entrenchment of the labor rights, as a result of the unfavorable financial situation our country faces, Stavros Kallergis' work and his attitude in life, highlight a series of new social claims, which have to be realized in order to preserve not only his legacy but also his companions' struggles".

At an early age, with his family, they took refuge to Athens because his father, the chieftain G. Kallergis was considered an outlaw by the Ottoman authorities as he had fought in Arkadi. On May 1890, he founded in Athens the Central Socialist Society, which constituted the first socialistic cell in Greece that later created branches in other cities, as well. The following month he commenced publishing the initially two-month newspaper under the title Socialist in which he developed a revolutionary for his time socialistic program. This program among others included: complete freedom of speech and con-

sciousness, 8-hour employment, minimum wage, day off on Sunday etc. The above goals according to Kallergis could be realized if a socialist party managed to win a parliamentary majority as well through union struggles.

After the first May Day with the bloody events in Chicago in 1886, Labor May Day becomes an International symbol of Resistance.

In 1893, the first massive gathering was realized in Greece claiming Sunday holiday, eight-hour employment, and part-time employment regarding unhealthy conditions for children and women, as well as the retirement of labor victims' families.

In Greece only Stavros Kallergis visualized the enormous political importance and dimension of May Day's celebration, which initiated as a flowers' celebration and has now become a symbol of social struggles. So, after being informed of what happens abroad he takes the decision to organize May Day's celebration in 1893, 115 years ago on May 2nd, on Sunday at 5.p.m at the Pan-Athenian Stadium in front of 2000 people. Stood on a rock, he spoke loudly and explained May Day's symbolism, talked about the struggles of the working class and read the resolution of the gathering focusing on the main claims such as Sunday holiday, 8-hour employment and retirement.

The claims that refer to the resolution follow:

- a) On Sundays the stores and the factories should be closed so as our fellow citizens rest.
- b) Workers and employees should work 8 hours a day.
- c) Retirement should be given to those who are labor victims and unable to maintain themselves and their families.
- d) Death penalty executions should be abolished
- e) Imprisonment due to personal debts should be abolished and
- f) The Board of the Central Association should hand in this Resolution to the members of the Parliament".

The Resolution which was read by Kallergis was signed by 500 people. However, as its delivery to the Parliament was de-



layed for about seven months, 2.000 signatures were collected in the meanwhile. When the Speaker of the Parliament finally received the resolution, Kallergis was at the press gallery waiting to listen to the president read the resolution, but this never happened. This action caused Kallergis' intense reaction and he suddenly started to read the resolution aloud. He was arrested and dragged out of the Parliament Hall by the police at once. Kallergis was beaten then by the police and later was sentenced to 12 days imprisonment. In this way the first Labor May Day ended in Greece along with the events that are connected with it.

It has to be noted that during May Day of 1894, many arrests were realized (Kallergis was among those arrested) and the celebration of the Labor May Day was banned from then on.

Later Kallergis after being tried in the court of law and eventually being found not guilty, he fled to Paris where he met Jean Zores, Emil Zola, Peter Kropotkin and others. He returned to Athens in 1895. Disappointed by the intense criticism which he received by his former colleagues, he left for Crete where he was elected representative of the Cretan State and ran for an MP of Rethymnon. He came back to Athens after three attempts against his life and started to publish the Socialist again. However, this new attempt failed as well as a commercial business of his. He died in Crete, where he lived since 1905. There, he was married and had a family but was penniless as he had spent the large fortune he had inherited from his father for the needs of the socialist movement. His son was the well-known actor, Lycurgus Kallergis.

«You owe us, we owe you nothing»

“The National Council of Bid Debt of Germany to Greece» asks from the new government the implementation of the decision of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Greek Parliament in order to create a Select Committee comprised of members of the Parliament and three lawyers that are fully aware of this issue having the Chairman of the Parliament as the Chairman of the Committee” underlined to an interview to “In-On” magazine, the Special Secretary of the National Council of Bid Debt of Germany to Greece, Mr. Stefanos Linaios.

The Committee-he continued- will ask to present itself in front of the German Bundestag in order to expose all the details that oblige the German Government to pay its debts. At the same time the duty of the new Minister of Justice is to proceed to the execution of the decisions of the Greek courts which satisfy the claims of the Greek citizens and literally invalidate immunity.

Additionally –he mentioned- the Greek people should be informed, to rise and with the slogan “You owe us, we owe you nothing”, force the Greek government face this important national issue seriously and responsibly.

Moreover, he clarified that “we have decided that after the election of the new government the General Assembly of the National Council is going to be held, in order to design the materialization of the proposals regarding the payment of the German debts and spread the boycott of German products throughout Greece. A reduction in consumption has already been noticed by 30%. Two months ago, the Bar Association, the Medical Association and the Technical Chamber, decided to participate in this pan-Hellenic boycott.

The aspects of the Holocaust in Greece include:

-The stealing of countless and priceless archaeological treasures.

-Destructions: 15 billion dollars. Market value of 1938, current value 108 billion Euros without interest

-The forced loan: current value 54 billion Euros without interest.

-The destruction of the economy of Greece namely the 51% of the shares of SOEs as well as those of the large private enterprises.

- The feeding of the occupation army, a total of 670.000 troops (German, Italian, and Bulgarian) as well as the feeding of Romel’s army in Africa (except for Greece only) reached the amount of 8 billion drachmas per month.

-Counterfeit bank notes: a direct sacking of the enterprises with the counterfeit note and also the immediate sacking of Greek currency. They also stole 73 tons of copper.

-A forced loan that reached the amount of 3,5 billion dollars on March 23rd, 1942 market value of 1938. Moreover, through confiscations, the 10% of the agricultural production was tak-

en. There were also confiscations in the means of transport, railways, ships, cars, bicycles even animals, while they seized and robbed houses and stores all over Greece.

If we count, we have 89 acknowledged martyrdom cities. Literally the whole Greece is a Holocaust -cemetery. The 14% of the Greek population was eliminated.

It has to be noted here that through the rough calculations of the economists –members of the National Council the total amount of the German debts in present value comes to the staggering amount of 1, 2 trillion Euros.

For the Greeks who live in Germany and the Germans of today who claim that it is not fair the present Germans to pay for the crimes of their ancestors, we clarify that the Germans destroyed themselves, destroying at the same time the whole Europe. When the war was over, we did not claim the German compensation, along with other devastated countries by the Nazi, and the Germans were able to financially recover allowing the present Germans to live comfortably.

Therefore, the present Germans have the obligation to support Greek people to financially recover, too. And we should not forget that the present bad economic situation that Greece faces is not solely due to the inability of some post war governments but also to the big European countries and Germany in particular which exploited this very inability.

It should not be forgotten that all the countries that were destroyed by the Nazi Occupation have been compensated, except Greece”.

Curriculum Vitae

Stefanos Linaios (his real name was Dionysios Mitilineos son of George), was born in Messina in the municipality of Messina. He is an actor, writer and director. He is a graduate of the Theatre School of Athens, he attended courses during 1967-69 (during the years of his self-exile in London, in the 7-year junta), in the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art - RADA) in London. During the period of 1954-1967 he cooperated with more than 20 theatrical companies, he participated in a few films and TV programs as well as in numerous radio broadcasts.

Stefanos Linaios along with his wife the actress Ellie Fotiou are the founders of the theatrical group “Modern Greek Theater” located in “Alpha Theater” from 1971 till today. He has written novels such as «Some deaths» and many studies including “The Theater of tomorrow”, “Struggles and anxieties”, “The chain” and recently his autobiography, “A river sea”.

He served as Secretary General in the Greek Actors Association (1965-1967) and he is an honorary member for life in the British Actors Association. He was a member of the Greek Parliament during 1989-1990 and City Councilor in the municipality of Athens in 1986-1990.



Stefanos Linaios

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