



AHi
ANNUAL REPORT
2023

American Hellenic Institute
American Hellenic Institute Foundation



TABLE OF CONTENTS

AHI/AHIF Board Member Biographies	2
Public Policy: An Overview	5
• U.S.-Greece Relations	5
• A Watchful Eye on Turkey	6
• U.S.-Cyprus Relations	7
• Religious Freedom in Turkey and the Ecumenical Patriarchate	8
• The Eastern Mediterranean Partnership (3+1)	9
2023 Public Policy in Action	10
• Issue Advocacy Spotlight.	12
• Engagement with Government and Military Officials.....	15
• Leadership Visits Abroad	19
• Collaborations	23
Media Impact.....	28
• Community Outreach	29
• Panel Discussions and Virtual Speakers Forums	33
AHI Foundation Highlights and Initiatives	38
General News	41
Index	45

AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE

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INTRODUCTION

Dear Members and Friends:

This year marks a tremendous milestone for the American Hellenic Institute as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Institute's founding.

However, before we turn our full attention to commemorating it, let's reflect with great pride on another successful year for the American Hellenic Institute and AHI Foundation. This substantive 2023 Annual Report captures all of AHI's policy-based programs and initiatives that advocate for the rule of law and advance the best interests of the United States in our policy agenda. The AHI Foundation's educational programs and publications that benefited our community are also presented.

As AHI begins its 50th year as the only Greek American think tank and public policy center advocating for the rule of law, our members and supporters can take pleasure with the Institute's steadfast commitment to meeting its mission. We deeply appreciate the dedication and service of our passionate board members, members, and staff. They ensured we had the resources to execute the strategies and programs we needed to be successful.

In 2023, we were excited to host familiar events that brought the community together, such as our Hellenic Heritage Achievement and Public Service Awards dinner and Greek Heritage Night at the Philadelphia Phillies. We also maintained our popular Virtual Speakers Forums because of their ability to effectively expand our reach globally.

Organizationally, we were pleased to welcome new faces and leadership to the AHI Board of Directors and to our professional staff at Hellenic House. We conveyed our appreciation to Dr. Van Coufoudakis, whose board term ended in 2023, for his decades of selfless service to AHI and AHIF. We also held our third productive joint retreat for AHI and AHIF board members to discuss organizational matters and to engage with policy influencers. Working together, AHI and AHIF continue to make a difference.

The Eastern Mediterranean is immensely important to U.S. interests. Greece is a democratic, reliable, and trusted NATO ally—a frontline state in the fight against terrorism. U.S.-Greece relations remain at an "all-time high." Further, the Republic of Cyprus is a proven strategic partner of the U.S. and EU member nation that unacceptably remains under illegal occupation by 40,000 Turkish troops. Turkey causes instability and its president has directed inflammatory rhetoric when expedient toward the U.S., our allies and friends in the region. Moreover, religious freedom in Turkey remains under assault. Looking forward, U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus must remain on the upswing. Turkey must demonstrate that it is genuine in its rapprochement with Greece and stay true to the spirit of the 'friendship accord' signed between Greece and Turkey in December 2023. Turkey must toe the line that is expected of a NATO partner and a good neighbor as in the best interests of the United States.

Therefore, our advocacy focuses on advancing U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus as in the best interests of the United States and for the need to hold Turkey accountable for its illegal provocations and atrocious record on human rights and religious freedom. In this regard, we engaged with policymakers in the Biden administration and Congress through meetings with high-ranking administration officials and members of Congress and their staffs, policy letters, and written testimony. Our consistent presence on Capitol Hill, and engagement with the Administration, is presented in this report.

We are also proud of our contributions to commemorate events of importance to our history. We hosted our annual "Congressional Salute to Greek Independence Day" and our annual commemoration to mark the 49th anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus that featured key legislators from the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives. Additionally, AHI and AHIF representatives were excited to participate at Greek Independence Day events in several metropolitan areas.

Popular programs familiar to the community also met with success. The AHIF College Student Foreign Policy Trip to Greece and Cyprus concluded a 15th season, bringing firsthand experience about our foreign policy issues to our community's next generation of leaders. Our presence in Athens remained strong as the 19th annual Athens Dinner provided another memorable program, and December's policy panel discussion in Athens featured U.S. Ambassador to Greece George Tsunis and two former Greek ambassadors to the U.S. When possible, we performed community outreach to take our message to the grassroots while we also welcomed several dignitaries to Hellenic House from various sectors, including included high ranking American, Greek, and Cypriot government and military officials.

Additionally, AHI is an important resource for media outlets seeking the Greek American perspective on U.S. policy in the Eastern Mediterranean. We were interviewed for our expertise and insights on policy developments in Washington and abroad. We also hold mainstream media accountable, working to set the record straight with letters to the editor. Finally, we strive to keep our audience informed by sharing "must reads" from relevant media outlets or blogs. The AHI Foundation published the 14th volume of its *Online Policy Journal*, under the editorial oversight of Dr. Constantine Hatzidimitriou, that provides expert policy analysis and commentary.

Sadly, AHI and AHI Foundation lost a tremendous contributor, dedicated board member, and most importantly, devoted friend, with the passing of Gus Andy. We also mourned the passing of former AHIPAC Chairman Dr. Takey Crist, former honoree and author George Blytas, and friend of AHI, Xenophon Kallis, who served as Cyprus' Director of the Service for Missing Persons.

2024: AHI's Golden Anniversary Year

We look forward to celebrating our 50th anniversary throughout 2024. Although we are extremely proud to reach our golden anniversary, and what that means for all those, past and present, who gave selflessly to the Institute, we also realize the anniversary is a bittersweet one because of the reason for our founding. In the spirit of our founder, Eugene T. Rossides, we will not stop until the rule of law is

applied to Greece, Cyprus, and the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

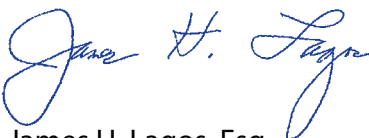
A presidential election year means that Congress is expected to be mired in gridlock or out on the campaign trail with regularity. We also are dealing with a record number of departures or announced retirements from Capitol Hill, including one of our very own from the community in U.S. Congressman John Sarbanes. As advocates for the rule of law, we must work harder. We must continue to be relentless and resourceful advocates for our champions on Capitol Hill. As the Biden administration nears the end of its term, we must work with the Administration and Congress to press for more accountability for Turkey, especially as its cozy relationship with Hamas gains increased exposure. It must not come into possession of F-16s, or any other arms, for its violations of U.S. law and because it has been rightfully sanctioned by the U.S. This policy matter will continue to be at the forefront, and we must be ready for any new ones that arise.

Finally, we are deeply grateful and appreciative of the members, board officers and staff for their dedication. Everyone worked together to make 2023 another banner year. Alongside our own activities in Washington, and abroad, AHI's and AHIF's strength relies on the contributions and generous support of our members and sponsors—our most valuable assets. Thank you.

With warm regards and gratitude,



Nick R. Larigakis
AHI President and CEO



James H. Lagos, Esq.
Chairman
American Hellenic Institute



Leon W. Andris
Chairman
AHI Foundation



AHi

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AHiF

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The **American Hellenic Institute, Inc. (AHI)** is a respected and independent non-profit, public policy and advocacy center that works to strengthen relations between the United States and Greece and Cyprus, and within the Greek American community. It was founded on August 1, 1974, following Turkey's invasion of Cyprus with the illegal use of American-supplied arms in violation of U.S. laws and agreements. The AHI initiated the rule of law issue in the Congress in the interests of the U.S., thus changing the face of American politics. In the years since 1974, AHI has kept the spirit of the rule of law alive.

The **American Hellenic Institute Foundation, Inc. (AHIF)**, established in 1975, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax-exempt educational and research organization and is the first "think tank" devoted exclusively to the study of the issues confronting the Greek American community.

AHI and AHIF have championed the rule of law and American values in foreign policy as in the best interests of the U.S. This is especially true in the Eastern Mediterranean, a region critically important to American national interests. Through our deep understanding and knowledge of issues affecting Greece, Cyprus, and U.S. interests in the region, we serve as the leading voice to American, Greek, and Cypriot policy makers and within the community. With our newsletters, conferences, seminars, publications and social media, we serve as a resource to our members and our network of supporters; providing them with the information necessary to be active at the grassroots level and to strengthen our voice in Washington.



NICK LARIGAKIS has held numerous positions at AHI since joining the organization in 1987.

President & Chief Executive Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chairman

JAMES H. LAGOS, ESQ. is a partner in the law firm of Lagos & Lagos PLL in Springfield, Ohio for almost 49 years. Jim and his wife Nike are partners in a variety of philanthropic, civic and business ventures. Among their most celebrated achievements is the restoration of the Bushnell Building in Springfield, Ohio.



Treasurer

ALEXANDROS (ALECO) HARALAMBIDES is a founding member of the Archimedean Schools—conservatories of mathematics and the Greek language—where he continues to serve on the board of directors. In 2004 he formed a company called Aristo Mortgage Investments to invest in equity-based mortgages and nonperforming mortgage loans. Aleco has also been an attorney for twenty years.



Vice Chairman

NICHOLAS E. CHIMICLES, ESQ. is the founder and senior partner of Chimicles Schwartz Kriner & Donaldson-Smith LLP (until recently and for the past 25 years known as Chimicles & Tikellis LLP), a 20-lawyer law firm with offices in Haverford PA and Wilmington DE that specializes in representing consumers and investors in class action litigation.



Secretary

KOSTAS ALEXAKIS, ESQ. is a businessman, engineer, lawyer, and political activist. He serves as Chairman and CEO of USL Financials, a software and systems implementation and consulting company that publishes and markets financial accounting and procurement systems to governments, non-profit organizations, and universities.



TIMOTHY ANANIADIS was the Managing Director and General Manager of the Hotel Grande Bretagne & King George from 2003 to 2020. He has almost 40 years of international experience in the hospitality industry.



TED ARGEROPLOS is the current owner and CEO of AMA Systems, LLC, established in Columbia, MD, in 2000. AMA Systems is a leading point redemption fulfillment house globally, serving major corporations like American Express and VISA, specializing in consumer electronics in the point redemption industry.



LEON ANDRIS, a native Washingtonian, has been a member of AHI since its inception and a Board member since 2014. A graduate electrical engineer, he spent his career in real estate, specializing in multi-family affordable housing.



PETER BOTA is co proprietor of the Metro 29 Diner Restaurant in Arlington, Virginia. He is involved in the daily operation of this very well known, high volume eating establishment. In addition to being a successful entrepreneur, he also enjoys investing in real estate.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



VIOLETTA KAPSALIS BUHLER is a Chicago native and an attorney specializing in crisis management. For more than 20 years she practiced law in the financial institution industry, including as VP and Regional Counsel for Fannie Mae.



GEORGE TSETSEKOS, PH.D. is the Francis professor of Finance and Dean Emeritus at Drexel's LeBow College of Business. He served as Dean of LeBow (2002-2012) and under his transformative leadership the college achieved national rankings and quality milestones in research and teaching.



DEMITRIOS HALAKOS is a founder and principal member of Halakos Management and its various subsidiaries with real estate holdings and restaurant/entertainment enterprises in Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware and southeastern Pennsylvania.



JOHN VASILIOU is a principal and Vice President of Astra Foods, a Philadelphia based protein manufacturing company. He is also a principal of Tasty Breads International, a Chicago-based frozen dough manufacturing company.



GEORGEA POLIZOS is a skilled communications professional with experience in international relations, fundraising, and program management, with a specialty in Balkan issues. For the past five years, Geor-gea has consulted for the US government. She currently leads a communications team that supports the US Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration's expansion of high-speed Internet infrastructure for communities across the United States.



MARIA WILLIS is the co-owner of Don-mar Heating, Cooling and Plumbing company, alongside her husband Don. With over a decade of dedicated community service, Maria has had key leadership positions at the Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Virginia contributing significantly to its growth.



NICO BAMBERGER PRISKOS is the Managing Partner for InterNet Properties; a boutique, locally and family-owned full service commercial real estate firm licensed in Utah and several surrounding States.



YANNI SIANIS is an Executive Officer and is the Chief of Staff of Calamos Investments. He joined the firm in 2010 as a Wealth Adviser with Calamos Wealth Management. Yanni currently serves as a Board Director of Calamos Antetokounmpo Asset Management LLC.

"Since 1974, the American Hellenic Institute has been an important rule of law advocate in Washington and has been actively working in order to promote bilateral relations between Greece and the United States."

— President of the Hellenic Republic
Katerina Sakellaropoulou



NICK LARIGAKIS has held numerous positions at AHI since joining the organization in 1987.

President & Chief Executive Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



LEON ANDRIS, a native Washingtonian, has been a member of AHI since its inception and a Board member since 2014. A graduate electrical engineer, he spent his career in real estate, specializing in multi-family affordable housing.

Chairman



JOHN ALAHOUZOS is a founding partner of Market Development Group, Inc. and the firm's executive vice president. An active philanthropist, John lends his talents to a variety of nonprofit organizations including the AHI Foundation.

Treasurer



CONSTANTINE A. GALANIS is the CEO of Apollo S.A., one of the largest chemical manufacturers of Mexico. He began his career as a consultant on international environmental and energy issues to Apollo Chemical Corp., and later became Commercial Director of Apollo Technologies International Corp.

Vice Chairman



MARIA WILLIS is the co-owner of Donmar Heating, Cooling and Plumbing company, alongside her husband Don. With over a decade of dedicated community service, Maria has had key leadership positions at the Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church in Virginia contributing significantly to its growth.

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JAMES H. LAGOS, ESQ. is a partner in the law firm of Lagos & Lagos PLL in Springfield, Ohio for almost 49 years. Jim and his wife Nike are partners in a variety of philanthropic, civic and business ventures. Among their most celebrated achievements is the restoration of the Bushnell Building in Springfield, Ohio.



KYRIAKOS TSAKOPOULOS serves with his father, Angelo K. Tsakopoulos, as Co-Chair of AKT Investments, Inc., a diversified, family-owned land development, and property investment company based in Sacramento, California. He also serves as President and CEO of Conaway Preservation Group, LLC that owns the 17,500-acre Conaway Ranch located in Yolo County, California.



ELENI A. ROSSIDES is the Director of Customer Insights and Strategy at American Express responsible for measuring American Express' customer experience end to end, to drive change, develop strategy and solve identified issues.

PUBLIC POLICY: AN OVERVIEW



Southeastern Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean combine to form an important geopolitical region to the United States due to the significant energy, commercial and communications resources that transit the region. The discovery of hydrocarbon reserves in the Eastern Mediterranean reinforces this position. Therefore, it is in the United States' best interest the region be politically, economically, and socially stable and peaceful and that

democratic ideals and principles flourish, including adherence to the rule of law.

Greece is a reliable, steady, and trusted NATO ally - a frontline state in the fight against terrorism. The Republic of Cyprus is a proven strategic partner of the U.S. Conversely, Turkey has proven to be a failed NATO ally and chronic violator of the rule of law.

U.S.-GREECE RELATIONS

The American Hellenic Institute has long maintained the U.S. should have a “special relationship” with Greece, recognizing its strategic location in southeastern Europe where the U.S. has important political, economic, and military interests. A NATO member since 1952, Greece is a proven and reliable strategic ally for the United States. Greece is an immensely valuable link as “a pillar of stability” in the region as several high-level U.S. government officials have noted. Furthermore, Greece is a frontline state in the fight against terrorism. It is home to the most important naval presence in the Mediterranean Sea, Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay, Crete. Alexandroupolis is recognized as a city with increased geostrategic importance, which can also contribute to economic development and energy security. It has been referred to as the “Souda of the North” by the Chief of the Hellenic National Defense General Staff, Gen. Konstantinos Floros because it has become an important staging point for the transiting of equipment to Ukraine and Europe’s Eastern flank.



- NSA Souda Bay has again proven its geostrategic worth in the wake of instability in the region due to the Israel – Hamas war, and Alexandroupolis continues to be an important hub as Ukraine defends its sovereignty from Russia’s invasion.

Larisa Air Force Base and Stefanovikio Hellenic Army airbase are key contributors to security, too.

The U.S.-Greece relationship remains healthy even as Administrations change in Athens and Washington. The ongoing U.S.-Greece Strategic Dialogue, which completed its sixth session in February 2023; the revised Mutual Defense Cooperation Agreement (MDCA) signed in October 2021, and the enactment of the U.S.-Greece Defense and Interparliamentary Partnership Act as part of the FY2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), all demonstrate a mutual commitment exists between both countries to deepen their cooperation and relationship across many sectors, especially defense and security.

- This is why AHI has fought successfully for increased and sustained funding of Greece’s International Military Education and Training (IMET) program in annual appropriations bills.

These factors that demonstrate U.S.-Greece relations are at a high point reached a climax when Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic Kyriakos Mitsotakis delivered a historic address to a Joint Meeting of Congress in May 2022—the first for a Greek prime minister—that celebrated 200 years of partnership between Greece and the United States. It also reflected the strong, binding people-to-people ties between the two countries.

In addition to being a valued security partner, Greece is an important player in international commerce, shipping, and trade. Greece possesses tremendous potential as an energy hub. Future U.S.-Greece economic relationships that pursue commercial partnerships and opportunities for more U.S. investment in Greece must be encouraged and fostered.

AHI’s policy agenda aims to sustain this high point in relations and ensure the United States remains committed to ensuring Greece’s security and economic development amid malign influences in the region, especially Turkey. A strengthening of cooperation across all sectors is a must.

A WATCHFUL EYE ON TURKEY

AHI closely monitors Turkey's provocations and violations in the Eastern Mediterranean to keep key U.S. government officials apprised of developments that affect U.S. interests in the region and are detrimental to allies and strategic partners, including Greece, Cyprus, and Israel.



Turkey continues to demonstrate it is not a true and dependable U.S. and NATO ally. The U.S. government, both executive and legislative branches, rightly sanctioned Turkey for its procurement of the Russian-made S-400 missile defense system under Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA). AHI contends those penalties should be expanded.

The U.S. must hold Turkey accountable for its violations of the rule of law, including U.S. law, in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Aegean Sea, in addition to, its abysmal human rights record and disregard for international norms. Turkey's provocative actions toward U.S. allies and strategic partners in the region thwart U.S. interests and their ability to address malign influences. Furthermore:

- Turkey's unholy ties to Hamas – a U.S.-designated foreign terrorist organization – have come to light in the wake of Hamas' heinous terrorist attack on Israel.
- Turkey held the accession of Finland and Sweden hostage to advance domestic political objectives.

Given Turkey's violations, and its relations with entities that are not in the best interest of the United States, the Administration should have never agreed to Turkey's request for F-16s and modernization kits.

- This is why AHI continued its issue advocacy campaign to oppose the Administration's desire to sell F-16s to Turkey, citing the need for policymakers to see where violations of Greek airspace contravened U.S. law. In this regard, AHI pioneered the concept of employing the Arms Export Control Act (AECA) to hold Turkey accountable.

Therefore, in the best interests of the United States, AHI urged the Biden administration and Congress to:

- Reiterate to President Erdogan the request to have the Turkish government immediately retire the Russian S-400 missile systems. Turkey's purchase is in violation of U.S. law and threatens NATO's integrity.
- Call upon Turkey to cease and desist its violations of Greece's territorial waters and airspace, which are in violation of international and U.S. law, including the AECA.
- Call upon Turkey to end its illegal military occupation of 37.3 percent of Cyprus.
- Call upon Turkey to cease its illegal interference in Cyprus' Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).
- Demand President Erdogan end his support and promotion of a two-state solution regarding Cyprus, which is in violation of international law and United Nations resolutions.
- Rebuke President Erdogan's efforts to change the status of Varosha.
- Call upon Turkey to cease its transfer of illegal settlers to the occupied area of Cyprus, which is in violation of the Geneva Convention.
- Call upon President Erdogan to improve human rights and religious freedom in Turkey by demanding the Turkish government cease its persecution of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and to revert the Hagia Sophia back to a UNESCO-designated museum.
- Demand that Turkey cease its support of terrorist groups such as Hamas and end its documented ties with ISIS because Turkey's support for international terrorism is in violation of international and U.S. law, including the AECA.
- Sanction Turkey under the Foreign Assistance Act (FAA), which requires suspension of munitions and arms sales to countries that engage in "gross human rights violations" and support international terrorism.
- Call upon Turkey to end its destabilizing interventions in Libya, Syria (which included attacking Kurdish allies of the United States), and Nagorno-Karabakh.
- Immediately withdraw nuclear assets from Incirlik airbase and prepare to remove all U.S. personnel and assets. Ankara limits use of Incirlik and uses such facilities to hold Washington hostage.

Finally, the U.S. government needs to have a proper official policy regarding the Eastern Mediterranean. While the Eastern Mediterranean Security and Energy Partnership Act is an important first step towards becoming more engaged with the region, additional steps need to be taken.

- The Eastern Mediterranean Policy Requirements (22 U.S. Code § 2373) must be reformed and updated to reflect current circumstances and promote the enforcement of U.S. laws.

For example, it contains the policy remnants of the Turkey arms embargo of 1975 and has not been updated since 1978. A proper update will ensure the enforcement of existing laws, such as the AECA, as it pertains to actors in the region.

U.S.-CYPRUS RELATIONS

The United States and Republic of Cyprus have strengthened their strategic partnership significantly. The Republic of Cyprus received its first International Military Education and Training (IMET) program funding, and it must be maintained as it helps to train and professionalize the Cypriot military. The investment also contributes to the strengthening of U.S. security interests and shows that Cyprus is an important partner in countering malign influences in the Eastern Mediterranean. Other examples include Cyprus' assigning a defense attaché to the Embassy in Washington and the opening of the Cyprus Center for Land, Open-Seas, and Port Security (CYCLOPS), an innovative security site that has been partially funded by the U.S.



- On March 30, 2023, the New Jersey National Guard and the Republic of Cyprus National Guard formalized their State Partnership Program collaboration – a further demonstration of the burgeoning U.S.-Cyprus security partnership.

A recent significant policy victory occurred when the U.S. implemented a one year lifting of the arms prohibition on Cyprus. This decision is reviewed annually. The U.S. must fully and permanently lift its arms prohibition on Cyprus and remove Cyprus from the list of countries to which arms sales are prohibited under International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR).

- AHI's annual [Policy Statements](#) have long-called for a full and permanent lifting of the United States' arms prohibition on Cyprus and removal of Cyprus from the ITAR list.

The Cyprus Issue

A key to peace and stability in the region and good neighborly relations is respect for the rule of law. However, the international community will mark the somber 50th anniversary of Turkey's illegal invasion of Cyprus in 2024. Turkey's continuing illegal occupation of Cyprus, which a member of the European Union; its intransigence in solving the Cyprus problem, and its refusal to recognize the Republic of Cyprus, are detrimental to U.S. interests. Turkey continues to insist on antiquated and obstructive stances, such as remaining a guarantor power as part of a solution to the Cyprus issue, which led to the collapse of settlement talks in 2017, and refusing to withdraw its more than 40,000 illegally stationed troops on Cyprus. In addition, Turkey's illegal activities in the Cypriot exclusive economic zone (EEZ), illegal reopening of the beach in Varosha, and President Erdogan's open declaration of support for a two-state solution in Cyprus, in violation of international law and United Nations resolution, undermine efforts to resume Cyprus settlement talks.

Furthermore, Turkey's illegal occupation of Cyprus has had an impact upon The Committee on Missing Persons's ability to access certain Turkish military installations in Cyprus to excavate the remains of Cypriots missing since the tragic events that occurred on the island for proper identification. It also is equally important to raise awareness of the consequences of Turkey's illegal invasion as well, which include more than 180,000 illegal Turkish colonists/settlers in Cyprus, which is in violation of the Geneva Convention; the aforementioned humanitarian issue of The Missing, and the religious freedom and destruction of cultural heritage in Turkish-occupied Cyprus.

Regarding the United States and the international community more broadly, there needs to be more outspoken condemnation of the division of Cyprus.

- We can point to the lack of Cyprus' mention in reports and accounts about former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's legacy after he passed in November 2023 as further evidence and cause for AHI's efforts to make the record whole.

Turkey's invasion of Cyprus in 1974, and subsequent occupation, is parallel to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990, and most recently, Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The United States must condemn Turkey's illegal and provocative actions on Cyprus. One of AHI's primary objectives is to keep the Cyprus issue and the basis for a solution at the forefront of the policy debate in Washington.

- In July, a bicameral group of lawmakers from both sides of the aisle joined AHI to mark the 49th anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus.

AHI supports a settlement of the Cyprus problem through negotiations based on a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation in a state with a single sovereignty and international personality, incorporating the norms of a constitutional democracy embracing key American principles, the EU *acquis communautaire* and EU Founding Treaty, UN resolutions on Cyprus, the pertinent decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and of other European Courts – as in the best interests of the United States.

On January 27, 1989, as a United States Senator, President Joe Biden wrote a letter to a Greek American leader from Delaware, Dr. Dean Lomis, then-Chairman of the American Hellenic Institute (AHI), stating:“

... we must urge the new Administration [President George H.W. Bush] to make Cyprus a higher policy priority in American foreign policy ... We cannot lose sight of the fact that the rights of Greek Cypriots have been trampled upon, and we must ensure that their claims to ancestral land and property seized during the 1974 invasion are not compromised. Finally, we must send a signal to Turkey that until it has removed every last soldier from Cyprus, it will never be recognized as a full member of the international community.”

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN TURKEY AND THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

The Turkish government's suppression of religious freedom for minorities and tolerance of assaults upon Greek Orthodox Christian community demonstrate how Turkey habitually violates the rule of law and international norms governing religious liberty.

The Turkish government is notorious for its violations of human rights, especially of religious minorities to worship freely and practice their faith. Under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 and the Global Magnitsky Act, Congress has tasked the U.S. government with protecting religious freedom abroad and imposing economic penalties on violators. IRFA targets any government that "engages in or tolerates violations of religious freedom and promotes the right to religious freedom in that country." Moreover, AHI contends the Administration should penalize Ankara and individual Turkish officials for gross human rights violations under the Global Magnitsky Act.

Turkey's many violations of the rule of law and international norms regarding this foundational human right are demonstrated by the government's discrimination against the Orthodox Church and indifference to attacks upon the Greek Orthodox Christian community.

- In 2023, AHI proudly collaborated with the Order of Saint Andrew-Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and with the Order of Saint Andrew-Archons of Tampa Bay, on outreach programs that addressed the state of religious freedom in Turkey and the plight of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

In 1994, AHI became the first organization to raise the issue of religious freedom and protection for the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the reopening of Halki with Congress and the Executive Branch. The Ecumenical Patriarchate is the spiritual home of the world's oldest and second largest Christian church, and leader of some 300 million Orthodox Christians worldwide, including millions of Americans. For these believers the Ecumenical Patriarch is an American spiritual and ecclesiastical leader as well.

The U.S. government must press Ankara to safeguard the Ecumenical Patriarchate, protect its personnel and property, and reopen the Halki Patriarchal School of Theology. Congress should repeat its support for this policy, first made in 1998. The Administration should use its sanctions authority if Turkey continues its current policy. Finally, Washington should urge Turkey to restore the Hagia Sophia and Church of the Holy Saviour in Chora as UNESCO World Heritage Sites open to all faiths.



"AHI condemns Turkey's mistreatment of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, as well as overall lack of religious freedom, most notably displayed by Turkey's conversion of the Hagia Sophia into a mosque in 2020. AHI has long maintained that Turkey violates U.S. principles and law on freedom of religion as they are set forth in Section 2804 of the FY98 Omnibus Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act (PL 105-277), language AHI helped shepherd into law. This law calls for the Turkish government to safeguard the Ecumenical Patriarchate, its personnel, and its property, and to reopen the Halki Patriarchal School of Theology. AHI will continue to actively engage the U.S. government to promote religious freedom in Turkey, and the rights of the Patriarchate."

— Nick Larigakis, AHI President

THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERSHIP (3+1)

The trilateral partnership between Greece, Cyprus and Israel is the most important regional development for the promotion of security and U.S. interests in the southeastern Mediterranean. The trilateral cooperation is strong on multiple levels, including security and energy development, and possesses the potential to allow the Eastern Mediterranean to become a community of nations based on shared values and aspirations.

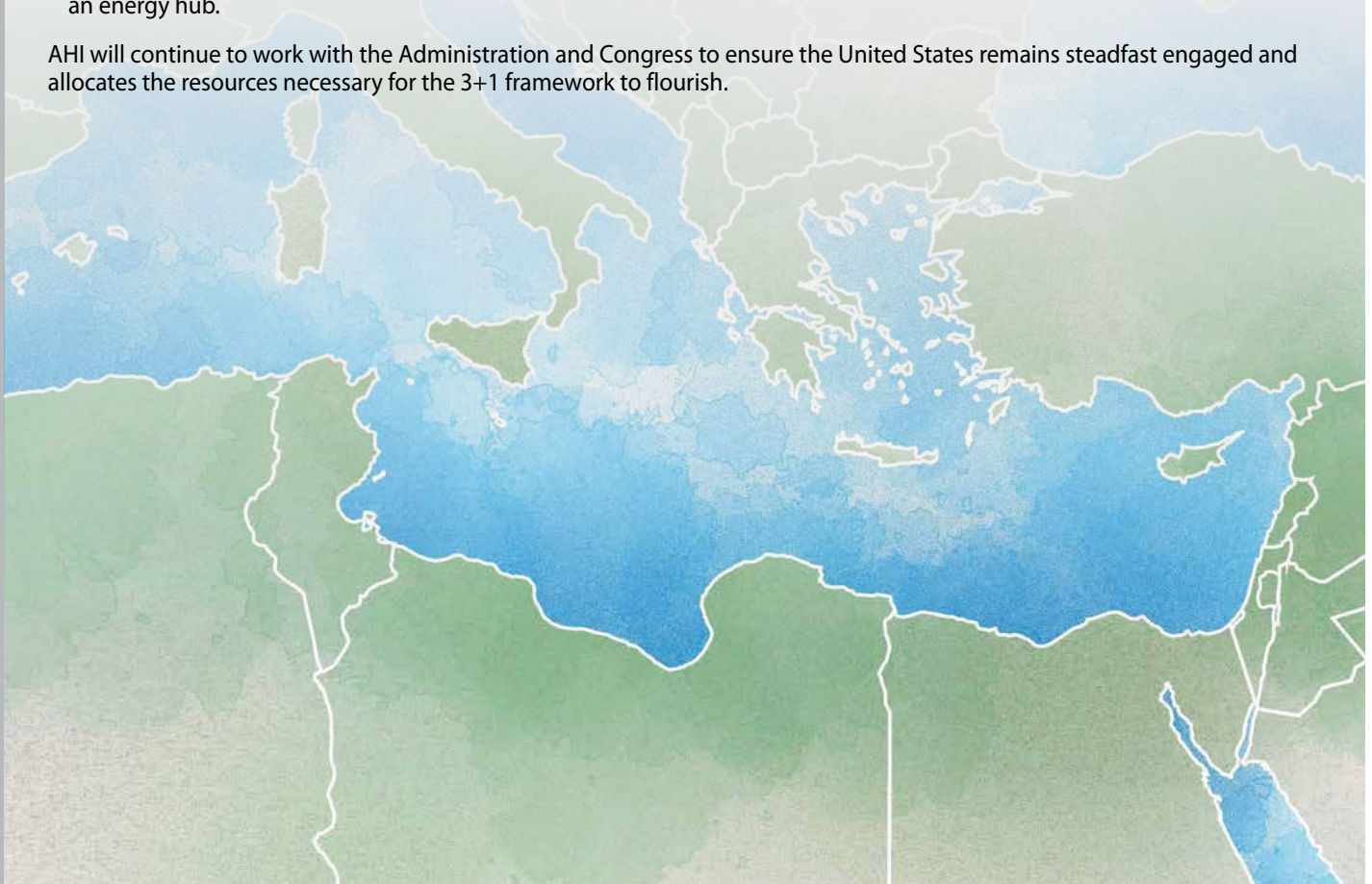
The United States' engagement with the trilateral partnership in a 3+1 framework is welcomed and must be sustained with the proper allocation of resources.

AHI is proud of its ongoing collaboration with the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (Order of AHEPA), B'nai B'rith International, and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, to support and advance the ever-developing Greece-Cyprus-Israel partnership and 3+1 framework.

Furthermore, AHI maintains the following policy recommendations:

- The Administration, in concert with Congress, should allocate the resources necessary to establish the Eastern Mediterranean Energy Center, as authorized by the Eastern Mediterranean Security and Energy Partnership Act.
- The Administration should encourage American energy companies to invest in the Eastern Mediterranean and protect them from illegal Turkish interference.
- The Administration should promote the Eastern Mediterranean as an energy corridor for the region and continental Europe.
- The Administration should comply with the Eastern Mediterranean Security and Energy Partnership Act as it pertains to supporting regional energy infrastructure, including the Eastern Mediterranean pipeline.
- The Administration should organize regional opposition to Turkey's MoU with Libya, which contravenes international law, impinges upon the sovereignty of third parties, and undermines regional efforts to establish the Eastern Mediterranean as an energy hub.

AHI will continue to work with the Administration and Congress to ensure the United States remains steadfast engaged and allocates the resources necessary for the 3+1 framework to flourish.



2023 PUBLIC POLICY IN ACTION

ADVANCING OUR POLICY AGENDA

AHI advanced the Institute's public policy agenda with congressional and Administration officials during 2023.

The policy agenda included: U.S.-Greece relations, U.S.-Cyprus relations, including permanently lifting the arms prohibition on Cyprus, and the Cyprus problem, opposition to the Administration's proposed arms sales to Turkey, religious freedom for the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and recommended federal funding for programs pertaining to Greece, Cyprus, and the Eastern Mediterranean.

AHI representatives are consistently engaged with members of Congress, chiefs of staff, legislative directors, and national security advisers to discuss the Institute's policy agenda.

For example, President Nick Larigakis met with U.S. Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH) in early 2023 to strategize for the 118th Congress as the congressman became the new Democratic Co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues. Pappas' senior legislative assistant, Jake Friedman, also joined the meeting.

Further, Legislative Assistant Alexander Christofor briefed staffers on the issues aimed at advancing AHI's policy agenda, including the staffs of Democratic and Republican House Leadership; the chair of the House Democratic Caucus, the chair of the Republican Policy Committee, and the House Majority Whip, among other key offices.

AHI also is consistently in front key committees with jurisdiction over the policy priorities that impact the Greek American community's policy agenda. For example, AHI submitted written testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs on the Biden Administration's FY2024 foreign aid proposal on April 14 and May 30, 2023, respectively.

The testimony stated that it is in the best interests of the United States, and in keeping with the proposed budget's vision, that AHI opposed: (1) any proposed foreign aid and assistance to Turkey from the United States until Turkey ends its provocations and aggression toward Cyprus and in the Aegean Sea; (2) any proposed reduction in the aid levels for the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus. Based upon Greece's demonstrated geostrategic importance to the United States, and the U.S.'s elevated defense partnership with Cyprus, AHI recommended robust funding for Greece's and Cyprus' International Military Education and Training (IMET) programs and Foreign Military Financing (FMF) assistance for Greece,

In November, AHI raised awareness of Turkey's support for Hamas to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and urged committee members to hold Turkey accountable for it. AHI's outreach to committee members followed Committee Chairman Michael McCaul's interview where he publicly criticized Turkey for its support for Hamas and Turkey's obstruction of Sweden's NATO ascension.



Furthermore, one annual piece of authorizing legislation, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), has become increasingly important to AHI's policy agenda as U.S.-Greece defense cooperation has strengthened over recent years.

That is why AHI applauded U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY) for passage of an amendment to the NDAA that she authored. The amendment supports the strategic relationship between the United States and Greece by directing the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to jointly submit a report to Congress on the security relationship between the United States and Greece, which will in turn strengthen the connection between the two countries.

The congresswoman's press release announcing this news included a quote from President Larigakis:

"The American Hellenic Institute has appreciated the opportunity to work closely with Congresswoman Grace Meng, a strong supporter of U.S.-Greece relations, over the years. We applaud her recent work to add SEC. 1236 to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, which mandates a report on the critically important security relationship between the United States and Greece. This will help to expand the comprehension and awareness of the multifaceted partnership between two NATO allies, which will in turn improve global security, regional stability, and the protection of democratic values."

AHI ADVANCED ITS PUBLIC POLICY AGENDA IN WASHINGTON

Executive Summary

This report outlines AHI's engagements with senior U.S. government officials, detailing in-person meetings and direct interactions. It's important to note that the engagements with congressional staff and non-governmental groups, such as think-tanks, are not listed here, as AHI maintains regular contact through phone calls and email exchanges. As such, this summary serves as a snapshot of AHI's extensive and diverse public policy initiatives.

U.S. SENATE

Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)§

Sen. Michael Bennet (D-CO)

Sen. J. D. Vance (R-OH)

Sen. Michael Bennet (D-CO)

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Rep. Pete Aguilar (D-CA) Chair, House Democratic Caucus

Rep. Gary Palmer (R-AL) Chair, Republican Policy Committee

Rep. Tom Emmer (R-MI) House Majority Whip

Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) ‡

Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH) ‡

Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ)*

Rep. Nicole Malliotakis (R-NY)* †

Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV)* †

Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD)

Rep. Jim Himes (D-CT)

Rep. Nancy Mace (R-SC)

Rep. Mike Carey (R-OH)

Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT)

Rep. John Duarte (R-CA)

Rep. Mike Thompson (D-CA)

Rep. Dan Goldman (D-NY)

WHITE HOUSE

Brigid J. Ryan, Director, Southern Europe & South Caucasus, National Security Council (NSC)

* Foreign Affairs Committee

§ Appropriations Committee

‡ Congressional Hellenic Caucus (Co-Chair)

STATE DEPARTMENT

Yuri Kim, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

Ambassador George Tsunis, U.S. Ambassador to Greece

Maria Olson, Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy Athens, Greece

Ambassador Julie Fischer, U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus

Yaryna Ferencevych, U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy, Cyprus

Josh Huck, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

Erika Olson, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

Dana Brown, Director of Southern European Affairs, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

Eva Helene d'Ambrosio, Unit Chief, Greece, Cyprus, & Malta, Office of Southern European Affairs (EUR/SE), Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

David Mendez, Greek Desk officer, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

Sophia Berhie, Cyprus Desk officer, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs

ISSUE ADVOCACY SPOTLIGHT

In 2023, AHI continued to advocate in opposition to the Biden administration's proposed sale of F-16s and modernization kits to Turkey. AHI worked with champions of the Greek American community in the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues and with like-minded organizations to make it clear to the Administration that any proposed arms sales to Turkey is unacceptable. AHI issued several statements that reiterated the Institute's opposition to the proposed sale, which has been AHI's position historically toward Turkey and urged members of Congress to continue their opposition.

"We reiterate our strong opposition to the sale of any U.S. arms to Turkey based on our longstanding position that Turkey uses U.S.-supplied aircraft to infringe on Greek airspace, which violates U.S. law," President Nick Larigakis said in a January 16 statement. "In addition, Turkey had been removed from the F-35 program for its purchase of Russian S-400 missile defense systems, for which it continues to remain sanctioned under The Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act."

Shortly after these media reports came out, then-Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Robert Menendez (D-NJ), reaffirmed his opposition to the sale during an interview with Greek TV channel, *Mega TV*, in February.

"For Turkey to be the reliable NATO ally, to follow the international norms, to not be belligerent to its neighbors... It is in that context that I have opposed the sale of the F-16s, because at the end of the day, the reality is that we have not seen a Turkey under Erdogan that lives up to those expectations," Menendez said. "Maybe the Biden Administration will use my hold on the sale as a way to get Turkey to act in a different way. If that takes place that can be a positive thing. But as of now, I intend to continue to do what I have said I would do, which is that I would not use my ability to approve the sale at this time."

Menendez also called out the State Department's stance on Turkey's belligerence, "you can't call on both sides to tame their words or to find a way to peacefully resolve their differences when it is one side, and one side only, that is being belligerent."

AHI applauded Menendez's position in a statement issued February 3, 2023, noting his steadfast support for the rule of law in the Eastern Mediterranean and willingness to stand up to the Administration's appeasement of Turkey.

Schumer: Turkey a "Major Threat to Global Security"

In June, AHI strongly affirmed a statement made by U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) to a constituent regarding Turkey's aggressive policies and the United States' potential sale of arms to Turkey.

In his June 8 response to the constituent, Majority Leader Schumer wrote: *"Turkey is a major threat to global security and we must do everything we can to counter its aggression in the Middle East and the Eastern Mediterranean regions. The notion that the United States must trust Turkey to respect*

global rules and the international order is not only dangerous, it endangers our security and that of our allies. I strongly believe that the US and the international community should take diplomatic action to ensure that Turkey is held accountable for any wrongdoing it may commit."

On June 12, President Larigakis applauded Leader Schumer's statement, calling it "strong and unapologetic" and supporting his call for the U.S. and international community to take immediate action to hold Turkey accountable.

"The Leader's statement demonstrates why AHI's mission to upholding the rule of law is so crucial to the safety and security of the United States and the rest of the world," Larigakis said."

Also, during the summer, amid a renewed effort triggered by House Committee on Foreign Affairs Chairman Michael McCaul (R-TX) stating to *Politico* that he is "generally open to selling F-16 fighter jets to Turkey, even if President Recep Tayyip Erdogan wins reelection..." AHI reasserted its position, this time directed at the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

According to *Politico*, "McCaul hastened to add that all four of the lawmakers currently agree on barring sales today. But the Texan said he believes they will approve the transfer once Turkey ratifies Sweden's membership in NATO, and after recent approvals for Greece to buy U.S.-made F-35 warplanes and to get upgrades to its F-16s." However, *Politico* reported Ranking Member Gregory Meeks (D-NY), "has broader conditions than McCaul, and they include Ankara halting its belligerence toward Greece, which could come after the election ends."

Based on this report, Larigakis issued a June 9 statement in strong opposition to a 'quid pro quo' where the U.S. gives Turkey F-16s in exchange for Turkey lifting its veto over Sweden and decrying a situation where the U.S. will fall victim to Turkey's policy of diplomatic extortion. Larigakis also applauded Ranking Member Meeks and then-Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Menendez for holding strong to their opposition. He especially cited Meeks' factoring Turkey's aggression in the Aegean as a factor in formulating his opposition to the sale.

Proposed F-35s Sale to Greece

In addition, media reports indicated the Administration also plans to give a notification to Congress on a sale of F-35 jets to Greece. The leadership of the House Foreign Affairs and Senate Foreign Committees have all indicated their support for it.

In each of AHI's statements on proposed arms sales, the Institute stated its position in support of the proposed sale of F-35 jet fighters to Greece.

"Unlike Turkey, Greece has been a pillar of stability in the Eastern Mediterranean," Larigakis said. "The defense relationship between Greece and the United States is burgeoning and at an all-time high."

EIGHTEEN LEGISLATORS JOIN AHI TO COMMEMORATE GREECE'S INDEPENDENCE

AHI virtually hosted its annual “Congressional Salute to Greek Independence Day” to celebrate the 202nd Anniversary of Greek Independence and the common democratic ideals held by Greece and the United States, March 28, 2023. The event was held in cooperation with the Congressional Hellenic Caucus’s co-chairs, U.S. Reps. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) and Chris Pappas (D-NH) and featured bicameral and bipartisan participation of members of Congress, including those who serve on appropriations and foreign affairs committees and in the Hellenic Caucus. Then-Ambassador of Greece to the United States Alexandra Papadopoulou served as a guest speaker and AHI presented a pre-recorded video from His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America.



“Much like our country’s beginnings, Greece won its independence against great odds in pursuit of freedom from tyranny. In the more than two centuries since, the United States and Greece have proudly shared a deep-rooted bond forged by our belief in justice, and a right to self-governance.”

– Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI)

CONGRESSIONAL SALUTE TO GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HIGHLIGHTS OF MEMBERS' STATEMENTS AT THE EVENT



"It is with great pride that I recognize the 202nd anniversary of Greek Independence and celebrate Greek and American democracy. Like the American revolutionaries who fought for Independence to establish

this great Republic that we call the land of the free and the home of the brave, Greek freedom fighters began an arduous struggle to win independence for Greece and its people over 200 years ago."

– Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL)



"Since its founding in 1974, AHI has kept a very close eye on developments in the Eastern Mediterranean and has vigorously defended the rule of law. The issues in the region remain complex, but we know we can continue

to count on AHI to follow all the relevant issues and keep Members of Congress apprised on key developments."

– Sen. Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)



"I am pleased to have the opportunity to commend the American Hellenic Institute for its prominent role in strengthening this relationship between the U.S. and some of our closest allies. For decades, the Institute

has been a leading voice in Washington on Greek-American relations, and I am confident that you will continue this valuable work as this partnership enters the third century."

– Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD)



"On this meaningful anniversary, we recognize the special bond between the United States and Greece and celebrate the boundless spirit of the Hellenic Community. I always get my Greek heritage close to my heart."

– Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV)



"As a proud Greek American, I am so appreciative of the strong relationship between the United States and Greece. We work together over many, many years when it comes to military cooperation, when it comes to security, when it

comes to economics and trade, and energy is a great area where we are continuing to grow and prosper and strengthen our relationship."

– Rep. Nicole Malliotakis (R-NY)



"I stand with you in working toward the reopening of the Halki Seminary and protesting Turkey's efforts to turn both the Church of Saint Savior of Chora and the Hagia Sophia into mosques. And I have also repeatedly condemned

the looting and wholesale destruction of the religious patrimony of occupied Cyprus by Turkish occupiers. I also stand with you in calling for the protection of the ancient Pontic Greek communities on the Black Sea... Thank you, Nick and AHI for playing such an important role in making sure the ties between the United States and Greece remain strong."

– Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ)

ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY OFFICIALS



[Left to Right] Chief of the National Guard Lieutenant General Democritus Zervakis, Defense Minister of the Republic of Cyprus Michalis Giorgallas, Nick Larigakis.

President Nick Larigakis met with Cypriot Defense Minister Michalis Giorgallas and Chief of the Cypriot National Guard Lieutenant General Democritus Zervakis on July 18, 2023. Larigakis received a briefing from the two officials about their participation at the State Partnership Program (SPP) conference held in the U.S. Defense Minister Giorgallas signed an agreement for the integration of the Republic of Cyprus National Guard into the SPP and formalize a collaboration with the New Jersey National Guard.

In October, Larigakis met with Lieutenant General Themistoklis Bourolias, chief of the Hellenic Air Force General Staff (HAGS), during his visit to Washington, D.C.

AHI Attends AUSA 2023 Annual Meeting and Exposition



Alexander Christofor (left) at the S.A.S. Technology with their SATISA SRS UAV rocket launcher drone and AHIMI-AHM-1X Stand Off Loitering Munition (SOLM) drone.

In the fall, President Nick Larigakis and Legislative Assistant Alexander Christofor attended the AUSA 2023 Annual Meeting and Exposition, the largest professional military forum in America. AHI visited the Hellenic pavilion, where

Larigakis attended the ribbon cutting ceremony. Hellenic Army Lieutenant General and Deputy Chief of Staff of the HNDGS Andreas Koronakis, and Chargé d'affaires of the Embassy of Greece in the U.S., Theodore Bizakis, were present.

Highlights from NYC Events for Greek, Cypriot Leaders



Greece's Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis (left) and American Hellenic Institute President Nick Larigakis (right).

President Nick Larigakis participated in events held on the occasion of the UN General Assembly in New York City during the week of September 18, 2023.



Foreign Minister of Greece Giorgos Gerapetritis (left) shaking hands with Nick Larigakis.

Larigakis represented AHI at a working luncheon with Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis held at the residence of the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations on September 20. Larigakis appreciated the opportunity to engage with Prime Minister Mitsotakis during the Q&A.



Greece's Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis giving a speech to the Hellenic community leaders.

On September 18, Larigakis also attended a reception at the Harvard Club of New York. Foreign Minister of the Hellenic Republic Giorgos Gerapetritis represented the prime minister at the reception, which AHI co-sponsored with 17 organizations.



(L-R) Nick Larigakis with the President of the Republic of Cyprus Nikos Christodoulides.

In addition, Larigakis attended the Federation of Cypriot American Organizations annual testimonial dinner in honor of former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo held on September 22. Larigakis shared time with President of the Republic of Cyprus Nicos Christodoulides at the dinner.

AHI Meets with Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy



(Left to Right) Member of the House of Representatives of Cyprus, Mr. Panicos Leonidou, AHI President Nick Larigakis, member of the Hellenic Parliament and Alternate IAO Secretary General, Mr. Ioannis Sarakiotis, and member of the Hellenic Parliament and IAO Secretary General, Dr. Maximos Charakopoulos.

President Nick Larigakis met with representatives of the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (IAO) at the Embassy of Greece during their visit to Washington as part of a European Parliamentary Delegation, October 10, 2023. The meeting included member of the Hellenic Parliament and IAO Secretary General, Dr. Maximos Charakopoulos; member of the Hellenic Parliament and Alternate IAO Secretary General, Ioannis Sarakiotis; and member of the House of Representatives of Cyprus, Panicos Leonidou. The conversion of the Hagia Sophia into a mosque by the government of Turkey served as the main topic of discussion.

“Since its foundation in 1974, the American Hellenic Institute has proven to be a firm contributor to the advancement of the Greek- US relations. By organizing a large number of events and activities annually, AHI offers the opportunity to multiple American stakeholders for an in-depth understanding of issues related to Greece, Cyprus, Southeastern Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean region in general.

This effort effectively connects decisionmakers in the United States with interlocutors in Greece and greatly supports the bilateral strategic partnership and broader regional cooperation.

At the same time, initiatives focused on the young generation of Greek Americans prepare the next leaders who will guide Hellenism in America towards a more confident future. I would like to commend President Nick Larigakis and all the AHI members for their hard work and dedication.”

— Amb. Haris Lalacos, Former Ambassador of Greece to the U.S. (2017)

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS JOIN AHI TO MARK THE ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS

After several years of hosting the event virtually, AHI's forum with U.S. policymakers to commemorate the somber anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus, returned to Capitol Hill on July 19, 2023. AHI hosted it in cooperation with the Congressional Hellenic Caucus's co-chairs, U.S. Reps. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) and Chris Pappas (D-NH). A bipartisan and bicameral group of members of Congress participated or provided written statements. Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the U.S. Evangelos Savva, Embassy of Greece Chargé d'affaires Theodoros Bizakis, and General Secretary of the Hellenic American National Council, Dr. Panagiotis Baltatzis also provided remarks.



[Left to Right] Embassy of Greece Chargé d'affaires Theodoros Bizakis, U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY), AHI President & CEO Nick Larigakis, U.S. Rep. Thomas Kean, Jr. (R-NJ), Ambassador of Cyprus to the U.S. Evangelos Savva.



[Left to Right] Embassy of Greece Chargé d'affaires Theodoros Bizakis, U.S. Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH), co-chair, Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, AHI President & CEO Nick Larigakis, U.S. Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), co-chair, Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, Ambassador of Cyprus to the U.S.



Rep. Dina Titus (D-NY) addressing the attendees.



Embassy of Greece Chargé d'affaires Theodoros Bizakis speaks to the room of attendees, including community leaders, congressional staff, and members of the Greek and Cypriot diplomatic core.



Rep. Nicole Malliotakis (R-NY) addressing the audience.



Rep. Charles Fleischmann (R-TN).

COMMEMORATING THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS



"I want to thank Nick for his long-standing work, and AHI, which is an important force, especially here on Capitol Hill, especially when we think about how we make good policy that's in the best interest of the United States... Hellenic American Members of Congress, and philhellenes who

fill out our Hellenic Caucus number to nearly 100 Members of the US House, are going to continue to stay engaged in these issues. Let us stay committed to making sure there is a future where Cyprus is united and free."

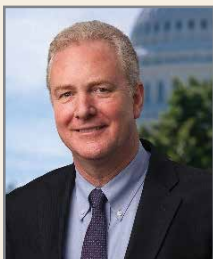
– Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH)



"Cyprus is an essential part of the Eastern Mediterranean, especially with regards to security cooperation in Europe, and energy diversification in the Eastern Mediterranean... As Chair of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, I am proud to stand with you

in advocating for justice, and peace, in Cyprus. The invasion of Cyprus remains a painful reminder of the importance of upholding the principles of territorial integrity, sovereignty, and self-determination. It is crucial that we continue to raise awareness of the ongoing challenges faced by the Cypriot people, and work towards a just and lasting resolution to this conflict."

– Congressman Thomas Kean, Jr. (R-NJ)



"I am grateful to the American Hellenic Institute, including my good friend Nick Larigakis, for bringing us together once again in remembrance of this solemn day in the history of Cyprus. It is a day to recommit ourselves to ending the illegal Turkish occupation of northern

Cyprus and to rededicate ourselves to achieving a just solution to this conflict... 49 years of occupation is 49 years too long. I've walked the Green Line in Cyprus – the deep scar that continues to divide this beautiful and historic island – and I am committed to continuing our fight to right this historic and ongoing wrong. We must do everything we can to end this unacceptable situation for Cyprus and all its people."

– Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)



"Cyprus continues to serve as a valuable partner in upholding the global democratic order and maintaining stability in the Eastern Mediterranean region. A united Cyprus is the best solution for prosperity for the island – as well as preserving the rich history and culture of its people – which

is why it is critical that we continue working towards reunification and ensuring the rights of all Cypriots."

– Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI)



"The United States must play an active and constructive role to seek a peaceful, diplomatic solution to the division of Cyprus. Today, the Republic of Cyprus is a prosperous democracy, integrated into the European Union, and a key strategic partner of the United States. I pledge

to continue working to strengthen U.S. support for Cyprus, for peace, and for the end to Turkey's illegal occupation. It is my hope that with American support, all the people of Cyprus will soon be able to live free from foreign occupation, in one sovereign state, with full respect for human rights and the rule of law."

– Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA)



"As we mark the 49th anniversary of Turkey's illegal invasion of Cyprus, I wish to thank the American Hellenic Institute and President Nick Larigakis for your continuing efforts to secure justice for the Cypriot people. AHI's relentless leadership and continued advocacy is critical

to increasing and maintaining awareness among members of Congress. In its ongoing efforts to secure the reunification of Cyprus, the United States must act with urgency and moral imperative. We must also continue to fortify the longstanding relationship between the United States and the Republic of Cyprus, recognizing the mutual benefits that come from our collaboration on a host of critical issues... In all of these matters and so many more involving US-Greece and US-Cyprus relations, AHI has played a pivotal role. Congratulations on your relentless commitment to justice!"

– Congressman John Sarbanes (D-NJ)

LEADERSHIP VISITS ABROAD



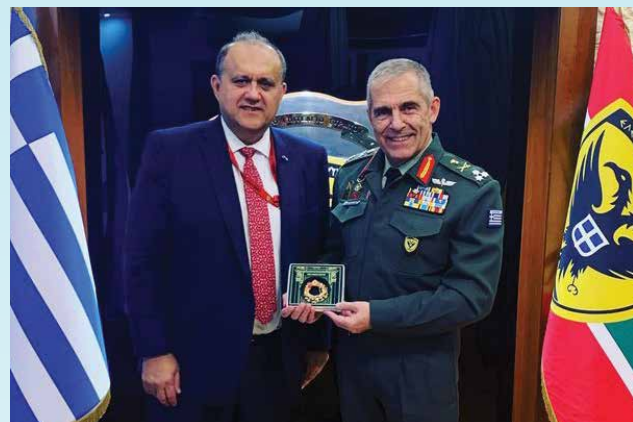
AHI President Larigakis with General Konstantinos Floros.



Nick Larigakis with Hellenic Parliament Member and Chair of the Standing Committee on National Defense and Foreign Affairs Dora Bakoyannis. She also served as the former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece.



AHI President Larigakis with U.S. Ambassador to Greece George Tsunis.



AHI President Larigakis with Chief of the Hellenic Army General Staff (HAGS) Lt. General Angelos Choudeloudis.



(Right to left) AHI Athens Chapter President Vice Admiral Vasileios Kyriazis (ret.), AHI President Nick Larigakis, President of the Hellenic Parliament Konstantinos Tasoulas.



President Larigakis with the Chief of the Hellenic Navy, General Staff Vice Admiral Ioannis Drymouisis.

President Nick Larigakis concluded a successful year-end, two-week trip to Greece that included stops in Athens and Alexandroupolis. The December 1 to 14, 2023, trip included Larigakis delivering lectures, engaging with government officials, military officers, and prominent members of business and academia; touring military facilities, and attending special events. The visit culminated with AHI's well-established annual Athens presentation and reception held December 13.

President Larigakis' Athens itinerary included substantive meetings with U.S. Ambassador to Greece George Tsunis, Greece's National Security Advisor Thanos Dokos, and President of the Hellenic Parliament Konstantinos Tasoulas.

On the defense and security front, Larigakis met with Chief of the Hellenic National Defense General Staff (HNDGS) General Konstantinos Floros, Chief of the Hellenic Army General Staff (HAGS) Lt. General Angelos Choudeloudis, and Chief of the Hellenic Navy Vice Admiral Ioannis Drymouisis. At the invitation of Hellenic Navy Chief Vice Admiral Drymouisis, Larigakis attended two events to celebrate the

LEADERSHIP VISITS ABROAD

Hellenic Navy on the occasion of the Feast Day of Saint Nicholas. At one event, he appreciated the opportunity to meet with Minister of Defense Nikos Dendias on the sidelines.



Nick Larigakis meeting with Deputy Foreign Minister, George Kotsiras, to discuss U.S.-Greece relations and the role of the Greek American community.

Larigakis also held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with directors of various departments and several Greek government officials in various ministries and in Hellenic Parliament. Moreover, Larigakis met with Professor Maria Gavouneli, who serves as the director general for The Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP), an independent think tank; and with Joanna E. Papadopoulou, who is the president and managing director of E.J. Papadopoulou S.A.

Larigakis' schedule included his attendance at two special events. He attended a Gala Dinner to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the American College of Greece at the Athens Concert Hall, December 1. Also, at the invitation of Alexis Papahelas, who is the executive editor of the Greek daily, *Kathimerini*, Larigakis attended a dinner to mark the 25th anniversary of cooperation between the *New York Times* and *Kathimerini*.

Larigakis' visit commenced on December 1 with a lecture he delivered to officers enrolled at Hellenic National Defense College.

Alexandroupolis: A Review of Greece's Military Capabilities



President Larigakis with Brigadier General Vasileios Lampropoulos, Commanding General of the XXII Armored Brigade.

President Larigakis visited Alexandroupolis on December 8, whereby he received an update about Greece's military capabilities in the area when he visited the XII Mechanized Infantry Division Headquarters, specifically, the Armored Brigade "43rd Calvary Regiment – Dorileo." The Brigade's Commanding Brigadier General Vasileios Lampropoulos facilitated all the ground activities in Alexandroupolis.

AHI Reaffirms Its Commitment to Strengthening U.S.-Cyprus Relations



The AHI Leadership with President Nicos Christodoulides.



Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Constantinos Kombos met with the AHI Leadership.



President of the House of Representatives Annita Demetriou with the AHI Leadership. (L-R) Kostas Alexakis, Leon Andris, Nick Larigakis, Annita Demetriou, Violetta Kapsalis Buhler, Vice Admiral Vasileios Kyriazis, (ret) H.N., James Lagos.

A six-member AHI delegation completed a series of high-

LEADERSHIP VISITS ABROAD

level meetings in Cyprus, April 25 to 27, 2023. The U.S.-Cyprus relationship topped the agenda. The meetings also provided an opportunity for the delegation to discuss the vital role Cyprus continues to play in the region, especially with the new (at the time) Cypriot government under the administration of President Nicos Christodoulides.

The delegation met with: President Christodoulides, President of the House of Representatives Annita Demetriou, Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Constantinos Kombos, Minister of Defense Michalis Giorgallas, Minister of Energy, Commerce and Industry Giorgos Papanastasiou, and Yaryna Ferencevych, Deputy Chief of Mission at U.S. Embassy Nicosia. They also met with His Beatitude Archbishop of Cyprus Georgios at the Archdiocese of Cyprus and Chief of the Cypriot National Guard Lt. Gen. Dimokritos Zervakis, who hosted the delegation for a luncheon at the National Guard Club.

Appreciation for AHI Conveyed



AHI Leadership paying their respects to the fallen by laying a wreath at the military cemetery and war memorial at the Makedonitissa Tomb.

“For 49 years AHI have been supporting Cyprus and the promotion of a just solution to the Cyprus problem,” a foreign ministry tweet said after the meeting.

According to a press report, in a statement issued by House of Representatives President Demetriou, she expressed sincere appreciation for the very important contributions of the Institute, since it was founded in 1974, to the promotion of the Cyprus problem and underlined the importance of maintaining and further strengthening ties and cooperation with the diaspora of Cyprus and Greece.

At the beginning of their visit, the delegation paid their respects at the Makedonitissa Tomb, a military cemetery and war memorial, where President Larigakis laid a wreath and at the “Imprisoned Graves” where 13 EOKA fighters are interred in a small cemetery located in the Central Jail of Nicosia.

The delegation included President Nick Larigakis, AHI Foundation President Leon Andris, and AHI Board Members Kostas Alexakis, James Lagos, and Violetta Kapsalis Buhler and AHI-Athens Chapter President Vice Admiral Vasileios Kyriazis, (ret.) H.N.

Top Officials Brief AHI Delegation in Greece



Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nikos Dendias with the AHI Leadership.



Chief of the Hellenic National Defense General Staff, General Konstantinos Floros briefing the AHI Leadership.



Lt. Col. Theodoros Christodoulou giving the AHI leadership a tour of the Tanagra Air Base.

A six-member AHI delegation completed a series of productive high-level meetings and briefings in Greece, May 2 to 5, 2023.

The group’s itinerary began with a visit to Tanagra Air Base to review the Hellenic Airforce 114 Combat Wing, tour the base, and meet with base commanders for briefings. AHI held a private dinner for Greece’s Minister of National Defense Nikos Panagiotopoulos, and the chiefs of the

LEADERSHIP VISITS ABROAD



The AHI Leadership at the Tanagra Air Base to review the Hellenic Airforce 114 Combat Wing.



AHI Board Member James "Top Gun" Lagos, Esq ready for action.

Hellenic National Defense General Staff (HNDGS), and their wives, at the Grande Bretagne. The chiefs of the HNDGS included: General Konstantinos Floros, chief, HNDGS; Lt. Gen. Themistoklis Bourolias, chief, Hellenic Air Force General Staff; Vice Admiral Ioannis Drymouisis, HN, chief, Hellenic Navy General Staff; and Lt. Gen. Angelos Choudeloudis, chief, Hellenic Army General Staff. The delegation also met with General Floros at the headquarters for the Hellenic National Defense General Staff, and General Floros hosted the delegation for a luncheon.

Earlier in the morning, they met with Vice Admiral Georgios E. Alexandrakis, who serves as Commandant of the Hellenic Coast Guard, at the Maritime Rescue Coordination Center (MRCC) at the port of Piraeus. There, Vice Admiral Aristides Pantazoglou, who serves as Vice Commander of the Hellenic Coast Guard, delivered a detailed briefing on how Greece confronts illegal migration. He also explained the Coast Guard's challenges to patrol a country with one of the largest coastlines in the world. The delegation also attended a reception to commemorate Israel's 75th Independence Day at the personal invite of Israeli Ambassador to Greece, Noam Katz.

The delegation's agenda turned to foreign policy with a series of meetings at the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Nikos

Dendias, Ambassador Haris Lalacos, secretary general, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and several directors of foreign ministry departments. In a tweet, Minister Dendias stated he welcomed the AHI delegation to discuss U.S.- Greece relations and efforts to strengthen it as well as developments in the region.

The delegation also met with U.S. Ambassador to Greece George Tsunis and Deputy Chief of Mission Maria Olson at the U.S. Embassy.

The focus returned to national security as the delegation hosted a breakfast meeting with Thanos Dokos, who serves as the national security advisor of Greece, at The Grande Bretagne.

The delegation included President Nick Larigakis, AHI Foundation President Leon Andris, and AHI Board Members Kostas Alexakis, James Lagos, Violetta Kapsalis Buhler, and Demitrios Halakos.



**20th AHI Athens
Award Dinner**
December 9, 2024
Hotel Grand Bretagne
Athens, Greece

COLLABORATIONS

AHI collaborated with several organizations when policy agendas aligned.

For example, AHI joined with Greek and Cypriot American organizations to press the U.S. Department of State on two occasions in 2023.

In May, the groups sent a joint letter to Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Gabriel Escobar, expressing concern over the treatment of Albania's Greek minority during municipal elections in Albania. The groups called on the United States "to urge the Albanian government to hold free and fair elections." They also called on the United States to demand the immediate release of Fredi Beleri, a Greek national minority candidate who, at the time, was running for mayor of the Municipality of Himara, and members of his campaign team. They were arrested on dubious charges by undercover law enforcement officers. Initial election results showed that Beleri won his race.

Moreover, in June, community organizations sent a joint letter to U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, expressing concern regarding reports at the time of the Biden Administration's willingness to sell F-16s to Turkey. They urged Secretary Blinken "not to submit to Turkey's strategy of blackmail" by willing to trade F-16 sales solely for Turkey's approval of Sweden's NATO accession.



Greek American organizational leaders with Acting Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs Yuri Kim. (Photo by the Department of State)

In late September, President Larigakis, accompanied by Policy Consultant Elias Gerasoulis, participated in a delegation of Greek American organizational leaders to meet with senior State Department officials to discuss the community's policy agenda. Specifically, the group met with Acting Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs Yuri Kim. In addition to Acting Assistant Secretary Kim, the group met with:

- Josh Huck, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs
- Dana M. Brown, Office of Southern European Affairs
- Eva d'Ambrosio, Greece/Cyprus/Malta Unit Chief
- Amber Garlock, Greece Desk Officer
- Chris Dickel, Cyprus Desk Officer

In addition to Larigakis and Gerasoulis, leaders of AHEPA, Manatos & Manatos, and HALC participated.

AHI Participates at PSEKA's Annual Leadership Conference



The participants of the 38th Annual PSEKA Cyprus Conference in Washington, DC



(L-R) AHI Foundation Board member John Alahouzos, AHI Foundation President Leon Andris, AHI President Nick Larigakis and AHI Board Member Kostas Alexakis.

AHI representatives participated at the 38th Annual Cyprus & Hellenic Leadership Conference hosted by the International Coordinating Committee – Justice for Cyprus (PSEKA), May 9 to 11, 2023, in Washington, DC. AHI supported the conference as a sponsor.

Conference attendees heard from a bicameral, bipartisan group of members of Congress, including those in Leadership and key chairs of committees.

President Nick Larigakis addressed the conference, reiterating the need for tangible consequences for Turkey's aggression against Cyprus. AHI Foundation President Leon Andris and AHI Board Members John Alahouzos and Kostas Alexakis attended.

Order of St. Andrew, AHI Co-Host Panel on Ecumenical Patriarchate's Legal Status Under the Treaty of Lausanne



(L-R) Nick Larigakis, H.E. Archbishop Elpidophoros, Dr. Alexander Kitroeff, Dr. Andrew Novo, Dr. Alexandros Kyrou and Dr. Elizabeth Prodromou

With the blessing of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, the Order of Saint Andrew the Apostle – Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, in cooperation with AHI, presented a webinar on the legal status of the Ecumenical Patriarchate under the Treaty of Lausanne, June 9, 2023. More than 230 people registered for the event.

Four leading scholars comprised the panel: Dr. Alexander Kitroeff of Haverford College; Dr. Alexandros Kyrou of Salem State University; Dr. Andrew Novo of National Defense University; and Dr. Elizabeth Prodromou of Boston College. Archon Nick Larigakis, AHI president, served as the moderator.

The Treaty of Lausanne, signed on July 24, 1923, by the governments of Greece, Turkey, and members of the Entente Powers including France, Italy, Japan, and the UK, established the borders of modern Turkey and specified protections for the ethno-religious minority populations in Greece and Turkey. As a signatory, the government of Turkey is still obligated to adhere to the Treaty today.

In their presentations, the scholars explained how each country that signed the Treaty agreed to provide, among other protections, the following:

1. Protection of life and liberty without regard to place of birth, nationality, language, race, or religion;
2. Free exercise of religion;
3. The right to establish and control charitable, religious, and social institutions and schools; and
4. Full protection for religious establishments and charitable institutions.

Larigakis stated it was an honor for AHI to host this important webinar in cooperation with the Order of Saint Andrew, and especially to serve as moderator as an Archon as well as AHI president.

“AHI is one of the shining examples I often use of how Greece’s large American diaspora community can most constructively work with Greece and help us strengthen our bilateral relationship... the tremendous programs that Nick and the team put together... are examples of AHI’s truly unique role as a facilitator of the strategic relationship between the United States and Greece.”

— Former U.S. Ambassador to Greece,
Geoffrey Pyatt
Nov. 29, 2017

SAVE THE DATE



AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE
is proud to present the 9th Annual
GREEK HERITAGE NIGHT
AT THE PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES

Tuesday, May 21, 2024
vs the Texas Rangers
Citizens Bank Park

SPECIAL EVENTS



49th Annual Anniversary Awards Dinner Honors Four Community Standouts



2023 Honorees (L-R): Euripides Kastaris, Jeannie Ranglas, Dr. George D. Yancopoulos, and John D. Georges

AHI hosted its 49th Anniversary Hellenic Heritage Achievement and Public Service Awards Dinner, March 4, 2023, Capital Hilton, Washington, D.C.

The evening's program honored a distinguished set of awardees based upon their important career achievements and contributions to the Greek American community or community at-large. They were:

- Euripides Kastaris, Iconographer, Artist, and Teacher
- Jeannie Ranglas, Prominent Church Patron and Philanthropist
- George D. Yancopoulos, M.D., Ph.D., Scientific Founder, President and Chief Scientific Officer, Regeneron
- John D. Georges, Founder and CEO, Georges Enterprises

The program also included a special presentation to Yola Pakhchanian for her 40 years of service to the American Hellenic Institute.

AHI Board Member John Vasiliou introduced Mike Emanuel, chief Washington correspondent for Fox News, who served as the evening's Master of Ceremonies. AHI Foundation President Leon Andris offered greetings and AHI President Larigakis reviewed the Institute's initiatives and programs.



Mike Emanuel, chief Washington correspondent for Fox News, served as the evening's master of ceremonies.



AHI President Nick Larigakis



AHI Foundation President Leon Andris

SPECIAL EVENTS



John Vasiliou, Nick Larigakis, Gerry & Jeannie Ranglas, Senator Chris Van Hollen, Kostas Alexakis & Leon Andris



Marine Color Guard



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Buhler, Mr. & Mrs. Gerry Ranglas with Dr. George Yacopoulos' family.



Euripides Kastaris and family



Nick Larigakis presenting a gift of appreciation to Yola Pakhchanian for 40 years of service at AHI.



Patrice Lepczyk, Wanda Pedas, Billie Lepczyk, Lea Pedas & Artemis Papademetriou



Mezzo-Soprano Sophia M. Pelekasis of The Juilliard School, singing the American and Greek national anthems.



AHI Chairman James Lagos (right) with his wife Nike (seated) with Evyenia & David Beaz



His Grace Bishop Apostolos of Medeia, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese with Isidoros and Maria Garifalakis and Jeanie & Gerry Ranglas

SPECIAL EVENTS



Olga Bornozi, Master of Ceremonies.



Delphi Forum Visionary and Groundbreaking Maritime CEO Feted at 19th Annual Athens Awards Dinner

The 19th Annual AHI-Athens Hellenic Heritage Achievement and Public Service Awards Dinner was held at The Grande Bretagne, May 5, 2023.

AHI presented the Hellenic Heritage Public Service Award to two honorees: Symeon G. Tsomokos, founder and president of the Delphi Economic Forum, and Irene S. Daifas, CEO, Stavros Daifas Maritime Corporation S.A.

AHI honored Symeon Tsomokos for his dedicated leadership and unwavering support in promoting and strengthening United States-Greece relations, and Irene Daifas for her distinguished professional achievements in the shipping industry and for her unsurpassed support of the arts and philanthropy.

President Nick Larigakis and AHI-Athens Chapter President retired Vice Admiral Vasileios Kyriazis delivered remarks. Olga Bornozi of Capital Link served as Master of Ceremonies. More than 200 people attended. Among the honored guests were Chief of the Hellenic National Defense General Staff Konstantinos Floros and several high-ranking Greek government and military officials and officials representing the American Embassy in Athens, including U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Maria Olson.



Deputy Foreign Minister Kostas Fragogiannis representing Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, offering greetings.



U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission Maria Olson representing U.S. Ambassador George Tsunis offering greetings.



AHIF President Leon Andris in conversation with General Konstantinos Floros, Chief of Hellenic National Defense General Staff.



Nick Larigakis with longtime AHI supporter and dinner sponsor (L) Isidoros Garifalakis, and Maria Garifalakis.

MEDIA IMPACT

In 2023, AHI issued a combined 107 press releases, statements, and announcements that were widely distributed to Greek American, and foreign press, the Administration, Congress, and AHI members and friends. AHI also submitted letters to the editors to correct the record of publications and wrote commentaries to present AHI's policy positions to key audiences. In addition, AHI principals appeared for interviews on tv and radio outlets.

Interviews & Media Coverage



Two Greek media outlets covered AHI's analysis and reaction to U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken's visit to Greece.

ERT Proto Programma 91.6, a radio broadcast radio station from Athens, Greece, interviewed Larigakis for a segment that aired on February 21. Skai TV, which is part of one of the largest media groups in Greece, reported on a February 15 letter Larigakis sent to Secretary Blinken ahead of his overseas trip. The report aired on Skai's evening news program on February 18.

Skai TV Diplomatic Editor Maria Tsiliniou also interviewed Larigakis for his take on the reaction of the U.S. Congress to the Biden administration's proposed sale of F-16s to Turkey. He shared how AHI is advocating in opposition to the proposed sale. The segment aired on January 17, 2023.

Additional media placement highlights...



Nick Larigakis appeared on The Panhellenic News radio program hosted by Giota Argyropoulou Frangedis and sponsored by the Panhellenic Federation of Florida on October 4.

Catalyze magazine published a cover feature story on Larigakis for its Summer 2023 issue where he discusses U.S.-Greek relations, NATO, current challenges regarding Turkey, and energy policy developments.

The National Herald reported on the 15th AHIF Student Foreign Policy Trip participants' reflections shared during the farewell reception on June 28.

Letters to the Editor & Rebuttals

September 29: AHI responded to a September 12, 2023, *Business Insider* article authored by Paul Iddon, titled, "NATO's 2 least-friendly members have a history of aerial showdowns, and they're both about to get new stealth jets," to set the record straight. Iddon got it wrong as he led readers to believe that Turkey and Greece each possess "territorial disputes" in the Aegean Sea. In his letter, President Larigakis made it clear that Turkey is the provocateur of tensions in the Aegean Sea.

October 26: The *Washington Times* published Larigakis' letter to editor on October 26, 2023, in response to Journalist Guy Taylor's interview with Mr. Tahsin Ertugruloglu, the so-called "foreign minister" of the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus." Larigakis contended the publication "should not provide Mr. Ertugruloglu — a politician in the government of an illegal state recognized only by Turkey — with a credible platform from which to advance unmerited recognition."

December 5: AHI wrote to *The Washington Post* stating Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's role in supporting Turkey's invasion of Cyprus received insufficient mention in Journalist Lippman's obituary (Henry Kissinger, who shaped world affairs under two presidents, dies at 100, Nov. 29) and no mention in the *Associated Press* article *The Washington Post* published (Henry Kissinger's complicated legacy draws admiration and scorn from across the globe, Nov. 30).



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros with Nick Larigakis at the Leadership 100 conference in Phoenix, AZ.

AHI became an official member of The Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Fund at the organization's 32nd Annual Conference held in Scottsdale, Arizona, February 2 to 5, 2023. The Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Fund is a non-profit organization whose mission is to advance the Orthodox Faith and the life-giving legacy of Hellenism in America, through support of the National Ministries of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

Nationwide Presentations

During the year, President Nick Larigakis made several presentations to community groups. The presentations served to update the audiences as U.S. relations with NATO ally, Greece, and strategic partner, Cyprus, continued to advance and strengthen. Larigakis also encouraged community activism and outreach to their members of Congress as well as state and local officials.

Larigakis traveled to California and spoke with prominent members of the Greek American communities of Sacramento and San Francisco. In Sacramento, Businessman and Philanthropist Angelo Tsakopoulos hosted Larigakis for an intimate dinner with community members on January 30. The next day, in San Francisco, The ELIOS Society President and Chairman John Gumas sponsored a dinner for Larigakis with community members.

Larigakis also travelled to Florida to address the Greek American communities of the Clearwater area at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, February 23, 2023. He served as the main speaker of a presentation organized by the Order of Saint Andrew-Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Tampa Bay, the PanHellenic Federation of Florida, and the Clearwater Holy Trinity community.



Archons with U.S. Rep. Anna Luna.



Nick Larigakis during the presentation.

Larigakis presented on the topic, "Greece, Cyprus, and Turkey at a Crossroads: The Importance of U.S. Policy in the Eastern Mediterranean." Archon Regional Commander Dr. Theodore Vlahos moderated the presentation and the Q&A. U.S. Rep. Anna Luna (R-FL) attended. President of the PanHellenic Federation of Florida Nick Anton presented a \$2,000 donation to AHI.



Nick Larigakis (center) being presented with a commemorative speaker's plaque by President Paul Tsitsopoulos (left) and Vice President Costas Speliakos (right).

On May 18, President Larigakis addressed the Alpha Omega Council as the guest speaker of the Council's monthly dinner meeting held at the University of Massachusetts Club, Boston, Mass. More than 50 people attended. Larigakis presented on the topic, "Current Developments with Greece and Cyprus, and the Impact in the Eastern Mediterranean." Symeon Tegos, consul general of Greece in Boston, and State Senator Lou Raptakis of Rhode Island, also delivered remarks. The Alpha Omega Council is a Boston-based organization dedicated to the promotion of Hellenism.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPOTLIGHT:

AHI Commemorates Greek Independence Day at Events Held Nationwide



Nick Larigakis, pictured with U.S. Ambassador to Greece George Tsunis, Greek Ambassador to the U.S. Alexandra Papadopoulou (center) and members of the Greek Embassy and Military Attaché's office of the Greek Embassy at the White House Greek Independence Day celebration. (Photo: © A/Dimitrios Panagos)



President Joe Biden with His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros at the White House Greek Independence Day celebration. GOA/Dimitrios Panagos)



Nick Larigakis with Albert Bourla, CEO of Pfizer and guests from the Military Attaché's office of the Greek Embassy at the White House Greek Independence Day Celebration.

AHI representatives participated at several events held to commemorate the 202nd anniversary of Greek Independence.

AHI celebrated Greek Independence Day at the White House on March 29, 2023. President Nick Larigakis, and Board Members Demitrios Halakos and John Vasiliou, as well as AHI Foundation President Leon Andris and AHIF Board Member Costas Galanis, attended the ceremony officiated by President Joe Biden, and His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America. On the previous evening, Larigakis attended a private dinner at the Blair House in honor of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros and hosted by Ambassador Rufus Gifford, chief of Protocol of the United States.

President Larigakis Addresses Rhode Island State House



Nick Larigakis delivered the keynote remarks at the 202nd anniversary of Greek Independence Day celebration held in the Rhode Island State House. Rhode Island Governor Dan McKee, Consul General of Greece in Boston Symeon Tegos, and His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston were in attendance.



Participants in the 202nd anniversary of Greek Independence Day celebration held in the State Room on March.

At the invitation of Rhode Island State Senator Lou Raptakis, President Larigakis participated in several Greek Independence Day events held in Rhode Island on March 22, 2023.

State Senator Raptakis welcomed President Larigakis at the Senate Assembly where Larigakis served as the Keynote Speaker for Rhode Island's "State House Salute to the 202nd Anniversary of Greek Independence Day." Rhode Island Governor Dan McKee, Consul General of Greece in Boston Symeon Tegos, and His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston attended. Larigakis also met with Governor McKee, delivered remarks at a flag-raising ceremony hosted by Pawtucket Mayor Donald R. Grebien at City Hall, and offered greetings at an evening reception hosted by Assumption Greek Orthodox Church of Pawtucket.

AHI President Serves as Honorary Grand Marshal in Philadelphia



Nick Larigakis with AHI Board of Directors members Demitrios Halakos and John Vasilou (center) who also served as co-chair of the Philadelphia Greek Independence Day Parade.

President Larigakis served as one of several Honorary Grand Marshals at the annual Greek Independence Day Parade in Philadelphia, April 2, 2023. AHI Board Member Demitrios Halakos marched in the parade as an Honorary Guest.

Larigakis also attended the Federation of Hellenic American Societies of Philadelphia and Greater Delaware Valley's Eleftheria Banquet where he sat at the dais as one of the Honorary Grand Marshals.

Baltimore



Nick Larigakis with Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) at the Baltimore pre-parade luncheon.

Larigakis marched as an Honorary Guest in Baltimore's Greek Independence Day Parade on March 26, 2023. There, he also presented the Senator Sarbanes Award and laid a wreath at the parade's representation of the Unknown Soldier Tomb.

Tarpon Springs



Nick Larigakis with the Mayor of Tarpon Spring Costa Vatikiotis at the parade banquet at Tarpon Springs, FL.

Larigakis also marched as an Honorary Guest in the Greek Independence Day Parade in Tarpon Springs, Fla., held March 19, 2023. On the evening prior, Larigakis attended the parade banquet at the Tarpon Springs Community Center where he offered greetings.

Washington, DC Metro Area

Additionally, Larigakis celebrated Greek Independence Day, March 25, by offering greetings at The Hellenic Center of the Washington Metro Area's annual celebration. He also made a presentation at the St. Katherine Hellenic Education Center Greek School's annual Greek Independence Day program.

SAVE THE DATE

**21ST ANNUAL
GOLF CLASSIC**

OCTOBER 21, 2024

COUNTRY CLUB OF FAIRFAX

5110 Ox Road, Fairfax, VA 22030

AHI Brings Community Together as Phillies Host 8th Annual Greek Heritage Night



President of the Federation of Hellenic American Societies of Philadelphia Georgia Chletcos with the Phillies Fanatic after throwing the ceremonial first pitch. (photo credit: Cosmos Philly)



The St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church of Broomall, Pa., dance troupe The Olympians, dancing along the third base line.



Sophia Pelekasis singing the National Anthem at the Phillies game. (photo credit: Cosmos Philly)



Friends and supporters of AHI and the Philadelphia Phillies at the Suite. AHI Foundation President Leon Andris (left), Nick Larigakis (center) with his daughter Panayiota and grandson Socrates; AHI Board member Demitrios Halakos with his wife Georgia and Phillies' Director of Publicity, John Brazer (right). (photo credit: Cosmos Philly)

AHI held its annual Greek Heritage Night, in cooperation with Major League Baseball's Philadelphia Phillies, at Citizens Bank Park, Philadelphia, Pa., June 6, 2023. Approximately 600 tickets were sold for the 8th annual event which featured the Philadelphia Phillies versus the Detroit Tigers.

Highlights from Greek Heritage Night included the popular Phillies mascot, The Phillie Phanatic, sporting an Evzone costume and leading the St. Luke Greek Orthodox Church of Broomall, Pa., Greek folk dance troupe, The Olympians, who also performed pre-game at the main concourse. Longtime AHI supporter and President of the Federation of Hellenic American Societies of Philadelphia, Georgia Chletcos, threw out the ceremonial First Pitch. Sophia Pelekasis, who attends The Juilliard School, performed the National Anthem. A promotional video about Greece, made possible by the Greek National Tourism Organization (GNTO), was played on the ballpark's Jumbo-tron. AHI is grateful to the many individuals and entities that helped to make the Philadelphia Phillies Greek Heritage Night a success.

AHI Supports Capital Link's Annual Invest in Greece Forum



(L-R) Zac Cotronakis and Alexander Christofor

Executive Director Zachary Cotronakis and Legislative Assistant Alexander Christofor attended Capital Link's 25th annual Invest in Greece Forum in New York City, December 11, 2023. AHI was one of the organizations supporting the event, which featured companies such as Google, Microsoft, Pfizer, and Goldman Sachs, among others with a presence in Greece.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND VIRTUAL SPEAKERS FORUMS

Greek, Cypriot Ambassadors to U.S. Outline State of Relations



(L-R) Panelists Ambassador Marios Lysiotis, Ambassador Alexandra Papadopoulou, and AHI President Nick Larigakis



Breakfast Attendees

AHI hosted a breakfast briefing and Q&A with then-Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic to the U.S. Alexandra Papadopoulou and then-Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the U.S. Marios Lysiotis, at the Capital Hilton, Washington, D.C., March 4, 2023. One hundred people attended.

Ambassador Papadopoulou stated U.S.-Greece relations are like a “family relationship” during a “historical time of great challenge.” She highlighted the relationship’s multifaceted nature and the bipartisan support it receives in the United States and Greece as evidence. She also reflected on the outcome of February’s U.S.-Greece Strategic Dialogue talks held in Athens that included the participation of U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken. During her presentation, Papadopoulou commented on the geostrategic importance of Souda Bay and Alexandropolis, describing the latter as an energy and transportation hub.

Ambassador Lysiotis, alluding to his impending departure from his Washington post, stated his happiness that, “I will be leaving a bilateral relationship that is at an all-time high.” He cited as examples the full lifting of the arms prohibition on Cyprus, the first-ever U.S. foreign investment in the International Military Education and Training (IMET) program for Cyprus, and the completion and opening of the Cyprus Center for Land, Open-seas and Port Security (CYCLOPS), which is a state-of-the-art security training facility owned and operated by the Republic of Cyprus.

On the Cyprus problem, Lysiotis stated it is of “utmost importance” to address and that Cyprus will “use every opportunity [in the EU] in order to have negotiations resume.” He cited Turkey’s ongoing intransigence on the issue, namely Turkey’s call for a two-state solution, as reason for the lack of movement.

Athens Presentation Examines Organizations’ Role in Advancing U.S.-Greece Relations

AHI, in cooperation with the AHI-Athens Chapter, hosted the panel discussion, “AHI 50 Years of Service: The Role of the Greek American Community in Advancing U.S.-Greece Relations,” at the Hotel Grande Bretagne, December 13, 2023.

The program featured opening remarks from U.S. Ambassador George J. Tsunis and a panel discussion that featured a pair of former Greek Ambassadors to the U.S., Haris Lalacos and Alexandros P. Mallias. Constantinos Arvanitopoulos, Ph.D., professor of International Politics at Panteion University, Athens, moderated the panel discussion, which was followed by a Q&A session. AHI-Athens President Vice Admiral Vasilis Kyriazis (ret.), H.N., and President Nick Larigakis delivered remarks.



U.S. Ambassador to Greece George Tsunis reflecting on the important work of AHI.



(Left to right) Speaker forum featuring Ambassador Alexandros Mallias, Ambassador Haris Lalacos, and Former Minister of Education and Religious Affairs of Greece Konstantinos Arvanitopoulos (Moderator)



Vice Admiral Vasileios Kyriazis (ret.) H.N., President of AHI Athens Chapter welcoming the guests.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND VIRTUAL SPEAKERS FORUMS



(Left to right) Ambassador Haris Lalacos, AHI President Larigakis, Ambassador George Tsunis, Ambassador Alexandros Mallias, and Former Minister of Education and Religious Affairs of Greece Konstantinos Arvanitopoulos

Ambassador Tsunis' remarks touched upon the tremendous asset Greek American organizations and the community have been to the strengthening of U.S.-Greece relations, which remain at an all-time high. He also paid tribute to Eugene Rossides and his vision to form AHI as well as the ongoing leadership of the Institute through Larigakis.

The program featured a video presentation that highlights AHI's 50 years of public policy research and advocacy for upholding the rule of law.

In addition to hosting timely panel discussions, AHI representatives are often asked to share their expertise and participate on panel discussions or make presentations on topics impacting the Greek American community or diaspora.



Nick Larigakis participated as a panelist for a discussion on the topic, "Building Peaceful Coexistence: The Road Forward of Greek Turkish Relations" held at the Delphi Economic Forum.



(L-R) James Lagos, Violetta Kapsalis-Buhler, Kostas Alexakis, Leon Andris, Nick Larigakis at the Delphi Economic Forum.

For example, President Larigakis participated as a panelist on the topic, "Building Peaceful Coexistence: The Road Forward of Greek Turkish Relations" held at the Delphi Economic Forum, Athens, Greece, April 29, 2023. Larigakis called for the U.S. to "step up" when it comes to Greece-Turkey relations. He charged Washington for playing games by appeasing Turkey and cited how Turkey will exploit a situation whenever appeasement occurs.

U.S. Policy Outlook toward Eastern Med Examined



Nick Larigakis, Doug Bandow and Michael Rubin.

Virtual Speakers Forum series continued in 2023, captivating large audiences worldwide. All virtual events are posted on AHI's YouTube Channel: [American Hellenic Institute](#).

AHI hosted its first one on the topic, "The Eastern Mediterranean in the Cross Hairs: The Opportunity and Challenges for U.S. Foreign Policy in 2023," on March 14. The panelists were: Doug Bandow, a senior fellow at Cato Institute, and Dr. Michael Rubin, a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. Larigakis moderated and facilitated the Q&A.

On October 25, AHI hosted a Virtual Speakers Forum to commemorate the 83rd anniversary of Oxi Day with guest presenter, Dr. Evanthis Hatzivassiliou, professor of postwar history with the Department of History and Archeology at the University of Athens. He presented on the topic of "Choosing International Legality: Greece's Road to WWII" where he examined Greece's major policy decisions taken between world wars that determined its stance at the moment of Italy's attack on Greece on October 28, 1940.

HELLENIC HOUSE VISITORS

AHI hosted several dignitaries at Hellenic House in 2023. Visitors included high ranking American, Greek, and Cypriot government and military officials, leaders of business and commerce, community leaders and students.

- **February 6:** Deputy Minister of Interior for Macedonia and Thrace of the Hellenic Republic Stavros Kalafatis
- **February 9:** Evangelos Kalpadakis, who served as diplomatic adviser to Main Opposition Leader of SYRIZA, Alexis Tsipras, at the time of his visit
- **March 3:** Nikolaos Bakatselos, president of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce (AmCham Greece)
- **March 29:** Rhode Island State Senator Lou Raptakis and George Verbis, CEO of ifly, a private VIP helicopter and jet operator based in Megara, Greece
- **March 31:** Ten University of Piraeus graduate students, and their professor of International Relations, Athanasios Grammenos
- **September 7:** Newly appointed Ambassador of Cyprus to the U.S. Evangelos Savva
- **September 18:** Giannis Maniatis, Greece's former minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change
- **October 10:** Representatives of Enterprise Greece, the official investment and trade promotion agency of Greece, and Aeroservices, a leading Greek defense contractor. CEO Marinou Giannopoulos, and Annita Triposkoufi, who serves as the director, SME & Major Exporters – Industrial Products, Energy, Shipping, and Country Promotion, represented Enterprise Greece. Dimitris Dafnis, managing director, and Konstantinos Plalas, who serves as a Continuing Airworthiness manager, represented Aeroservices.
- **October 11:** American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) Supreme President Savas C. Tsvicos
- **October 11:** A delegation of Hellenic Army officers led by Lieutenant General Andreas Koronakis, deputy chief of the Hellenic Army General Staff (HAGS). They were joined by representatives of the Greek Embassy Defense Attaché's office, which included Colonel Panagiotis Vlachopoulos, Defense Attaché, and Lieutenant Colonel Evangelos Zacharis, Army Attaché. Also, U.S. Army Major Joseph Callaway accompanied the delegation.
- **November 28:** Renowned Greek classical crossover artist and tenor Mario Frangoulis, who will perform in Washington on April 12, 2024, in honor of AHI's 50th anniversary.
- **December 4:** A Cypriot delegation headed by the mayor of the occupied municipality of Famagusta visited. Mayor Dr. Simos Ioannou, Deputy Mayor Chrysanthos Zannettos, Municipal Director Marilena Manoli, and Municipal Councilor Michalis Vassiliou comprised the delegation.



(L-R) Deputy Minister of Interior for Macedonia and Thrace of the Hellenic Republic Stavros Kalafatis with Nick Larigakis



(L-R) Evangelos Kalpadakis, the diplomatic affairs adviser of the "Syriza-Progressive Alliance" party with Nick Larigakis



(L-R) Nikolaos Bakatselos, president of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, Nick Larigakis



Rhode Island State Senator Lou Raptakis, Nick Larigakis and George Verbis, CEO of ifly.

HELLENIC HOUSE VISITORS



Nick Larigakis with University of Piraeus Students



AHEPA Supreme President Savas Tsivicos (left) and AHI President Nick Larigakis.



Nick Larigakis (left) with Enterprise Greece CEO Marinos Giannopoulos.



Nick Larigakis with Greek singer Mario Frangoulis



AHI President Nick Larigakis, AHI Foundation Chairman Leon Andris met with the Lt. General Koronakis, Brigadier General Nikolaos Gkretsas, Brigadier General Theodoros Zikos, Major Dimitrios Mpolas, Captain Aikaterini Papamarkou, and Warrant Officer Stefania Lada at Hellenic House.



Delegation representing occupied municipality of Famagusta Dr. Simos Ioannou, Mayor of Famagusta; Chrysanthos Zannetos, Deputy Mayor of Famagusta; Marilena Manoli, Municipal Director; and Michalis Vassiliou, Municipal Councilor with AHI's Executive Director Zac Cotronakis and Legislative Assistant Alexander Christofor.



Providing the community and advocates with the communication and policy tools they need to be kept updated and to educate policymakers is of key importance to AHI.

AHI released an updated version of its longstanding **Policy Statements** on April 28, 2023. The five focus areas presented in the statements are:

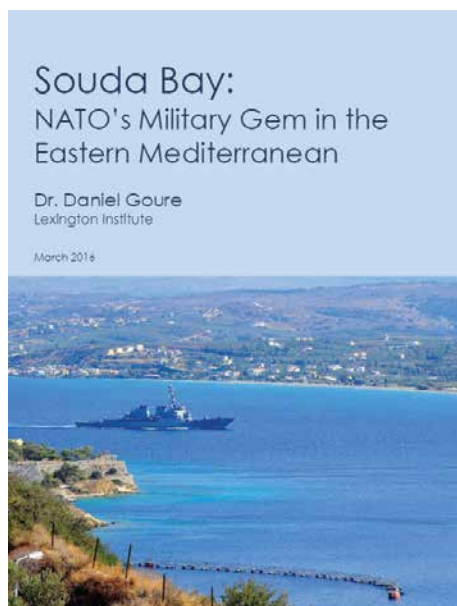
- U.S.-Greece Relations
- Turkey's Violations in the Eastern Mediterranean and Broader Region
- The Eastern Mediterranean Partnership (3+1)
- The Cyprus Problem and U.S.-Cyprus Relations
- The Ecumenical Patriarchate and Religious Freedom in Turkey

"The American Hellenic Institute has been a steadfast support to our Greek-American community over the years, helping advance the relations between these blessed United States of America and our sacred homeland of Greece and Cyprus."

— His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, March 14, 2020



On November 10, AHI released an update to its **fact sheet** titled: **The United States & Greece. Strategic Partnership Overview** that details the defense cooperation pillar of the strategic partnership between the United States and Greece. It highlights examples of how Greece contributes to the security interests of the United States and demonstrates how Greece is an integral contributor to NATO.



Also in November, AHI re-released a 2016 study the Institute initiated titled, **Souda Bay: NATO's Military Gem in the Eastern Mediterranean**, which the Lexington Institute produced. The study provides a detailed analysis of Souda Bay—one of the most strategically important naval bases in the Eastern Mediterranean, which is especially relevant in the context of the war between Israel and Hamas.

AHI FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS & INITIATIVES

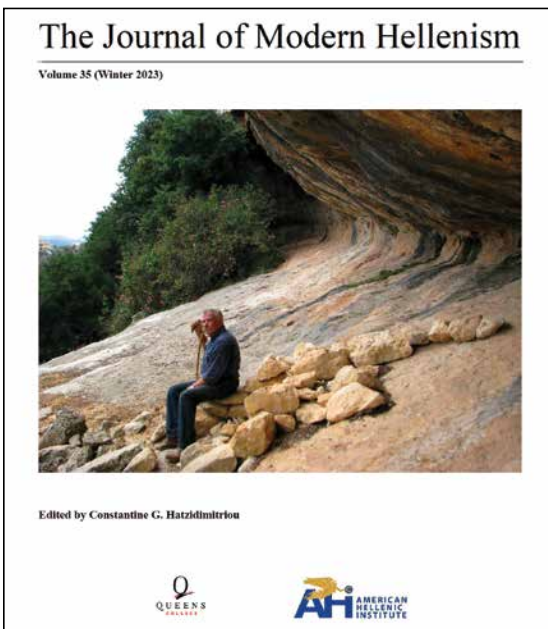
AHIF Study Abroad Alumni Share Their Knowledge, Experiences

It is a pleasure to present updates on alumni of the AHIF Foundation Foreign Policy Study Abroad program or former interns.



During the spring of 2023, Christopher Zrazik, a participant on the 14th AHIF Foundation Foreign Policy Study Abroad program, completed an internship in the Washington office of U.S. Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ). At the end of his internship, Zrazik authored a reflection of his time serving in the senator's office titled, "Reflections from Capitol Hill." In his piece, Zrazik credits the AHIF Foundation study abroad trip for confirming his desire to pursue a public service career.

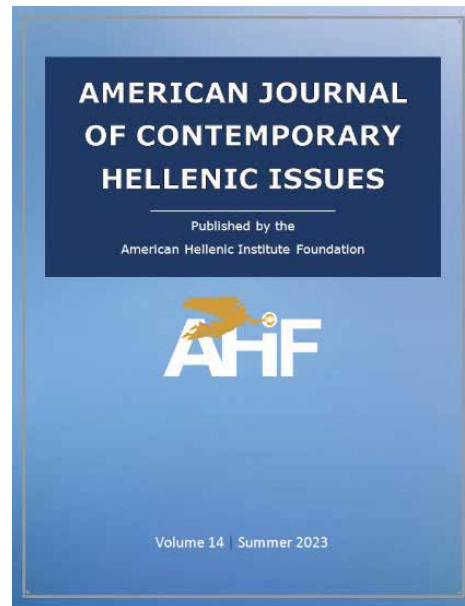
AHIF, Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies Release Their First Collaboration



The American Hellenic Institute Foundation (AHIF) and the Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies (Queens College CUNY) announced the release of the 35th volume (Winter 2023) of The Journal of Modern Hellenism (JMH) on January 13, 2023. It is the first volume co-published by the

collaboration and support of a new partnership between AHIF and the Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies (Queens College CUNY).

The Winter 2023 issue was dedicated to the memory of Dan Georgakas, the Journal's editor who passed away in 2021. The introductory sections contain an assessment of Dan's importance, contributions to Hellenism, and to many other scholarly fields by Dr. Gerasimos Katsan, the director of the Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies at Queens College, CUNY; Dr. Van Coufoudakis, and the Journal's new managing editor, Dr. Constantine G. Hatzidimitriou.



AHIF Policy Journal Spotlights Democracy, Genocide, and Human Rights

The AHIF Foundation released the 14th volume of its policy journal, the American Journal of Contemporary Hellenic Issues (AJCHI) in July. The issue was dedicated to the memories of the publisher, scholar and community leader, Aristide D. Caratzas; and the distinguished lawyer and former AHIF Chairman, James L. Marketos, Esq. Its contents discuss the importance of preserving democracy in Greece and elsewhere, the genocide of Anatolian Christians, and the importance of truth and human rights, especially in relation to the destruction of Smyrna in 1922. The Journal's Managing Editor is Dr. Constantine G. Hatzidimitriou.

ANNUAL AHIF STUDENT FOREIGN POLICY TRIP



Annual AHIF Student Foreign Policy Trip to Greece, Cyprus a Success

The American Hellenic Institute Foundation (AHIF) College Student Foreign Policy Trip to Greece and Cyprus completed its 15th year as 10 students from across the United States participated in the 17-day program held June 13 to 29, 2023. Following three days of briefings in Washington, D.C., the students visited Cyprus, June 17 to 22, and Greece, June 23 to 29.

During the program in Greece and Cyprus, the students received firsthand experience about the foreign policy issues affecting Greece and Cyprus, their relations with the U.S., and the interests of the U.S. in the region. In Greece, they gained invaluable insight on Greece's foreign policy direction and military capabilities by experiencing the value of Greece's contributions to security that included a daytrip to Souda Bay, Crete, on June 23. The Cyprus portion of the trip brought Cyprus' history to life and included the students learning about the humanitarian issue of the Missing Persons and gaining an understanding of Cyprus' military capabilities. Prior to leaving for overseas, the students received briefings on Capitol Hill, at the U.S. Department of State, and at the embassies of Greece and Cyprus in Washington, D.C.

Overall, meetings and briefings in each country were held at various ministries, including Foreign Affairs. At military headquarters installations, including the Hellenic Ministry of Defense (Greece's Pentagon) and NATO facilities at Souda Bay, they met with high-ranking military officers and toured and experienced military equipment. The students also met with parliament members, political and religious leaders, think-tank organizations, and members of academia and leaders of business and commerce.

The student participants were:

- **Anna Alexia Markouizos** is a postgraduate student at the University of Edinburgh pursuing a degree in Late Antique, Islamic, and Byzantine Studies.
- **Anna Maria Papadopoulou**, a senior, a Dean's List recipient and the Thomas B. Williams Memorial Scholarship recipient at American University, majoring in Legal Studies.
- **Kelly Skoulikaris** graduated with honors from the University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, where she earned a BA in Public Policy focused on the environment, sustainability, and social impact.



Students meeting the Co-Chairs of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, Reps Gus Bilirakis and Chris Pappas.

- **Sophia Dongaris** is a senior at Lafayette College majoring in International Relations with a minor in economics.
- **Augustina Mallous** is a Dean's List student pursuing a degree in Journalism at Hofstra University.
- **Alexandra Angelos** is a sophomore and a Dean's List student at Boston University, majoring in International Relations and Psychology.
- **Aleco Hamrick** is a L1 student at Indiana University's Maurer School of Law, where he will pursue a focus on international business law.
- **Peter Papanicolaou** is a L1 student at St. Mary's School of Law.
- **William Martin** is a senior at Washington and Lee University, majoring in Global Politics as well as Eastern European and Russian Studies.
- **Peter Furgis** is a senior at American University studying international relations.

In their Own Words...

AHIF published essays authored by participants of the 2023 AHIF College Student Foreign Policy Trip. Below are a few excerpts.

- *"The American Hellenic Institute Foundation has opened up the floodgates for me as I continue on my academic journey, and I hope to continue to educate other Greek Americans and students at my school on the issue. My experience on the AHIF foreign policy trip has been extraordinary. Additionally, this experience has helped guide the direction I want to go after I graduate from Lafayette, for which I am forever grateful."*
– Sophia Dongaris, a senior at Lafayette College
- *"The AHIF Foreign Policy Program offered the delegation a chance to step outside of our comfort zones and bear witness to the quest for power and its consequences."*
– Peter Papanicolaou, L1 student at St. Mary's School of Law.
- *"This trip has left an indelible mark on me, as I now realize the power we hold as students to deepen these relationships."*
– Augustina Mallous, a journalism major at Hofstra University

ANNUAL AHIF STUDENT FOREIGN POLICY TRIP



Students with U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Julie Fisher who assumed her post in February 2023.



General Konstantinos Floros, Chief of the Hellenic National Defense General Staff briefs the students.



Students visiting the United States Department of State to hear from officials and U.S. Ambassador to Greece, George Tsunis.



Minister of National Defense Alkiviadis Stefanis welcoming the students at his office.



The President of the Republic of Cyprus Nikos Christodoulides with Nick Larigakis and the students at the Presidential Palace in Nicosia.



Students at 115 Combat Wing at Souda Bay Air Base.



The AHIF Foreign Policy Program students paid their respects to the fallen heroes who defended the Republic of Cyprus in 1974, against the Turkish invasion at the Tomb of Makedonitissa.



Students enjoying the opportunity to ride in a Greek naval speedboat in Souda Bay.



His Beatitude Archbishop of Cyprus Georgios in a meeting with the students



Students aboard a frigate at Salamis Naval Base.

GENERAL NEWS

AHI-Athens Chapter Holds Vasilopita-Cutting Ceremony



(L-R) Vasileios Kyriazis, Archim. Aristarchos (Vasileios) Gkrekas, Former AHI-Athens Chapter President George Economou

The AHI-Athens Chapter held its annual Vasilopita-cutting ceremony at the Athens Club, January 28, 2023, with many AHI supporters and friends in attendance. AHI-Athens President retired Vice Admiral Vassilios Kyriazis, event sponsor AHI-Athens President Emeritus George Economou, and Secretary General of Public Diplomacy and Greeks Abroad, Prof. John Chrysoulakis delivered remarks.

Annual AHI Golf Classic Marks 20 Years



First place team being presented their trophies: Peter Marketos, Leif Ackerman, Marcus Malone, and Gustavo Leal.



(Left to Right) Tournament Co-Chairs Peter Bota & Leon Andris, guest speaker Steve Buckhantz, and moderator Nick Larigakis.

AHI hosted its 20th Annual Golf Classic at Country Club of Fairfax, in Fairfax, Va., October 16, 2023. A record-tying 65 golfers participated. AHI hosted its 20th Annual Golf Classic at the Country Club of Fairfax on October 16, 2023. 65 golfers participated, including special guest Steve Buckhantz, a former Washington sports commentator who headlined the morning's Sports Presentation and Q&A. The Tournament Sponsor was Calamos Investments, represented by Paris Karasso, Senior Vice President, Senior Wealth Advisor. Leon Andris and Peter Bota served as Tournament Co-Chairmen. The team of Peter Marketos, Leif Ackerman, Marcus Malone, and Gustavo Leal captured first-place. Lanny Junes won the Closest-to-the-Pin and Longest Drive.



Participants at AHI's 20th Annual Golf Classic at the Country Club of Fairfax.

AHI, AHIF Boards Hold Successful Annual Retreat

AHI and AHIF boards of directors held their annual retreat, in Washington, D.C., November 14 to 16, 2023.

Board members and staff had briefings with the diplomats and policy influencers: Ambassador of Greece to the U.S. Eikaterini Nassika, Ambassador of Cyprus to the U.S. Evangelos Savva, Michael Rubin, senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute; and Josh Huck, deputy assistant secretary, Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, U.S. Department of State. Board members also received a defense policy briefing on the Hellenic Armed Forces from Embassy of Greece Defense Attaché Colonel Panagiotis Vlachopoulos. Ambassador Savva hosted the board for a private reception at his residence, and the AHI board held a private dinner where they were joined by U.S. Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH), co-chair of the Congressional Hellenic Caucus. At the end of the retreat, AHI and AHIF held a board of directors meeting to discuss matters pertinent to the two organizations.



Ambassador of the Hellenic Republic to the US Eikaterini Nassika meets with the AHI and AHIF Board members and staff at the Embassy of Greece.



John Huck, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs, at the U.S. Department of State (center) with the AHI & AHIF Board Members.



Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH), Democratic Chair of the House Hellenic Caucus, joined AHI and AHIF Board Members



Michael Rubin, Senior Fellow of Foreign and Defense Policy, at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C. meeting with AHI & AHIF Board members.



Ambassador of Cyprus to the US, Evangelos Savva, at the Embassy of Cyprus in Washington, D.C. with AHI & AHIF Board members.

AHI Board Elects Lagos as Chairman, Adds Argeroplos



James H. Lagos, Esq.

The AHI Board of Directors elected Attorney James H. Lagos, Esq., Springfield, Ohio, chairman of the board, at its meeting on September 8, 2023. Lagos is a partner in the law firm of Lagos & Lagos PLL in Springfield, Ohio. He has held every office in his local Chamber of Commerce at least twice and chaired the Ohio Small Business Council and National Small Business Association. Lagos has served on the boards of AHI and AHIF since the early 1980s.

The balance of AHI's Board of Directors officers are: Vice Chairman Nicholas Chimicles, Esq., Secretary Kostas Alexakis, Esq., and Treasurer Aleco Haralambides, Esq. Each of the board officers are elected to two-year terms.



Ted Argeroplos

Also on September 8, AHI announced the addition of Soterios Theodore (Ted) Argeroplos its Board of Directors. He is the owner and CEO of AMA Systems, LLC, which is based in Columbia, Md., a company he founded in 2000. Argeroplos is a founder of the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew Foundation, an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, a fulfilled and active member of Leadership 100. He also serves on the board of the Panhellenic Scholarship Foundation.

Four Collegiate Interns Shine in AHI's Internship Program



AHI Interns Alexandra Angelos & Sophia Dongaris on Capitol Hill with the Ambassador of Cyprus to the United States Evangelos Savva, and former AHIF Student Foreign Policy Trip participant and Rep. Bilirakis summer intern Zoe Logas.

In 2023, AHI welcomed four interns, with Sophia Dongaris and Alexandra Angelos interning during the summer, while Anna Maria Papadopoulos and Clara Flanders completed their internships in the fall. Sophia, a senior at Lafayette College, focuses on international relations and economics with a regional concentration on Europe and a thematic concentration on development. Anna Maria, a senior at American University, majoring in legal studies, as part of a rigorous Politics, Policy, and Law Program, and the Leadership Program within the School of Public Affairs. Clara, also a senior at American University, pursues an interdisciplinary studies degree in communications, legal institutions, economics, and government.

AHI's Internship Program at Hellenic House has hosted over 300 interns over the past five decades. Designed for college students, the program enhances policy knowledge, supports career aspirations, and fosters strong relationships with professionals and academics. It provides a firsthand experience of how foreign policy is formulated and executed in the nation's capital, offering interns a unique opportunity to engage with the policymaking process just five blocks from the White House.



Anna Maria and Clara visiting the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee hearing room while on Capitol Hill.

AHI Welcomes New Hires Cotronakis, Christofor



Zachary A. Cotronakis



Alexander Christofor

AHI was pleased to announce two hires to its leadership team in 2023.

Zachary A. Cotronakis was named Executive Director on October 5, 2023. He came to AHI after serving as an associate at Manatos & Manatos, a leading lobbying firm in Washington, D.C.

Alexander Christofor was hired as the Institute's Legislative Assistant on May 25, 2023. He previously served as a congressional intern for U.S. Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand and Richard Blumenthal and U.S. Reps. Rosa DeLauro and Jim Himes; and worked on several campaigns.

IN APPRECIATION



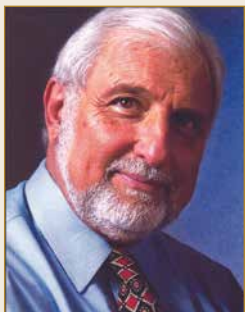
AHI conveyed its appreciation to long serving board member Van Coufoudakis, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Political Science and Dean Emeritus of the College of Arts and Sciences, Indiana University-Purdue University, in a statement issued October 5, 2023. Dr. Coufoudakis' term on the AHI board ended September 8, 2023.

In a letter to the board, Dr. Coufoudakis wrote:

"I joined AHI in the difficult days of 1974 at the invitation of Gene Rossides. Over the years I have seen the growth and the success of our organization under the leadership of Gene and Nick Larigakis. AHI has become the preeminent Greek American think tank. Despite limited resources, Nick has been able to create and sustain a major multi-functional think tank serving the current and the future needs of the Greek American community. Our focus remains the rule of law in the relations of our country with Greece and Cyprus.

We Mourn the Loss of . . .

Former AHIPAC Chair Dr. Takey Crist



Dr. Takey Crist

In a July 7, 2023, statement, AHI mourned the passing of Dr. Takey H. Crist, former chairman of the American Hellenic Institute Public Affairs Committee (AHIPAC) and a devoted advocate for Cyprus and the preservation of its culture. Dr. Crist, a highly respected obstetrician, gynecologist, and a relentless champion for women's health and reproductive rights, passed away June 29, 2023, in Jacksonville, North Carolina.

Dr. Crist served as AHIPAC chairman from 1993 to 1995 and dedicated four decades to supporting AHI. He tirelessly pursued justice for Cyprus following Turkey's illegal invasion in 1974. He traveled to Cyprus, aiding women and initiating a training program for Cypriot nurses. Through this program, nurses from the United States traveled to Cyprus, while Cypriot nurses had the opportunity to train in the United States. In the 1980s, he sponsored a group of U.S. women who participated in the three Women Walk Home marches into occupied Cyprus, raising awareness about the right of Greek Cypriot refugees to return to their homes and drawing international attention to the Turkish occupation of Cyprus.

AHI Foundation Board Member Gus Andy



Gus Andy

AHI mourned the passing of AHI Foundation Board Member Gus Andy in a statement issued October 19, 2023. Andy passed away in Florida on October 16, 2023.

Gus Andy's legacy is deeply etched within the annals of AHI. For over four decades, he was a dedicated and cherished member, leaving an indelible mark on the organization. His unwavering commitment to AHI and his passion for the cause of Hellenism resonated profoundly with us all. AHI is forever grateful for it. Gus participated in numerous AHI Leadership trips to Greece and Cyprus. He also sponsored "Future of Hellenism in America" conferences and countless AHI programs. AHI honored his dedication when it presented Gus with its Hellenic Heritage and Public Service Award for the Promotion of Hellenism in America during the Future of Hellenism Conference in Miami in 2013.

Author George Blytas



George C. Blytas

In a statement issued June 23, 2023, AHI mourned the passing of George C. Blytas, a longtime AHI member and recipient of AHI's Hellenic Heritage and Public Service Award, on June 14, 2023, at the age of 92.

A prominent figure within the Greek community in Houston, Texas, George Blytas made significant contributions to preserving Greek heritage and promoting cultural understanding. His notable work, "The First Victory: Greece in the Second World War," published jointly by the AHI Foundation and Cosmos Publishing, remains a testament to his dedication and passion for shedding light on Greece's crucial role during that historic conflict.

Cyprus' Missing Persons Service Director Kallis



Xenophon Kallis with the students of the AHIF Foreign Policy Program in 2018.

In an October 5, 2023, statement, AHI mourned the passing of the Cypriot Foreign Ministry's Director of the Service for Missing Persons Xenophon Kallis. He was 73.

AHI appreciated Kallis' willingness to meet annually with the students of the AHIF Foreign Policy Program to detail the work and challenges of the Committee on Missing Persons. He had a genuine interest in ensuring the next generation of leaders were made aware of the ongoing humanitarian cost of the illegal invasion and occupation. Kallis also served as a panelist at an AHI-organized virtual forum titled, "The Missing Persons in Cyprus from 1974: Turkey's Legacy Continues" in 2020.

INDEX

LETTERS, STATEMENTS & ACTION ALERTS

AHI sent letters to government officials and issued public statements presenting positions on current events and policy decisions important to the organization's mission and membership. Moreover, action alerts notified members to respond to these issues.

Statements & Announcements

- **January 13:** In a message to the community, AHI President Nick Larigakis and AHI Foundation President Leon Andris thank their supporters and recap recent activities and programs.
- **January 16:** AHI strongly reiterated its opposition to President Biden and his Administration's desire to sell F-16 fighter jets to Turkey and strongly encouraged the sale of F-35 fighter jets to Greece.
- **February 3:** AHI applauded Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Robert Menendez's stance in opposition to the sale of F-16s to Turkey, stating the Institute's gratitude for his support for the rule of law in the Eastern Mediterranean, and his willingness to stand up to this Administration's appeasement of Turkey.
- **March 2:** AHI expressed its sincerest condolences to the people of Greece for the tragic loss of life suffered from the horrific train collision that occurred in Tempi.
- **March 6:** AHI announced the release of its 2022 Annual Report.
- **March 21:** AHI announced the release of a video short, "*A Prelude: AHI – 50 Years.*"
- **April 21:** AHI expressed reservations about the United States' planned sale to Turkey of avionics software upgrades for its current fleet of F-16 fighter aircraft.
- **May 25:** AHI announced the hire of Alexander Christofor as legislative assistant.
- **June 9:** AHI reiterated its stance to the leadership of the House Foreign Affairs Committee on the importance of continuing to block the sale of F-16s to Turkey regardless if Turkey were to lift its veto on Sweden's NATO ascension. AHI also applauded Ranking Member Meeks for factoring Turkey's aggression in the Aegean in his opposition to the sale of F-16s to Turkey.
- **June 12:** AHI strongly affirmed a statement made by U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) to a constituent regarding Turkey's aggressive policies and the United States' potential sale of arms to Turkey. Schumer called Turkey a "major threat to global security."
- **June 23:** AHI mourned the passing of Author George C. Blytas, a recipient of AHI's Hellenic Heritage and Public Service Award.
- **July 7:** AHI mourned the passing of Dr. Takey Crist, a former chairman of the American Hellenic Institute Public Affairs Committee (AHIPAC)
- **July 14:** AHI expressed deep concern in response to National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan's statement that the Biden administration intended "to move forward" with the sale of F-16 jets to Turkey.
- **July 20:** AHI issued a statement in remembrance of the somber 49th anniversary of NATO member Turkey's brutal invasion of the Republic of Cyprus, a member of the European Union.
- **August 4:** AHI applauded U.S. Rep. Grace Meng's (D-NY) for the passage of her U.S.-Greece defense amendment.
- **August 5:** AHI strongly condemned the visit to the illegally occupied area of Cyprus by U.S. Rep. Pete Sessions (R-TX) on August 3, where he met with the leadership of "TRNC."
- **August 18:** AHI shared a Cato Institute study, "2022 Arms Sales Risk Index" that examines the potential dangers of selling arms to each country in the world. The study ranked Turkey as the 16th most risky country-the same score as Russia.

- **August 21:** AHI strongly condemned an attack launched by Turkish Cypriot military and police personnel on United Nations peacekeepers who were blocking an illegal construction project in the U.N.-controlled buffer zone on the island of Cyprus.
- **September 15:** AHI announced the election of Attorney James H. Lagos, Esq., Springfield, Ohio, as chairman of the Board of Directors and announced the addition of Soterios Theodore (Ted) Argeroplos, CEO, AMA Systems, LLC, to its Board of Directors.
- **September 21:** AHI released the Summer 2023 edition of its newsletter.
- **October 5:** AHI mourned the passing of the Cypriot Foreign Ministry's Director of the Service for Missing Persons Xenophon Kallis.
- **October 5:** AHI issued a statement in appreciation of outgoing longstanding Board of Directors member Van Coufoudakis, Ph.D., whose term ended September 8, 2023.
- **October 5:** AHI announced the hire of Zachary Cotronakis as executive director.
- **October 9:** AHI unequivocally and strongly condemned the terrorist attack carried out on Israel by Hamas.
- **October 13:** AHI circulated a round-up of articles that call attention to Turkey's ties to Hamas.
- **October 19:** AHI mourned the passing of AHI Foundation Board Member Gus Andy.
- **October 27:** AHI applauded the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues for sending a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, signed by 47 members of Congress, which strongly urged him to hold Turkey accountable for its support of Hamas.
- **December 4:** AHI issued a statement on former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's legacy of failure in Cyprus.
- **December 7:** AHI released an analysis of a United States Commission on International Freedom (USCIRF) report, "Examination of Threats to Religious Sites in Turkey." AHI welcomed the report, which details Turkey's poor record toward its religious minority communities by presenting evidence of how threats and attacks directed at sites such as places of worship, cemeteries, and religious institutions are met with little or no action by Turkish authorities.
- **December 23:** AHI welcomed a blog published by *The National Interest* that recognized the importance of NSA Souda Bay in Crete as U.S. military resources are redirected toward the Middle East in the aftermath of Hamas' October 7 attack on Israel.

Policy Letters

- **January 18:** AHI wrote to U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on the eve of his meeting with Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu in Washington, D.C., to encourage a candid discussion on the state of U.S.-Turkey relations based upon Turkey's demonstrated actions that undermine the interests of the United States and NATO.
- **February 17:** AHI wrote to U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken ahead of his February 20-21 visit to Greece to tout Greek and Cypriot contributions to advancing U.S. interests in the region and to convey the importance holding Turkey to account for its rule of law violations that cause instability and increased tensions.
- **November 6:** AHI wrote to House Committee on Foreign Affairs Chairman Michael McCaul (R-TX) commending his criticism of Turkey for its support for Hamas and obstruction of Sweden's NATO ascension in an October 29 interview with *Fox News*.



**15TH ANNUAL
AHIF COLLEGE STUDENT
FOREIGN POLICY TRIP:
WASHINGTON, DC
GREECE & CYPRUS
JUNE 11 - 29, 2024**

“The AHIF Foreign Policy Trip was an experience like no other. From traveling to various military bases to getting to speak in the Parliament, AHI has provided an environment that has allowed me to determine the direction in which I would like my career to go. While the trip is super demanding, every second is worth it.”

— Zoe Logas

Learn more & apply
www.americanhellenicinstitute.org



During the nineteen-day program, the students will have the opportunity to experience first-hand foreign policy issues affecting Greece and Cyprus, and the interests of the U.S. in the region.

Washington, DC: meetings/briefings with officials at Greek and Cypriot embassies, the State Department, Congress and think-tanks.

Greece & Cyprus: meetings/briefings with officials at the U.S. embassies; various ministries, including Foreign Affairs; military; members of Parliament; religious leaders; think-tanks, and members of academia and the private sector. Day trip to Souda Bay.

AHI is pleased to announce ...

HERITAGE OF HOPE: THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE GENE ROSSIDES ENDOWMENT FOR THE RULE OF LAW

The goal of the HERITAGE OF HOPE campaign is to establish an endowment to perpetuate the important work begun by Gene Rossides. Through the Endowment, AHI will promote Hellenism in America, promote a strong United States relationship with Greece and Cyprus, fight vigilantly for justice and peace in the Eastern Mediterranean, and advocate for adherence to the rule of law in our nation's foreign affairs.

For the Endowment, AHI seeks to raise \$10,000,000 to ensure that our message, our work, and the vision of Gene Rossides will remain relevant to the next generation of Greek Americans as they face the ever-evolving Eastern Mediterranean issues and determine how best to project the United States's geostrategic interests.

While this is an ambitious task, we have already received a \$2,000,000 commitment to kick-start this historic effort.

For more information about this special campaign, contact Nick Larigakis, President, at (202) 785-8430 or nlarigakis@aheworld.org



Eugene T. Rossides
AHI Founder

AHI AMERICAN
HELLENIC
INSTITUTE





AHI invites everyone - Hellenes and philhellenes alike - who shares our passion for the preservation and study of Hellenism - and wishes to strengthen ties between the United States, Greece and Cyprus - to join AHI as a member.

By joining, you help us in two important ways: your membership gives our message greater weight in Washington. And your dues help us to carry out our mission on a day-to-day basis.

AHI understands the issues affecting the Greek American community and we share our knowledge of these issues through newsletters, conferences, publications and electronic media.

Join us.

Membership Enrollment Form

AHI members enjoy many benefits at a variety of levels. Please consider becoming a part of our grassroots network at one of the levels below:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Occupation: _____

Company: _____

Preferred Address:

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Membership Level:

- Classic (\$100 US, \$150 Outside US, \$50 Students)
 Pericles (\$250) Marathon (\$500) Solon (\$1,000)
 Olympic (\$5,000) President's Circle (\$10,000)

Method of Payment: Check (payable to AHI)

Amount of Payment: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Exp. date: _____ / _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

(Required for credit card payments)

Please tear at perforation and return with payment to:

American Hellenic Institute
1220 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Classic Membership \$100

\$100 for members within the U.S.; \$150 for members outside the U.S.; \$50 for students

- Receive AHI's weekly electronic newsletter
- Be a part of policy discussions with invitations to AHI Virtual Speakers Forums

\$100

Pericles Membership \$250

All benefits of Classic Membership, plus:

- Receive a 25% discount on all new AHI publications.
- Receive complimentary copy of the AHI DVD *Cyprus Still Divided: A U.S. Foreign Policy Failure**
- Receive complimentary copy of "Hellenic Tour USA"*

\$250

Marathon Membership \$500

All benefits of Pericles Membership, plus:

- Receive complimentary copy of the: AHI DVD *The Greek American Operational Groups**
- Receive complimentary copy a copy of "The Perfect Storm" and "The Rule of Law Lobby: Grassroots Mobilization and the U.S. Arms Embargo on Turkey – 1974-1978"*
- Receive a complimentary 50th Anniversary AHI Christmas ornament. *

\$500

Solon Membership \$1,000

All benefits of Marathon Membership, plus:

- Sponsorship of two (2) Virtual Speakers Forums
- A complimentary copy of "The Future of Hellenism in America"

\$1,000

Olympic Membership \$5,000

All benefits of Marathon Membership, plus:

- Two free tickets to AHI's Athens Hellenic Heritage and National Public Service Awards Dinner at the Hotel Grande Bretagne in Athens
- Free participation for you and a guest at AHI's Annual Golf Outing
- Sponsorship of all Virtual Speakers Forums for the year President's Circle

\$5,000

President's Circle – \$10,000 and above

All benefits of President's Circle Membership, plus:

- Special invitation to join on the annual AHI leadership trip to Greece and Cyprus
- Invitation to a policy event in Washington, DC.
- One free night at the Capital Hilton Hotel
- One free night a year at the Grande Bretagne Hotel in Athens (based on availability)
- Your name will be listed on the President's Circle Plaque in the lobby of Hellenic House.

\$10,000

(*) While supplies last.



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