



Greece Ratifies Defense Pact with France

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Minister Dendias: The Greece-US agreement shields the country from foreign attacks



Dendias and Omani counterpart meet in Muscat and sign two agreements

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## A bold first step towards deeper military cooperation and European strategic autonomy



A landmark defense deal between Greece and France was signed in Paris on the 28th of September and was ratified by the Greek Parliament on the 7th of October. The strategic military and defence cooperation pact between the two NATO allies includes an order for three French frigates worth about 3 billion euros. This accord becomes part of a broader strategic military and defence cooperation pact and comes after Athens had already ordered some 24 Dassault-made Rafale fighter jets this year, making it the first European Union country to buy the fighter jet.

Greek Prime Minister, Kyriakos Mitsotakis, addressing to Emmanuel Macron, pointed out that the deal "will tie us for decades" and that it "opens the door to the Europe of tomorrow that is strong and autonomous, capable of defending its interests". From his part, French President Emmanuel Macron called Athens' decision to buy the ships as "a sign of confidence in France's defense industry". He underlined that the deal was part of a deeper "strategic partnership" between the two countries to defend their shared interests in the Mediterranean.

*"this is a strategic partnership which in my mind goes above and beyond the mutual assistance clauses that are currently included in the European treaties"*

*Kyriakos Mitsotakis*

In essence, Greece and France, with a bilateral agreement guaranteeing the cooperation of both countries in defense and foreign policy, are acting within the framework of their alliances to strengthen the policy of EU strategic autonomy and deepen their relationship within NATO and the European Union.

The 300-seat parliament approved the agreement by 191 votes in favour and 109 against. The leftist opposition Syriza party voted against the accord.

"The defense agreement between Greece and France is of historical importance, historical are also the responsibilities of the parties" said Kyriakos Mitsotakis. "The agreement upgrades the country's position geopolitically".

"For the first time it is clearly stipulated that there be military assistance in the event of a third party attacking one of the two states", Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis told lawmakers before the vote.

For the first time in its history, the Navy will acquire ships that will be able to shoot down air targets from great distances, while they will also be able to offer protection against ballistic missiles.

"Europeans must come out of their naivety", said the French president, Emmanuel Macron. "When we are under pressure ... showing that we also have power and the capacity to defend ourselves ... is simply making ourselves be respected". The agreement was not only a sign of confidence in French production but "an audacious first step towards European strategic autonomy", he said.

Standing next to the French leader at the Élysée Palace, Mitsotakis agreed that beyond Athens' own military needs, the accord could be seen as a first step towards sealing Europe's defence ambitions.

"Today is a historic day for Greece and France", he said. "With President Macron we share a common vision for the development of the necessary defence capabilities and for Europe's ability to respond autonomously to the challenges laying ahead".

*Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis and French President Emmanuel Macron signed the new agreement between France and Greece.*

*Photo Credit: Press Office of the Greek Prime Minister*

## Ambassador of Greece in Audience with HM The Queen



*Deputy Head of Mission Ifigenia Kanara, Ambassador Ioannis Raptakis, Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps Alistair Harrison, Mrs. Georgina Soultanopoulou*

Week of credentials presentation in October as Ambassador Raptakis presented on 5 October his credentials as the Permanent Representative of the Hellenic Republic to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the day after, accompanied by his wife Mrs Georgina Soultanopoulou, he presented his credentials to Her Majesty The Queen. The Audience was held via video link from Windsor Castle to Buckingham Palace due to the protection measures against the coronavirus.

Alistair Harrison, Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps, wished a successful term to the Greek Ambassador on behalf of the Queen and the British Government. "Greece has exerted a tremendous influence on the United Kingdom," he said, referring to the close political relations between Greece and the UK and the proximity of the two peoples.

The Ambassador of Greece underlined the close relations between the two countries and he referred to the contribution of the United Kingdom to the outcome of the Greek revolution. "In every battle in history, Greece and the United Kingdom have always been on the same side: during the first world war, the second world war, we are allies in NATO, and though we are no longer partners in the EU, we remain allies as we share the same values and the same principles ", he said.

## Ambassador Raptakis presented his credentials as the Permanent Representative of the Hellenic Republic to the International Maritime Organization (IMO)



*Second Secretary George Drakopoulos, Ambassador Ioannis Raptakis, General Secretary of IMO Kitack Lim, Commander H.C.G. Theodosopoulou Eleftheria - Ioanna*

## Illumination of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy of Greece to mark World Maritime Day on 30 September 2021



*The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy in Piraeus Attica illuminated with maritime blue colour*

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy in Piraeus Attica was illuminated with maritime blue colour, in order to celebrate the World Maritime Day 2021 and to raise awareness of the contribution of shipping and the seafarer's to the world.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has chosen to make 2021 a year of action for seafarers facing unprecedented difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic, despite their vital role as key players in global supply chains. The theme for World Shipping Day 2021 is "Sailors: At the Core of the Future of Shipping" and seeks to focus on promoting seafarers and the maritime profession in general, drawing attention to the invaluable role they play and will continue to play in future commercial activities.

The focus on this issue comes as the COVID-19 pandemic has placed extreme demands on seafarers, with hundreds of thousands of men and women remaining on ships for months beyond the time stipulated in their original contracts, facing serious repatriation difficulties due to travel restrictions in force worldwide because of the pandemic. A proportionate number of seafarers may not be enlisted and joined the ship's crews in order to continue working.

In celebration of World Maritime Day, various events were held using social media on issues related to the human factor in shipping, including safety of life on board ships, the well-being of seafarers and the importance of providing appropriate training.

In addition, governments and international organizations are encouraged to organize, where possible, appropriate events throughout the current year to celebrate this day and to inform the IMO Secretariat of any planned activities. These events will give the IMO and the wider shipping community the opportunity to talk about issues related to seafarers even after the pandemic, such as fair treatment of seafarers, fair working conditions and more.

In London, on September 30, 2021, the International Maritime Organization held a webinar on the subject of World Shipping Day and the participants were informed by the Secretary General of IMO, Kitack Lim, and by active seafarers on issues related to safety, sustainability, crew changes and the protection of the marine environment. In the context of the celebration of this day, in addition, a reception was held in the afternoon where representatives of the Member States of the Organization were invited to attend.

## Adonis Georgiadis in Oxford for the 5th Greek British Symposium



*Adonis Georgiadis at the Greek British Symposium, Oxford*

Adonis Georgiadis, Minister of Development and Investment visited the UK in order to participate in the 5th Greek British Symposium, that took place in Oxford between 23-25 September. More than 25 speakers along with participants from the UK and Greece engaged on the theme of 'Trade and Exchanges: A New Landscape', particularly during an intriguing first day with a welcome address by Ministers of Business for Greece and the UK, Adonis Georgiadis and Kwasi Kwarteng.

Adonis Georgiadis talked about trade and exchange through a short review of the past year and the major changes to the UK-GR relationship. Minister Georgiadis pointed out the positive outlook for the Greek economy, with growth forecasts constantly being revised upwards and an increasing influx of foreign investment. He expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to address the opening of the 5th Greek-British Symposium in Oxford and to engage in productive exchanges with his counterpart, the Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, as well as with leaders in policy, business, academia, media and culture from Greece and the UK.



*Minister Counsellor Gerasimos Lazaris, Ambassador Ioannis Raptakis, Captain Ioannis Papavlachos HN*

The Greek-British Symposium is a bilateral forum - a privately led and sponsorship-funded initiative, delivered by the organisers of the Delphi Economic Forum with the support of the British Embassy Athens and the British Council. It was launched in October 2017, in Nafplion, Greece. It continued the next year in Ditchley Park in the UK, and returned to Nafplion in 2019. The Greek-British Symposium is an opportunity to bring together an exclusive but diverse selection of leaders in policy, business, academia, media and culture from the UK and Greece to discuss issues at the forefront of global and regional development under the Chatham House Rule, whilst fostering personal relations and forging a better understanding of the dynamics developing within and between our two countries in a convivial and inspiring set up. The Symposium is run by an 11-member-strong Steering Committee headed by two Co-Chairs (British and Greek).

### **Three Greek companies participated in the "DSEI 2021"**

Ambassador Raptakis visited the Defense Exhibition at Excel London where he got the chance to discuss with representatives of the Greek companies and also Lockheed Martin and Elbit Systems.

Three Greek companies participated in the International Defense & Security Exhibition "DSEI 2021" that took place between 12 – 15 September in Excel London: INTRACOM DEFENSE (IDE), SCYTALYS S.A. and THEON SENSORS.

INTRACOM DEFENSE (IDE) presented its advanced defense products in the areas of Communication & Information Systems, Hybrid Electric Power Systems



*Members of Greek companies delegation during a reception*

and Surveillance. IDE is a highly acclaimed Defense Systems Company in Greece with an outstanding record of participation in domestic programs and exports to quality-driven international customers.

SCYTALYS S.A. (ex. Interoperability Systems International Hellas) specializes in the design, development, integration, installation, testing, and follow-on support of Tactical Data Links and Interoperability solutions, Mission and Command & Control systems and Mission and ISR solutions. SCYTALYS is part of EFA GROUP.

Theon SENSORS is a world-renowned and recognized manufacturer of electro-optical night vision and thermal imaging systems used by military and law enforcement customers in more than 55 countries around the world. The development and production of the systems is made in Athens, Greece, whereas its worldwide business activities are supported by now five subsidiaries, in Germany, USA, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Singapore, with co-productions facilities in Middle and Far East. THEON

SENSORS is part of EFA Group of companies that have a leading-edge position in the international markets in the fields of aerospace, security, defense and industrial cooperation.

## Greece welcomes digital nomads

Greece is one of the first countries to become a digital innovation destination with a new law attracting "digital nomads". Greece is a leading country in promoting the facilitation of citizens who wish to stay and work on new technologies offering comparative advantages, which are not exhausted in the sun and the sea, but include a very high rate of digital transformation, a stable and secure institutional framework, as well as, a society that according to research was already ranked in 2017 (in the midst of crisis) particularly high in the indicators of empathy, in contrast to competing destinations of digital nomads.

Greece is among the top destinations for Digital Nomads. The country comes with an abundance of pros: breath-taking landscape, excellent weather conditions, easiness of communicating in English, hospitality, great internet access and speed, reasonable apartment rental costs and a vast variety of places to visit. The country offers a unique combination of tradition, history and fashion, transportation is easy and the cost of living is lower than that in most of the countries of the western world.

Holders of non EU travel documents, self-employed, freelancers or employees, based outside Greece, may apply for a Long Term Visa (National Visa) for a period of up to twelve (12) months. The applicants need to supply evidence that they have a steady income during their stay in Greece that is 3,500 euros monthly. For the required documents and appointment for a visa, please visit <https://uk-gr.gvcworld.eu/>



## Consular Bulletin

- » My Consul Live. You can now obtain a certificate of permanent residence abroad for military purposes without visiting the Consulate, provided you have TaxisNet access codes. Our Embassy is one of the first to give Greeks in the UK the option to conduct public record transactions via video calls through Greece's MyConsulLive.gov.gr platform. By logging into myConsulLive.gov.gr, diaspora Greeks can get information and obtain documents such as: certificate of permanent residence abroad, certificate of marital status, birth or residence, copy or extract of a notarial deed, pension beneficiary declaration, or submit applications or declarations to the consular authority. Interested parties will have to log in, confirm personal data through TaxisNet codes, and schedule a day and time from a list of available appointments. The user will be required to present proof of identification via identity card or passport before starting the video call.
- » As of 1 September has been implemented a new process of simplifying the official translation of documents. The new translation platform is <https://metafraseis.services.gov.gr/>. Through the above platform one can search for a certified translator (for citizens and businesses) and access the official registration translation data (for certified translators). Citizens and public services will now be able to choose the translator of their choice from the Electronic Register of Certified Translators and contact them directly.
- » From 1 October Greek citizens who do not have settled status or pre-settled status, or a pending application to the EU Settlement Scheme, must present a valid passport to enter the UK.
- » Contact us via email [grcon.lon@mfa.gr](mailto:grcon.lon@mfa.gr) and we will get back to you within 48 hours.

## The Greek Revolution Bicentennial Exhibition at the Hellenic Centre

5 October 2021 – 30 March 2022



### 1821: Visions of Freedom

#### *The Hand of Zographos The Mind of Makriyannis The Zeal of Gennadius*

To commemorate the bicentennial of the Greek Revolution the Hellenic Centre is exhibiting the vivid images of scenes from the War of Independence commissioned by one of its heroes, General Makriyannis, to illustrate his version of events. Below each scene of the originals is a commentary by Makriyannis himself, which summarises the fuller account given in his memoirs.

In order to record his memoirs the illiterate Makriyannis famously taught himself to write but it was only in 1907, many years after his death, that his manuscript was discovered and published. The memoirs, composed by someone with a gift for expression in the natural spoken language rather than the archaising official idiom, came to be widely admired as a classic of modern Greek literature. An English translation by H A Lidderdale was published in 1966.

A set of the original paintings produced between 1836 and 1839 was presented by Makriyannis to each of King Otto and the sovereigns of the protecting Powers, England, France and Russia. Those intended for France and Russia have disappeared but Queen Victoria's set reached Windsor Castle where it is still preserved and can be viewed online as part of the Royal Collection Trust.

Makriyannis soon borrowed King Otto's set to have it lithographed in Paris but it got lost on the way. It was rescued from oblivion nearly 70 years later when the famous bibliophile, Joannes Gennadius, spotted it at a Rome auction in 1909. The set is now deposited in the Gennadius Library of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens.

In 1921, the centenary of the Greek Revolution Gennadius embarked on a project to copy his set

and engaged the philhellene Swiss photographer, Frédéric Boissonnas, to prepare an edition of hand coloured collotypes. These were published in a limited edition of 140 copies in 1926.

A selection of these rare collotypes will be on show at the Hellenic Centre together with Makriyannis' own commentary. It will be accompanied by a timeline of events and digital copies of related illustrative material including *Byronica* from the John Murray archive held at the National Library of Scotland.

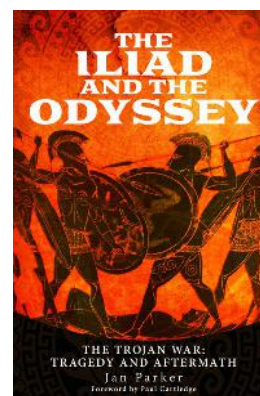
As a result of their rediscovery and publication by Gennadius the images became a cult object for the twentieth century Greek modernists of the 'Generation of the 30s' who were delighted by their disregard of the norms of academic painting just as they were by the texture of Makriyannis' prose.

On show are 12 of the 24 hand coloured collotypes issued in a limited edition album in 1926 by the well known Swiss photographer, Frédéric Boissonnas at the instigation of the collector Joannes Gennadius who had rediscovered the long lost watercolours which these collotypes reproduce.

The exhibition sets the pictures in their historical context by displaying a timeline of the War of Independence and the visitor's appreciation is enhanced by the reproduction of relevant material from Gennadius' personal archive and other collections. The visitor can also enjoy Makriyannis' personal dedication of the pictures to Queen Victoria as well as the curious letter from the British Minister at Athens which accompanied their despatch to Lord Palmerston.

The exhibition runs from 5 October 2021 to 30 March 2022 at the Hellenic Centre, 16-18 Paddington Street, London W1U 5AS . Opening hours: Tuesdays 6pm-9pm, Saturdays 10am-5pm, Sundays 11am-4pm.

For further information: email [info@helleniccentre.org](mailto:info@helleniccentre.org) or telephone 020 7487 5060



### New Book Release:

The Iliad and the Odyssey (Hardback) *The Trojan War: Tragedy and Aftermath*, by Dr Jan Parker. The Iliad dealing with the final stages of the Trojan War and The Odyssey with return and aftermath were central to the Classical Greeks' self identity and world view.

[www.pen-and-sword.co.uk](http://www.pen-and-sword.co.uk)

### 1821 Visions of Freedom: The Hand of Zographos, The Mind of Makriyannis, The Zeal of Gennadius

When: Tuesday 5 October to Wednesday 30 March

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/1821-visions-of-freedom/>

### Third Annual Niki Marangou Memorial Lecture

When: Wednesday 13 October

Where: Temporary Exhibition Room, Leventis Gallery

<https://21in21.co.uk/events/>

### Rethinking 1821: Greek Independence and its Transnational Contexts

When: Wednesday 20 October, 4-6 pm

Where: UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies Online

<https://ucl.zoom.us/j/91234567890>

### Book launch: Michael Llewellyn Smith's new biography of Eleftherios Venizelos

When: Thursday 21 October, 7 pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/book-launch-michael-llewellyn-smiths-new-biography-of-elftherios-venizelos/>

### The Brexit Deterrent? How Britain's Exit has Shaped Public Support for the EU

When: Tuesday 21 October, 4-5.30 pm

Where: Online

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/Events/2021/10/202110211600/deterrent>

### The Greek War of Independence in the Visual Arts and Literature

When: Friday 22 October 6-7.30 pm

Where: Online

<https://www.cgs.cam.ac.uk/events/greek-dialogues-online-21in21-greek-war-independence-visual-arts-and-literature>

### Afghan crisis, migration diplomacy and Turkey-EU relations

When: Wednesday 27 October, 5 pm

Where: SEESOX and online

<https://www.sant.ox.ac.uk/events/afghan-crisis-migration-diplomacy-and-turkey-eu-relations>

### The Geopolitics of Greece: continuities and discontinuities

When: Thursday 28 October, 4-5.30 pm

Where: Online

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/Hellenic-Observatory/Events/events-pages/2021-22/Geopolitics/Geopolitics>

### 2021 Leventis Exhibition: 'Edina/Athena: The Greek Revolution and the Athens of the North, 1821-2021'

When: Friday 29 October until 29 January 2022.

Where: University of Edinburgh Library, George Square, Edinburgh

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/history-classics-archaeology/classics/about/leventis/leventis-2021/exhib>

On the occasion of the *Oxi Day* and the *200 years of the Greek Revolution* the Embassy of Greece in London invites you to the opening of the Exhibition "History has a Face" at the Embassy of Greece (1A Holland Park, W11 3TP) on **Tuesday 26 October** from 6 - 7.30 pm

Reception to follow

info [pda.lon@mfa.gr](mailto:pda.lon@mfa.gr) 0207 727 3071

The portraits are courtesy of Sylvia Ioannou Foundation <https://sylviaioannoufoundation.org>

**PROGRAMME**

Exhibition "History has a Face"

6.00 pm: Welcome message by Ioannis Raptakis, Ambassador of Greece

6.15 pm: Video message by Dimitra Koukklou, National History Museum

6.30 pm: Video projection + Φωτοβήματα

6.30 pm: *Benjamin Mary: The Face of a Belgian Philhellene* by Gonda Van Steen, Karaos Chair of Modern Greek and Byzantine History, Language and Literature

6.45 pm: "Makri Gatti: Memories with the Phrygian Mount" George Finlay, Historian and Philhellene by Dr Alisdair Grant, Curatorial (Postdoctoral) Fellow, School of History, Classics and Archaeology, The University of Edinburgh

6.50 pm: Poets and Philhellenes by Dr Jennifer Wallace, Haris Fellow and Director of Studies in English at Peterhouse, University of Cambridge

7.00 pm: Narration passages from *Memoires of Makriyannis and Katakastrofis* by Angelis Perapetioti, Actress - Theatre Director and Artistic Director of Mirror Theatre in London

7.20 pm: Visitors will be able to look through the exhibition "History has a face"

### Public Trust and Citizen Engagement in Greece: learning from the past?

When: Tuesday 2 November, 4:00-5:30 pm

Where: Online

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/Hellenic-Observatory/Events/Research-Seminar-Series/2021-22/Public-Trust/Public-Trust-and-Citizen-Engagement-in-Greece-learning-from-the-past>

### Historic Walking Tour of Cavafy's London

When: Saturday 6 November 11 am

Where: Meeting Point: Queensborough Terrace, Bayswater

<https://21in21.co.uk/events/>

### Should we talk about fascism in Europe today?

When: Monday 8 November, 5 pm

Where: ESC Seminar Room and online via Zoom

<https://www.sant.ox.ac.uk/events/should-we-talk-about-fascism-europe-today>

### Battling against Fake News in Britain and Greece: can the mainstream media win

When: Tuesday 9 November, 6-7.30 pm

Where: Online

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/Hellenic-Observatory/Events/events-pages/2021-22/News/Battling-against-Fake-News-in-Britain-and-Greece-can-the-mainstream-media-win>

### Exhibition ὕδωρ • (húdōr)

When: Thursday 11 November to 11 December

Where: High Commission of Cyprus

<https://helleniccentre.org/event/%e1%bd%95%ce%b4%cf%89%cf%81-%e2%80%affudor/>

### Entrepreneurialising Solidarity? A Pragmatic Sociology of the Social and Solidarity Economy in Greece

When: Tuesday 16 November, 4-5.30 pm

Where: Online

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/Hellenic-Observatory/Events/Research-Seminar-Series/2021-22/Entrepreneurializing-Solidarity/Entrepreneurialising-Solidarity-A-Pragmatic-Sociology-of-the-Social-and-Solidarity-Economy-in-Greece>

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<http://www.mfa.gr/uk>, Facebook | Twitter: [@GreeceInUK](https://twitter.com/GreeceInUK),

Instagram: Greek Embassy in London