



Editorial

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The focus of this particular issue is on Turkish behavior and statements that have rendered Turkey the most dangerous country in the Eastern Mediterranean for the United States, Greece, and Cyprus. Daily provocations of Greek air and sea space may easily lead to a military incident that Turkey could use to advance its territorial ambitions in Thrace, Cyprus, and the Aegean. Prime Minister Erdogan's questioning the viability of the Lausanne Treaty and his rude behavior during a state visit to Greece reinforce suspicions regarding Turkey's long-term goals. Any military incident will automatically engage NATO, the EU, and the United States. Given this reality we have dedicated most of this issue to analyze contemporary and historical Turkish acts to speculate on what we may expect in the near future.

Misconceptions about the political activism of Greek Americans are commonplace in Greece. This was clearly evidenced by the publication of an article titled "Hellenism in America at a Crossroads," in *Kathimerini*, Greece's paper of record. Nick Larigakis, the president of the American Hellenic Institute (AHI) quickly responded to that article by informing the Greek public of some of the recent actions by Greek Americans on their behalf. His letter opens our 2018 issue. His comments also serve as a reminder to Greek Americans of the initiatives undertaken by AHI and other organizations of Greek America.

The public letter of Larigakis is followed by an analysis by Van Coufoudakis on the latest failed efforts to reunite Cyprus. Christopher A. Ioannides then offers a detailed account of Greek-American popular resistance to the Turkish incursion in Cyprus. His commentary offers a guide to the definitive *The Rule of Law Lobby: Grass Roots Mobilization and the U.S. Arms Embargo on Turkey, 1974-1978—A Chronology and Bibliography* created by Van Coufoudakis and Serge Hadji. One implication of the study and the commentary by Ioannides is that similar mobilization by Greek Americans may be necessary in the near future. Alon Ben-Meir thinks it is time to consider expelling Turkey from NATO while Despina Afentouli assesses the fading chances of Turkey becoming a member of the EU. The section concludes with an interview of Gevorg Vardanyan, a scholar of the Greek genocide. The interview was conducted by George N. Shirinian, Executive Director of the International Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies.

Our two book reviews also focus on the Greek genocide. Michael Kalafatas reviews a book that details how the genocide began before World War I, a history that refutes the Turkish claim that whatever atrocities occurred were mutual and linked to the fog of war. Constantine Hatzidimitriou follows with a review of a landmark study of the historical record of Turkish hostility to its non-Muslim minorities. He spotlights the multi-faceted scholarly work of the Asia Minor and Pontos Hellenic Research Center to provide irrefutable evidence that Turkey has practiced “ethnic cleansing” since its inception as a state, accelerating a movement that began with the collapsing Ottoman empire.

Another long-term policy problem for Greece has been the various territorial claims of Albania. *Vladislav B. Sotirović* rejects the Albanian ethnographically-based claims regarding the Balkans in general and its Greek border in particular. I conclude the essay section of the journal with a broad consideration of how Greek poetry, music, and grass roots political culture have been affected by the ongoing economic crisis.

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