

**AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE**

**AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE FOUNDATION**



**AHi**  
**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**  
**2010**

**Including AHI History 1974-2010**



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### **American Hellenic Institute**

1220 16th Street, NW • Washington, D.C. 20036

Tel. 202-785-8430 • Fax 202-785-5178

Web site: [www.aheworld.org](http://www.aheworld.org) • Email: [info@aheworld.org](mailto:info@aheworld.org)



# ANNUAL REPORT 2010



## INTRODUCTION

Dear Members and Friends:

It affords me great pleasure to present the 2010 AHI Annual Report. All of AHI's policy-based programs and initiatives that advance the best interests of the United States on issues of importance to Greek Americans are encapsulated in this report.

In 2010, AHI issued 90 press releases detailing our numerous activities. These activities included: the 35th Annual Hellenic Heritage Achievement and National Public Service Awards Dinner; the 9th annual "Future of Hellenism in America" conference; the 6th Annual Awards Dinner in Athens; our annual "Congressional Salute to Greek Independence Day" on Capitol Hill; our annual trips to Greece and Cyprus, including our Study Abroad Program; and our public policy "Noon Forums."

We also debuted new programming in 2010 such as the documentary "Cyprus Still Divided: A U.S. Foreign Policy Failure" that aired on PBS and our landmark two-day conference marking the 50th anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus. In a historic first, AHI provided an address at the Hellenic Parliament's Old "Senate" Chamber. We also continued to keep our audience informed with our Policy Statements, Capital Report, and foreign policy forums.

At AHI, the majority of our efforts focus on advancing U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus as in the best interests of the U.S., and to support the Greek American community. To this effect, we engaged policy makers in the administration and Congress through numerous action alerts, letters, testimony, and face-to-face meetings with more than 70 congressional staff persons in 2010. When appropriate, AHI showcased commentaries, letters, and op-ed pieces critical of Turkey's foreign policy positions as well as crafting our own op-eds and letters to the editor to mainstream and Greek American media outlets.

In addition, with 2010 being an election year, AHI worked to collect and record the positions of congressional candidates on issues of importance to the Greek American community through a comprehen-

sive candidate survey. Twenty-six candidates responded to the questionnaire and a majority of which agreed with AHI's positions on the issues.

Our "Noon Forum" series continued to address policy, historic and cultural themes to create awareness and educate audiences about Greek American issues. Topics examined the significance of the Battle of Crete, OXI Day, and Smyrna. We proudly took some of these forums "on the road" to New York, Chicago, and Atlanta.

Furthermore, we had a parade of visiting dignitaries from Greece and Cyprus visit Hellenic House. This included new Cypriot Ambassador to the U.S. Pavlos Anastasiades, several ministers, deputy ministers, military officials, and scholars. Moreover, AHI leaders held important meetings with leading diplomats and Department of State officials, including new U.S. Ambassador to Greece Daniel Smith and U.S. Ambassador to Cyprus Frank Urbancic; and offered a briefing with State Department officials. AHI also joined with other Greek American associations to bid farewell to Cypriot Ambassador Andreas Kakouris.

We accomplished all of these initiatives under the leadership of then AHI president, Alexandros Haralambides, and thanks to the dedication of AHI's Board of Directors and Policy Fellows.

## 2011: A Year of Opportunity Awaits Us

AHI will look to build upon the exciting new programs and initiatives that it offered in 2010. We are always looking for innovative ways to improve service to our membership base, to better address our core agenda, and to cultivate opportunities to positively influence the Greek American community and U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus.

In 2011, our foreign policy challenges will be as intense as ever. We are already seeing increased UN pressure and involvement in the direct negotiations taking place on the Cyprus issue. Although 2010 saw a little progress with respect to religious freedom in Turkey, the plight of the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Patriarchate continues and Turkey remains on

the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom's "Watch List." Turkish aggression in the Aegean is ongoing and the FYROM name-recognition issue remains at a stalemate. Both require our collective attention and action.

With new leadership taking over in the U.S. House of Representatives, AHI will work diligently to introduce its policy positions to approximately 100-plus new members of Congress and continue our ongoing work with one of our champions, Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, who is the new House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman. Furthermore the Obama administration, well into its third year, will be looking to 2012. We must ensure that our issues remain at the forefront of the Obama Administration's foreign policy agenda and that the policy commitments he made to the community are kept.

Finally, AHI looks to build upon the momentum generated by uplifting new programs like our study abroad initiative for college students while exploring additional ways to encourage growth in commerce, trade, and investment between the United States and Greece and Cyprus. Also in 2011, AHI will launch a redesigned website that promises to be more "user-friendly."

I am deeply grateful and appreciative of the members, officers and staff for their dedication. Everyone worked together to make 2010 another productive year. Alongside our own activities in Washington, AHI's strength relies on the many significant contributions and generous support of our members. We also look to you to communicate your suggestions, share your knowledge, and provide your insights so that we can continue to fulfill the needs of our most valuable asset—our members.

Thank you.  
Warmest regards,

Nicholas Larigakis, *President*

# Public Policy

## THE 2010 GREEK AMERICAN POLICY STATEMENTS

In May, the American Hellenic Institute released its *2010 Policy Statements*, which present issues affecting the Greek American community as they pertain to United States relations with Greece, Cyprus, and Turkey. The policy statements are distributed to high-ranking government officials and policy-makers. They also serve as a guide when communicating positions to U.S. policymakers and the media. The positions are based on the best interests of the United States.

The policy statements are approved by several membership-based organizations including: Hellenic American National Council; Cyprus Federation of America; Pancretan Association of America; Panepirotic Federation of America; United Chios Societies of America; Pan-Pontian Federation of U.S.A. and Canada; American Hellenic Council; and the Armenian National Committee of America.

## GREECE-TURKEY RELATIONS

AHI closely monitors Greece-Turkey relations. AHI supports a policy that encourages a normalization of relations between the two countries and is firmly based on international law and a reversal of aggression. AHI also believes that it is in the best interest of the U.S. to support stable relations between these two countries by proactively promoting the rule of law.

In particular, AHI notes the following areas as the fundamental causes of problems between Greece and Turkey:

- Turkey's unilateral claims against sovereign Greek territory in the Aegean in violation of international law, and its refusal to refer its unilateral claims to binding international arbitration;
- Turkey's aggression against Cyprus and its continuing illegal occupation of 37.3 percent of Cyprus;
- Turkey's continuing violations of Greece's airspace; and
- Illegal immigration via Turkey that threatens Greek democracy.

Under the administration of Prime Minister George Papandreou, Greece remains a vocal supporter of Turkey's European Union (EU) ambitions with the goal of fostering long-term peace and stability in the region through its neighbor's accession. AHI congratulates Greece for its ongoing efforts to promote this goal through its outreach to Turkey. In fact, Prime Minister Papandreou has demonstrated comfort in his outreach by going so far as to raise airspace violations in the Aegean before a public audience in Turkey that included Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Turkey must now meet its obligations and adhere to international agreements and the rule of law.

## THE CYPRUS PROBLEM

One of AHI's primary objectives is to keep the Cyprus issue at the forefront of the policy debate in Washington. In this effort, AHI hosted several events and meetings at which Cyprus was the topic of discussion. AHI's landmark two-day conference on the 50th Anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus is a prime example. Moreover, AHI's commitment to the Cyprus issue is demonstrated by two visits to Cyprus annually. Furthermore, the release of the one-hour documentary "Cyprus Still Divided: A U.S. Foreign Policy Failure" helped to keep the Cyprus issue in the public's eye. It premiered on Detroit Public Television in September 2010.

Additionally, AHI continued to push for greater awareness of the issue. AHI accomplished this task by submitting numerous letters to the editors of prominent print media outlets, sending letters to government officials, producing op-ed pieces, and disseminating action alerts. Furthermore, AHIF continued to introduce a younger generation of Greek Americans to Cyprus and Greece with its second annual Foreign Policy Study Abroad Program.

Also fundamental to AHI's involvement in this issue were meetings held with U.S. government officials and their staffs and government representatives from Greece and Cyprus. These meetings are important tactics to help forge closer cooperation, foster greater understanding, and stimulate new ideas as all parties work toward a Cyprus resolution. For example, AHI leaders placed significant emphasis on the Cyprus issue during meetings and events held with members of the 111th Congress. AHI also hosted American Ambassador to Cyprus Frank Urbancic at events on several occasions and held a briefing

with State Department officials.

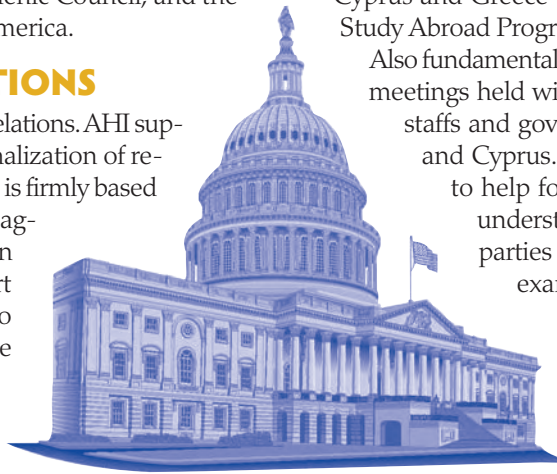
Finally, AHI made it a point to illustrate egregious acts of violations of religious freedom in occupied Cyprus and demonstrate the destruction of Cyprus's cultural and religious heritage by Turkey.

## MACEDONIAN INITIATIVES

Throughout 2010, AHI embarked on a number of different initiatives to raise awareness to help end the misappropriation of the name "Macedonia" by the Former Yugoslav Republic of "Macedonia" (FYROM). For example, AHI refuted a congressional letter to President Barack Obama that supported NATO membership for FYROM, and AHI issued an action alert to the community about this development. AHI also wrote to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton expressing discontent with a feature cover story that appeared in the department's magazine about Skopje.

In addition, AHI submitted written testimony to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations that opposed U.S. aid to FYROM.

AHI also specifically addressed the FYROM name issue in its *Greek American Policy Statements*. The statements called on the U.S. "to consider withdrawing its 2004 recognition of



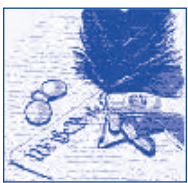
FYROM as the 'Republic of Macedonia'" if FYROM refuses to cooperate in negotiations.

## THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE

AHI reiterated its unequivocal position on what actions the U.S. government should take to secure religious freedom for the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Turkey in the 2010 *Greek American Policy Statements*. In this document, AHI urges the U.S. government to use its influence with the Turkish government to safeguard the Ecumenical Patriarchate, its personnel, and its property; and to reopen the Halki Patriarchal School of Theology. AHI underscores that, "Under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, the President is obligated to oppose violations of religious freedom in any country whose government 'engages in or tolerates violations of religious freedom and promote the right to religious freedom in that country.'" Furthermore, the Act obligates the President to take one or more of 15 enumerated actions with respect to any such country.

In 2010 AHI continued to raise awareness of religious restrictions in Turkey on several occasions. For example, AHI commended a report issued by the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom that continued to place Turkey on its "Watch List" of countries that violate religious freedom. Furthermore, AHI released statements when human rights organizations, the State Department, or important commissions issued human rights or treatment of religious minorities reports on Turkey.

## LETTERS, STATEMENTS AND ACTION ALERTS



AHI sent five letters to President Barack Obama and administration officials in 2010 to advocate on behalf of the Greek American community. AHI also issued a number of public statements presenting positions on current events and policy decisions important to the organization's membership. Moreover, action alerts notified members to respond to these issues. Listed below is an overview of these communications:

### 2010 Letters:

- **March 1:** AHI sent a letter to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton expressing its "very serious concerns" about remarks made by U.S. Ambassador to Turkey James Jeffrey that brought into question the Obama Administration's policy on Cyprus. AHI also raised concerns that Ambassador Jeffrey's remarks were endorsed by State Department Spokesman Philip J. Crowley.
- **April 27:** AHI sent a letter to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton expressing its discontent with *State Magazine's* April 2010 cover story "Skopje, Ancient Macedonia builds modern democracy," identifying five points of contention.

*"One of AHI's primary objectives is to keep the Cyprus issue at the forefront of the policy debate in Washington."*

- **May 21:** Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars' president and director Lee Hamilton received a letter from AHI that requested the Center to rescind its decision to present Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu with its Public Service Award in June.
- **July 19:** The Senate Foreign Relations Committee received a letter from AHI that presented a series of questions for committee members to consider asking the Honorable Francis Joseph Ricciardone, Jr., who was nominated to be the next American ambassador to the Republic of Turkey.
- **October 25:** AHI's letter to President Barack Obama expressed the Institute's disagreement with an October 1 letter sent to the president by 19 members of Congress claiming that NATO membership for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) should not be "negatively affected by bilateral issues with Greece." The AHI letter also commended the Obama administration for not supporting the legislators' position.

### 2010 Statements:

- **February 4:** AHI congratulated Illinois State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner Mariyana Spyropoulos for victories in their respective Illinois primary races held February 2. Giannoulias won the Democratic Party's nomination for U.S. Senate and Spyropoulos won the nine-person race for the Democratic Party's nomination for commissioner.
- **March 11:** AHI's statement applauded Greece's designation as a member of the United States Visa Waiver Program (VWP) by the Obama Administration on March 9 as an important step toward strengthening U.S.-Greece relations, noting that it will benefit citizens of both countries.
- **March 11:** AHI congratulated the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee on passage of Armenian Genocide Resolution, H.Res.252, by a narrow vote of 23 to 22 on March 4. AHI also congratulated the Armenian American community for this win.
- **May 4:** AHI commended the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom's (USCIRF) *2010 Annual Report* that keeps Turkey on its "Watch List." The report specifically cited that the legality of the Ecumenical Patriarchate is not recognized, the right for it to maintain and own property is denied, and that it is unable to train clergy.
- **June:** AHI welcomed criticism by U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman (D-NY) and Donald Wilson Bush (a descendant of President Woodrow Wilson) of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars' decision to honor Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu. The scrutiny of the Center's decision followed AHI's call to rescind the honor on May 21.
- **July 23:** AHI commended the members of Congress who submitted remarks or commentary for the public record on the somber 36th anniversary of Turkey's illegal invasion of the Republic of Cyprus.

- **September 30:** AHI applauded the passage of a congressional resolution, H.Res.1631, by the U.S. House of Representatives, introduced by Hellenic Caucus Co-Chair U.S. Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL). H.Res. 1631 calls for the protection of religious sites and artifacts from and in Turkish-occupied Cyprus, as well as general respect for religious freedom.
- **November 1:** In its November newsletter, AHI congratulated all Greek Americans who ran for public office and were successful in their bids. AHI member Mariyana Spyropoulos in particular was commended for her victory to become a commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Chicago.
- **November 12:** AHI applauded U.S. Representative John Sarbanes' (D-MD) letter to Assistant Secretary of State Philip H. Gordon on the matter of FYROM's continued insistence to join NATO irrespective of NATO's legal framework. Sarbanes pointed out numerous examples of FYROM's irredentist ambitions against, and nationalistic hate propaganda toward NATO member Greece.
- **November 12:** AHI highlighted a series of commentaries that scrutinized and provided critical analysis of Turkey's foreign policy orientation. These commentaries included one by Robert Ellis in *The Guardian* on November 4, one by American Enterprise Institute (AEI) Resident Scholar Michael Rubin in the July/August 2010 issue of *Commentary Magazine*, and another one by Middle East Forum director Daniel Pipes in the July 19 edition of the *Washington Times*.
- **November 22:** AHI applauded Ted Galen Carpenter's commentary "Sacrificing an Island: Will the West give up Cyprus to placate an irritable Turkey?" that appeared in the *Washington Times* on November 19. In his commentary, Carpenter says of former British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw's proposal of partition of Cyprus: "Going down that path would be a mistake—for both practical and moral reasons."
- **December 2:** AHI applauded Ambassador Thomas J. Miller's op-ed "Cyprus Should Be Reunited as One Country" that appeared in *The Huffington Post* on November 29. Ambassador Miller states "a solution short of a bicomunal bizonal federation with a single sovereignty cannot be accepted within this [UN] framework."
- **December 14:** AHI welcomed U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen's (R-FL) critical assessment of Turkish policies in a statement she issued following a meeting with Turkish Ambassador to the U.S. Namik Tan on December 7.
- **December 29:** AHI strongly condemned the cancellation of Christmas Day services at Agios Synesios Church at Rizokarpaso in Turkish occupied Cyprus by "police officers" of the illegal Turkish Cypriot regime. The cessation of these services is an egregious violation of religious freedom.

## 2010 Action Alerts:

AHI chapter presidents, team leaders, members and friends were urged to take action on the following:

- **September 8:** Contact local PBS affiliates asking them to air the AHI Foundation-sponsored documentary "Cyprus Still Divided: A Foreign Policy Failure."
- **September 20:** Contact U.S. representatives requesting that

they co-sponsor H.Res.1631, a resolution introduced by Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) that calls for the protection of religious sites and artifacts from and in Turkish-occupied areas of northern Cyprus, as well as for general respect for religious freedom.

- **September 27:** Contact U.S. Congressional candidates (House and Senate) urging them to complete AHI's congressional candidate questionnaire. The questionnaire explored issues on U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus, as well as southeastern Europe and eastern Mediterranean regions.
- **October 26:** Contact the 19 U.S. Representatives who signed a letter to President Barack Obama and protest their position that NATO allies offer FYROM a formal invitation to become a NATO member despite not coming to an agreement with Greece on its name dispute issue. Of the 19 U.S. Representatives who signed the letter, six of them are members of the Hellenic Caucus.

## LEGISLATIVE & POLICY INITIATIVES

### AHI Hosts U.S. Envoy to Cyprus



*Ambassador Frank Urbancic Discusses Political, Economic and Cultural Aspects of U.S.-Cyprus Relations.*

American Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus Frank C. Urbancic, Jr. discussed the goals and challenges of the American mission in Cyprus at a luncheon hosted by AHI on January 5, 2010, at the Capital Hilton in Washington.

Ambassador Urbancic touched on topics ranging from the ongoing Cyprus negotiations to encouraging more Cypriot citizens to consider the United States as a venue to pursue business or educational opportunities. The importance of increased American investment in Cyprus, including tourism to Cyprus, was also discussed.

### AHI Testimony Submitted to House Subcommittee

On March 26, 2010, AHI submitted testimony to the House of Representatives Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Agencies regarding the Obama Administration's foreign aid proposals for FY2011. In the best interests of the United States, AHI's testimony opposed:

- any military assistance the administration will request for Turkey until Turkey removes its troops and illegal Turkish settlers in Cyprus;
- aid the administration will request for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM); and
- any reduction that might be introduced in the aid levels for the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

The testimony also supported continuation of the Economic Support Fund (ESF) for Cyprus as long as it is tied exclusively to bi-communal projects of the island as mandated by U.S. law. The law states U.S. funds are to support only "measures aimed at reunification."

### U.S. Rep. Space Commends AHI with Resolution

U.S. Representative Zack Space (D-OH) on April 13, 2010 entered a proclamation into the Congressional Record honoring AHI "for its principled commitment to the causes important to Hellenic people across the world."

The proclamation enumerates AHI's contributions, including its work to strengthen U.S.-Greece relations, reunify Cyprus, and advance religious freedom for the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Also highlighted was AHI's work on educational initiatives and cultural awareness and preservation.

### AHI Portland Members Meet with Senator Merkley



(r-l) Stefanos Vertopoulos, Vasiliki Vlahakis, Alex Christy, Senator Jeff Merkley, Bill Aspros, Nicolas Hanches, and Maria Hanches.

AHI members from Portland, Oregon, met with U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) on May 28, 2010. They presented the senator with AHI's 2010 Policy Statements and reviewed all relevant issues affecting the Greek American community with him.

### Congressional Candidate Questionnaire Findings Released

AHI released the results from its 2010 Congressional Candidate Questionnaire on October 25, 2010.

The questionnaire surveyed candidates from the two major parties and select independent candidates on issues that are of great importance to the Greek American community, including the Aegean Sea Boundary, FYROM's name-recognition, a just and viable Cyprus solution, religious freedom for the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and a critical review of U.S. policy toward Turkey.

AHI received 47 responses of which 21 candidates stated they do not complete surveys or questionnaires. Twenty-six candidates did submit responses. The overwhelming majority of respondents were in agreement with each of the nine policy questions asked by AHI. Please visit <[http://www.ahi-world.org/press\\_releases/2010\\_065.html](http://www.ahi-world.org/press_releases/2010_065.html)> to view the findings.

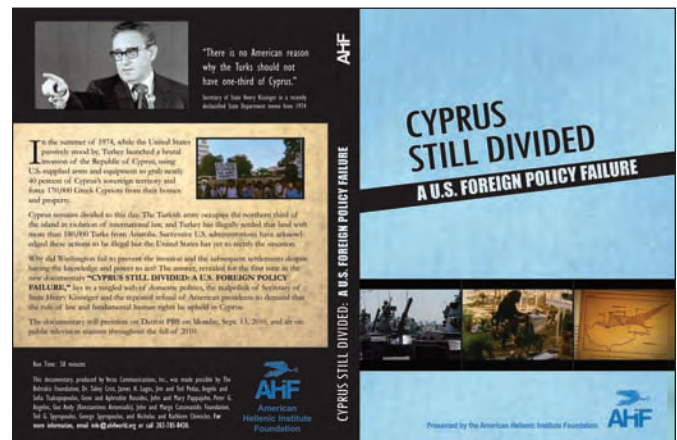
### AHI Assesses European Commission's Turkey Report

On November 18, 2010, AHI released its assessment of the European Commission's 2010 Progress Report on Turkey in preparing for European Union membership, pointing out its agreement with the findings. The report covered the period of October 2009 to October 2010.

AHI Foundation Chair of Fellows Dr. Van Coufoudakis wrote AHI's assessment. He concluded: "Essentially, according to this report, Turkey has failed to fulfill its obligations under the EU Declaration of September 21, 2005 and the Council's conclusions of December 2006 and 2009. It is now up to the Council to make the final finding on Turkey's EU progress next month."

## General News

### Detroit Public TV Airs Cyprus Documentary



"Cyprus Still Divided" Premiered September 13 on PBS."

Detroit Public Television WTVS Channel 56 premiered the one-hour documentary, "Cyprus Still Divided: A U.S. Foreign Policy Failure," on September 13, 2010. All PBS affiliate stations received the feed for "Cyprus Still Divided" on September 12 and have the ability to air the documentary.

"Cyprus Still Divided" reveals the web of domestic politics, the realpolitik of Henry Kissinger, and repeated refusal of successive U.S. presidents to demand that the rule of law and fundamental human rights be upheld in Cyprus. The documentary also looks to the future of the divided island in the context of the ongoing settlement negotiations between the Republic of Cyprus and the Turkish Cypriot community that began in September 2008. It was produced by Emmy Award-winning filmmaker George Veras and made possible by the support of the AHI Foundation.

### AHI Board Member Alexakis Completes Historic Athens Marathon



(AHI) Board Member Kostas Alexakis participated in and completed the historic Athens Marathon held October 31, 2010.

AHI Board Member Kostas Alexakis participated in and completed the historic Athens Marathon held October 31, 2010. This year's marathon celebrated the 2,500th anniversary of the original marathon when Pheidippides made the run to Athens to carry the news of the victory at the Battle of Marathon over the invading Persians.

AHI saluted all those individuals who paid homage to history and ran in the 2,500th Athens Marathon.

### AHI Foundation Board Member Meets with President Obama



AHI Foundation Board Member Ted Spyropoulos shares a moment with President Barack Obama at an event in Chicago.

AHI Foundation Board Member Ted Spyropoulos shared a moment with President Barack Obama at an event in Chicago in December 2010.

In addition to serving on the AHI Foundation Board, Spyropoulos serves as the President of SAE-USA. His daughter, Mariyana Spyropoulos, an AHI member, successfully won the election to become Commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Chicago.

### AHI Member's Restaurant Focus of TV Show

Metro 29 Diner in Arlington, Virginia, co-owned by American Hellenic Institute Member Peter Bota, was featured on the Food Network's "Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives" on December 6, 2010.

Metro 29 Diner was a sponsor of AHI's Seventh Annual Golf Classic held in October.

## HELLENIC HOUSE VISITORS

### Greece's Alternate Foreign Minister Visits Hellenic House



(l-r) Ambassador Chryssoula Aleiferi, Director of A7 North America Division Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Gene Rossides, Dimitris Droutsas, Alternate Foreign Minister of Greece, Nick Larigakis, Ambassador Vassilis Kaskarelis, Greek Ambassador to the U.S.

Greece's Alternate Foreign Minister Dimitris Droutsas visited Hellenic House on February 2, 2010 as part of a one-day trip to Washington to discuss U.S.-Greece relations. Droutsas commended AHI for its efforts to promote and advance Greek American policy issues in Washington. He placed special emphasis on the success of AHI's inaugural Foreign Policy Study Abroad Program for college students at which he provided a briefing last summer.

### AHI Hosts Greek Deputy Foreign Minister



(l-r) James Marketos, Esq., Nick Karambelas, Esq., Ms. Paraskevi Boufounou, Chair of the Board of Directors of "Invest in Greece," Kostas Alexakis, Gene Rossides, Spyros Kouvelis, Greece's Deputy Foreign Minister and Nick Larigakis.

Greece's Deputy Foreign Minister Spyros Kouvelis visited Hellenic House on July 9, 2010 and met with AHI Founder Gene Rossides, AHI Legal Counsel Nick Karambelas, Esq., AHI board members Kostas Alexakis and James Marketos Esq., AHI Executive Director Nick Larigakis, and AHI staff. The meeting included discussion of developments in economic diplomacy and opportunities to invest in Greece. AHI proposed different ways that it could facilitate bringing increased business and tourism to Greece. AHI has a history of promoting investment in Greece and has published a two edition volume titled *Doing Business in Greece*. Deputy Minister Kouvelis was accompanied by a delegation from Greece's Foreign Ministry and the Embassy of Greece.

### New U.S. Ambassador to Greece Meets with AHI



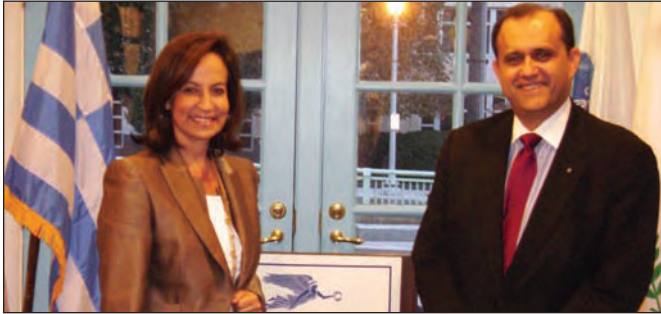
Nick Larigakis, Gene Rossides, Ambassador Daniel Smith, Kostas Alexakis, James Marketos.

The new American Ambassador to Greece Daniel B. Smith visited Hellenic House on September 8, 2010 as part of preparations for his new post. The discussion covered: initiatives to strengthen U.S. relations with Greece, the reunification of Cyprus, the FYROM name dispute, the Greek economy, Greece's important role as the United States' key strategic, political and economic ally in southeast Europe and the eastern Mediter-



anean, and the plight of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. State Department Senior Greece Desk Officer Christopher Snipes accompanied the ambassador. AHI Founder Gene Rossides, Executive Director Nick Larigakis, AHI board members James L. Marketos, Esq., and Kostas Alexakis, and AHI staff met with Ambassador Smith.

### Education Minister, Finance Officials at Hellenic House



*Education Minister Diamantopoulou with Executive Director Larigakis.*

AHI welcomed high-level education, finance and banking officials from Greece and Cyprus to Hellenic House throughout October. Greek Minister of Education Anna Diamantopoulou visited October 15, 2010. Ambassador of Greece Vassilis Kaskarelis and Deputy Chief of Mission Ioannis Vrailas accompanied the minister.



*Yiannis Drimousis, Secretary General, Greek Ministry of Finance and President of "Invest in Greece" (center left), and his colleagues, visit with AHI Board of Directors Secretary Nick Karambelas (far right), AHI Advisory Committee Member Kostas Alexakis (third from left), and Executive Director Nick Larigakis (center right).*

In addition, Mr. Yiannis Drimousis, secretary general of the Greek Ministry of Finance and president of "Invest in Greece," visited October 8, 2010 and Athanasios Orphanides, governor of the Central Bank of Cyprus, visited AHI on October 9, 2010. Mr. Drimousis and Mr. Orphanides updated AHI on the status of the Greek and Cypriot economies. In meetings with both officials, AHI looked to identify helpful ways to promote business opportunities and investment abroad.

### New Cypriot Ambassador to U.S. Meets with AHI

Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the U.S. Pavlos Anastasiades visited Hellenic House on October 21, 2010. The ambassador thanked AHI for its efforts to promote and advance Greek American policy issues in Washington, citing as an example AHI Foundation's landmark conference on the 50th anniversary of Cyprus's independence, held October 4-5. AHI Founder Gene Rossides, Board of Directors Secretary Nicholas



*Ambassador Anastasiades (center) is flanked by (left to right) Executive Director Nick Larigakis, AHI Founder Gene Rossides, Board of Directors Secretary Nicholas Karambelas, and Board Member James Marketos.*

Karambelas, and Board of Directors member James Marketos also participated. Following the meeting, AHI hosted the ambassador for a luncheon. Ambassador Anastasiades presented his credentials to President Barack Obama on September 16, 2010.

### AHI Welcomes Greece's Alternate Defense Minister



*Executive Director Larigakis presents AHI's initiatives to Alternate Defense Minister Beglitis.*

Greece's Alternate Defense Minister Panagiotis Beglitis visited Hellenic House on November 3, 2010. The alternate minister commended AHI for its many initiatives in support of a strong U.S.-Greece relationship and its foreign policy study abroad student program.



*(L-R): Board Member Marketos, Military Attaché Col. Sardellis, Director General Chronopoulos, Alternate Defense Minister Beglitis, Executive Director Larigakis, DCM Vrailas, Counselor Krebardi, Board Secretary Karambelas.*

The Greek Embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission Ioannis Vrailas, Military Attaché Col. Taxiarchis Sardellis, and Counselor Ioanna Krebardi, as well as Dimitri Chronopoulos, director general of Defense Policy and International Relations of the Ministry of National Defense, accompanied Alternate Minister Beglitis. AHI Board of Directors Secretary Nicholas Karambelas, Board of Directors members James Marketos and Kostas Alexakis also participated. Executive Director Nick Larigakis led the discussion.

## AWARDS DINNERS

### AHI Honors Five Distinguished Greek Americans at Annual Awards Gala

AHI honored a distinguished group of Greek Americans at its 35th Anniversary Hellenic Heritage and National Public Service Awards Dinner, held March 13, 2010 at the Capital Hilton in Washington. The 2010 honorees were:

- **John Aniston**, award-winning actor;
- **Peter Karmanos, Jr.**, chairman and CEO of Compuware Corporation, owner of the Carolina Hurricanes, and philanthropist;
- **Niki Leondakis**, chief operating officer of Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants;
- **Emanuel L. "Manny" Rouvelas**, partner, K&L Gates LLP; and
- **U.S. Congressman John Sarbanes**, Third Congressional District of Maryland.



(l-r) AHI Executive Director Nick Larigakis, Manny Rouvelas, Niki Leondakis, Peter Karmanos Jr. and AHI President Aleco Haralambides.

These individuals' many accomplishments were celebrated throughout the evening and highlighted in congratulatory letters submitted by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Ambassador of Greece to the United States Vassilis Kaskarelis, Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the United States Andreas S. Kakouris, World Council of Hellenes Abroad USA Region President Ted G. Spyropoulos, and International Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus President Philip Christopher.



Master of Ceremonies Thalia Assuras, former Anchor, Co-Anchor and National Correspondent for CBS Network News.

The master of ceremonies for the evening was Thalia Assuras, former CBS News anchor, who currently is a communications consultant.

The weekend's events featured an elegant dinner at the Greek Embassy on March 12, hosted by Ambassador and Mrs. Kaskarelis in honor of AHI's significant contributions to strengthening U.S.-Greece relations. On the morning of March 13, AHI also hosted a breakfast presentation featuring guest speakers Ambassador Kaskarelis and Ambassador Kakouris.



AHI Executive Director Nick Larigakis, Rep. John Sarbanes and former Senator Paul Sarbanes.

Ambassador Kakouris spoke about the history, current status and prospects for a Cyprus solution. Ambassador Kaskarelis spoke on a variety of issues ranging from U.S.-Greece relations, the Greek financial crisis, and Greek foreign policy regarding Turkey and FYROM.

### AHI Honors Excellence at Gala Affair in Athens



Dinner Honoree Niki L. Goulandris receiving the Hellenic Heritage Public Service Award for her outstanding philanthropic achievements, dedication to natural sciences and the environment, and promotion of Hellenic culture.



Dinner Honoree Professor Dimitrios Pandermalis receiving the Hellenic Heritage Achievement Award for his outstanding achievements in the social sciences, contribution to historical preservation and promotion of Hellenic Culture.

The Sixth Annual AHI-Athens Hellenic Heritage Achievement and Public Service Awards Dinner was held on June 2, 2010 to honor distinguished Hellenes Niki L. Goulandris, public servant and environmentalist, and professor Dimitrios Pandermalis, president of the New Acropolis Museum, for their excellence in public service and in their professions. Both honorees thanked AHI for the honor of receiving their awards and for the organization's tireless commitment to enhancing

U.S.-Greece relations. The event was a major highlight of AHI's annual trip to Greece and Cyprus. More than 200 AHI members and supporters attended the dinner at the Grande Bretagne Hotel.

## CONFERENCES

### Panelists Expose Myth of Turkey as Reliable Ally

AHI examined U.S. relations with Turkey from all angles, including the effect on Greece and Cyprus, during the "U.S. Relations with Turkey and Its Impact on Greece and Cyprus" policy forum on April 14, 2010 in Washington.

The panelists, each of whom presented on a specific topic based on their expertise, included:

- Dr. Ted Galen Carpenter, vice president for Defense and Foreign Policy Studies, Cato Institute;
- Dr. Van Coufoudakis, dean emeritus, School of Arts and Sciences, Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne;
- Dr. Theodore C. Kariotis, professor of economics, University of Maryland, University College;
- Gregory R. Copley, president, International Strategic Studies Association; editor-in-chief, Defense & Foreign Affairs publications; and president, Global Information System (GIS), Inc.; and
- Eugene Rossides, founder, American Hellenic Institute and president, American Hellenic Institute Foundation.

Ambassador Patrick Theros, former American ambassador to Qatar and president of the U.S.-Qatar Business Council, moderated the panel.

### U.S. Policy in Eastern Mediterranean under Obama Examined

On April 26, 2010, U.S. policy in the eastern Mediterranean under the Obama administration was the focus of AHI's policy forum "U.S. Policy toward Greece, Turkey and Cyprus: Developments and Prospects in the Obama Administration," at the Press and Communication Office of the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations in New York City. The panel of distinguished experts included: Dr. Ted Galen Carpenter, vice president for Defense and Foreign Policy Studies, Cato Institute; Doug Bandow, senior fellow, Cato Institute; and Dimitris Dimas, Washington editor, *Eleftherotypia*. Executive Director Nick Larigakis moderated the panel.



(l-r) Polyxeni Mastroperrou, Press Counselor, Permanent Mission of Greece to the U.N., Dimitris Dimas, Ted Galen Carpenter, Doug Bandow, AHI Executive Director Nick Larigakis, Kiriaki Sofianou, Consul General of Cyprus and Agi Balta, Consul General of Greece.

The panel concluded that little, if any, change has occurred in U.S. policy toward Greece, Cyprus, and Turkey under the current administration.

### AHI Participates in University of Wisconsin Policy Conference

AHI participated at the policy conference "American Foreign Policy in the Eastern Mediterranean" held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on November 10, 2010. AHI Foundation study abroad program alumnus John Tyler Gazetos, a student at the university, organized the conference.

Van Coufoudakis, rector emeritus at the University of Nicosia; and AHI Foundation chair of fellows, was an expert panelist. He was joined on the panel by Ted Galen Carpenter, vice president, Defense and Foreign Policy Studies at Cato Institute, and by Eleftherios A. Michael, a conflict analyst and conflict resolution practitioner. AHI Executive Director Nick Larigakis moderated the conference and discussion session that followed the panelists' presentations.

The conference received coverage in the university's two newspapers, *The Badger Herald* and *The Daily Cardinal*.

## EVENTS

### Book Presentation Chronicles General's Effort to Restore Democracy in Greece

AHI hosted a presentation on the book *Confronting the Greek Dictatorship in the U.S.—Years of Exile: A Personal Diary 1968-1975*, written by former Brigadier General Orestis E. Vidalis. The presentation, which took place on February 10, 2010 in Washington, was given by the author's son, Efthimios O. Vidalis. The book was lauded for chronicling Orestis Vidalis's actions as he advocated for the restoration of democracy in Greece in the U.S.

### Congressional Salute to Greek Independence Day



Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ).

On March 24, 2010, AHI hosted its annual Congressional Salute to Greek Independence Day on Capitol Hill. The event celebrated the 189th anniversary of Greek Independence and the common democratic ideals shared by Greece and the U.S. The event was held in cooperation with the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues' co-chairs, U.S. Reps. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) and Carolyn Maloney (D-NY).



Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA).

Special guest speakers were His Excellency Vassilis Kaka-relis, ambassador of Greece to the United States; His Excellency Marcos Kyprianou, foreign minister, Republic of Cyprus; and Nick Karacostas, AHEPA

supreme president. Members of Congress who addressed the audience included (in order of appearance): U.S. Reps. Zack Space (D-OH), Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL); Mike McMahon (D-NY), Mike McIntyre (D-NC), Dina Titus (D-NV), Frank Pallone (D-NJ), Russ Carnahan (D-MO), Ed Royce (R-CA), Eliot Engel (D-NY), and Anh "Joseph" Cao (R-LA). There was also a presentation of traditional Greek dances performed by the Return to Origins Greek Folk Dance Troupe under the direction of Rena and Elena Papapostolou.

The members' statements can be found at <[www.aheworld.org](http://www.aheworld.org)>.

### Congressional Leader Celebrates Greek Independence with AHI



Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) with Greek School Students from Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, Falls Church, VA.

U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, ranking member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, released a video of her remarks given at the AHI's Congressional Salute to Greek Independence Day celebration held Wednesday, March 24, 2010. To view her remarks, please visit <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPjZEMkITVQ>>.

### 36th Anniversary of Turkish Invasion Observed



AHIF Board Member Nick Karambelas and AHI Executive Director Nick Larigakis answer questions from the audience.

On July 21, 2010, AHI observed the 36th anniversary of Turkey's illegal invasion of the Republic of Cyprus by debuting a documentary supported by the AHI Foundation titled "Cyprus Still Divided: A U.S. Foreign Policy Failure" to a Capitol Hill audi-

ence. The documentary premiered on Detroit's PBS affiliate on September 13, 2010.

Four members of Congress attended the screening: U.S. Reps. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), Albio Sires (D-NJ), Zack Space (D-OH) and Frank Pallone (D-NJ). The members expressed their confidence that the documentary would serve as an important means to educate policymakers and the public about the Cyprus issue. Also attending were Andreas Kakouris, ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the U.S.; Vassilis Kaskarelis, ambassador of Greece to the U.S.; and many congressional aides. A forum followed the documentary presentation at which many of these dignitaries addressed the Cyprus issue.

### Organizations Bid Farewell to Ambassador Kakouris

Four Greek American organizations came together to bid farewell to Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to the U.S. Andreas Kakouris and his family by hosting a dinner in the ambassador's honor on July 27, 2010, at the Capital Hilton, Washington.

AHI, the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), the Hellenic American National Council (HANC), and SAE-USA paid homage to Cyprus's leading diplomat with remarks that reflected on Ambassador Kakouris' dedication, effectiveness, eloquence, and humble demeanor displayed during his three-and-a-half-year tenure in Washington.



AHI Board Member Marketos, AHI Executive Director Larigakis, Mrs. Kakouris, Ambassador Kakouris, AHI Founder Rossides, and AHI Board Secretary Karambelas gather following the presentation of the AHI Hellenic Heritage Public Service Award to the ambassador.

The ambassador made special mention of AHI Founder Eugene T. Rossides, thanking him for his "fighting spirit." A presentation from AHI was made to the Kakouris family by Mr. Rossides, Board of Directors Secretary Nick Karambelas, Board member James Marketos, Esq., and Executive Director Nick Larigakis.

### Seventh Annual AHI Golf Classic a Success



AHI hosted its Seventh Annual Golf Classic at Belle Haven Country Club in Alexandria, Virginia, on October 18, 2010.

AHI hosted its Seventh Annual Golf Classic at Belle Haven Country Club in Alexandria, Virginia, on October 18, 2010. Celebrity appearances were made by Larry Michael, Voice of the Washington Redskins, and Christine Brennan, sports columnist for *USA Today*.

The first place team was comprised of: Steve Bernstein, Paul Hersh, A.J. Leimenstoll, and Michael Abbenante. Second place honors went to: Paul Domson, Kay Tyler, Janice Calomiris, and Mimi Hoffman. The third place team included: Paul Kume, Tim Ehrsam, Jean Statler, and Gordon Daisley. Tyler won the "Longest Drive" competition and Leimenstoll the "Closest to the Pin."

AHI is grateful to the golfers who participated, and especially to all the sponsors, including tournament sponsor Compuware Corp. and its CEO/President Peter Karmanos, Jr.

### Book Presentation Chronicles Dramatic Rescue at Smyrna 1922



Christos Papoutsy details the rescue of Greek refugees as his wife, Mary, looks on.

AHI hosted a book presentation on *The Ships of Mercy: The True Story of the Rescue of the Greeks, Smyrna, September 1922*, authored by Christos Papoutsy. The book presentation was held October 14, 2010 in commemoration of the 88th anniversary of the Smyrna Catastrophe of 1922. The presentation focused on research that documents the heroism and sacrifice that went into the rescue of the Greek refugees.

*The Ships of Mercy* provides vintage photographs, naval war diaries, and captains' logs that corroborate what happened at Smyrna.

### AHI, HANC Host Briefing with State Department



The audience gathers with State Department Officials Snipes and Scarlatelli following the briefing.

On October 23, 2010, AHI hosted a breakfast briefing in cooperation with the Hellenic American National Council (HANC) that featured State Department Senior Greece Desk Officer Chris Snipes and Senior Cyprus Desk Officer Adam Scarlatelli at the Capital Hilton, Washington. The briefing was part of HANC's annual conference.

### AHI Commemorates OXI Day 70th Anniversary

AHI hosted two book signing receptions featuring George C. Blytas, author of *The First Victory: Greece in the Second World*

*War*, in Atlanta on October 27, 2010, and in Chicago on October 29, 2010. The book signing receptions were held in commemoration of the 70th anniversary of OXI Day.

In Atlanta, the event was held at and in cooperation with the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation and organized with the help of Dr. Victor Polizos. In Chicago, the event was held under the auspices of the World Council of Hellenes Abroad USA Region (SAE-USA) at the National Hellenic Museum. AHI Foundation board member and SAE-USA President Ted Spyropoulos sponsored the book signing.

Copies of *The First Victory* are available for sale from AHI.

## VISITS TO GREECE AND CYPRUS

May 22-June 4



AHI delegation with Prime Minister George Papandreou.

A delegation from AHI successfully completed the organization's annual leadership trip to Greece and Cyprus where it held substantive meetings with high-ranking government and religious officials and business leaders. For the first time ever, AHI representatives also addressed the Hellenic Parliamentary Special Permanent Committee on the Diaspora, chaired by Elpida Tsouri. The two-week overseas trip aimed to strengthen relations with both countries and to work on issues of mutual concern.

From May 22-27, meetings were held in Nicosia with: American Ambassador to Cyprus Frank Urbancic; Director of the Presidential Diplomatic Office Leonidas Pantelidis; Deputy Mayor of Nicosia Soula Kollakidou; Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Nicholas Emiliou; Director of the Permanent Secretary's Office of Foreign Affairs Yiorgos Christofides; Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives Averof Neophyous; and Senior Press and Information Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Androulla Lanitis. Ambassador Antonis Toumazis, director of Overseas and Repatriated Cypriots, and Senior Press and Information Officer Miltos Miltiadou each hosted their own luncheon for AHI. In addition, the delegation met with His Beatitude Archbishop Chrysostomos II and Governor of the Central Bank Athanasios Orphanides. It also conducted a day-trip to occupied northern Cyprus to survey areas where Cyprus's cultural and religious heritage has been vandalized or destroyed.

The group continued to Athens from May 31 to June 4. There, AHI met with Prime Minister George Papandreou on May 31 and with President of the Hellenic Republic Karolos Papoulias



*AHI delegation with Ambassador Nicholas Emiliou, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.*

on June 3. AHI also met with: Alternate Foreign Minister Dimitris Droutsas; Head of the Parliamentary Special Permanent Committee on Diaspora Elpida Tsoiri; Minister of National Defense Evangelos Venizelos; Minister of Economy, Competitiveness and Mercantile Marine Louka Katseli; and President of the Hellenic Parliament Phillipos Petsalnikos. The delegation also met with several directorates of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the Deputy Chief of Mission of the American Embassy Deborah McCarthy. Executive Director Larigakis held meetings with Minister of Culture Panos Geroulanos and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Spyros Kouvelis.



*AHI President Aleco Haralambides addressing the Parliamentary Special Permanent Committee on Diaspora.*

**Delegation Participants:** The delegation was led by AHI President Aleco Haralambides and included Executive Director Nick Larigakis, AHIF Board Member Gus Andy, AHI-California President Paul Sogotis and staff Vasilios Kotsatos. In Athens, the delegation was joined by AHIF Board Member Theodore Spyropoulos and AHI members Dr. George Tsetsekos, dean of LeBow College of Business at Drexel University, and George Mermelas, co-owner of the 24/7 Radio Program in Florida "Greek Voice Radio."

### November 29-December 10

Strengthening ties between the Greek American community and Greece and Cyprus in sectors such as government and commerce was the goal of AHI Executive Director Nick Larigakis during his annual year-end trip to Greece and Cyprus. This year, Larigakis was joined by Dr. Ted Galen Carpenter, vice president for Defense and Foreign Policy Studies at Cato Institute, for a series of policy lectures in Athens and Nicosia



*Nick Larigakis addressing the Greek Parliament Committee on International Relations and Defense.*



*Dr. Ted Carpenter was the main speaker at the AHI and AHI-Athens sponsored policy lecture at the Grande Bretagne Hotel.*



*(l-r) Ilias Malevitis and George Economou served as panelists at an AHI and AHI-Athens policy lecture.*

titled "U.S. Policy in the Eastern Mediterranean in the Post Congressional Mid-term Elections."

Larigakis visited Cyprus from November 29 to December 2. In Cyprus, two policy lectures featuring Dr. Carpenter were held on December 1, including one before the Cypriot Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a second at the University of Nicosia. Other meetings in Cyprus were held with: American Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus Frank Urbancic; Government Spokesman Stefanos Stefanou; President of the House of Representatives Marios Garoyian; Chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee Averof Neofytou; Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of For-

eign Affairs Ambassador Nicholas Emiliou; Director of the Foreign Ministry's Press and Information Division Androula Lanitis; Director of the Press and Information Office Eleonora Gavrielides; and Senior Press and Information Officer Mil-tos Miltiadou.

The Cypriot Ministry of Foreign Affairs also hosted a dinner on November 29 for Larigakis and Dr. Carpenter, and a luncheon was hosted on November 30 for Mr. Larigakis by the Governor of the Central Bank of Cyprus Athanasios Orphanides and leading Cypriot bank executives.

Next in Athens, three policy lectures featuring Dr. Carpenter were held. The Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with AHI organized a presentation at the ministry on December 3. The other two lectures were presented on December 7, including: one before a Joint Committee of the Hellenic Parliament's International Relations and Defense Committee and the Diaspora Committee, and the second one before the general public at the Grand Bretagne Hotel.

While in Athens, Mr. Larigakis' itinerary included meetings at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with: Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Dimitris Dollis; Dimitris Giannakakis, director, A2 Cyprus Division; Ambassador Dimitris Toulupas, director, A4 Turkey; Nick Mathioudakis, director, EU Foreign and Security Policy, A11 Division; Andreas Kintis, director, D2 NATO Division; and Ambassador Chrysoula Aliferi, director, A7 Division on North American Relations.

Additional meetings were also held with Yiannis Drymoussis, secretary general for the Ministry of the Economy, Competitiveness and Shipping; and Stavros Papastavrou, international secretary, International Relations and European Affairs for New Democracy Party. Finally, AHI's executive director was received by American Ambassador to Greece Daniel B. Smith at the U.S. Embassy.

## MEDIA RELATIONS

In 2010, AHI issued 90 press releases that were widely distributed to mainstream, Greek American, and foreign press; the Obama Administration, Congress, and AHI members and friends. AHI and its members also regularly wrote letters to the editors of major national and community newspapers, commenting on articles that appeared in their publications. In addition, numerous AHI op-ed pieces were published in Greek American media outlets.

## Letters to the Editor

Throughout the year, a number of letters to the editor were written by AHI leadership and staff, some of which were published in major U.S. newspapers. Published letters included:

- **The Washington Times (March 5):** "The Cyprus 'Incur-sion' Was an Invasion," by Nick Larigakis in response to James Morrison's February 23, 2010 "Embassy Row" column which featured AHI's call for President Obama to recall Ambassador Jeffrey.
- **The Washington Times (August 2):** "Turkish-occupied Cyprus no city upon a hill," by Nick Larigakis in response

to a July 26, 2010 letter written by a representative of the so-called "TRNC" titled "Cyprus is not Gaza."

- **The Washington Times (September 17):** "Gratitude due Greece, not just Macedonia," by Nick Larigakis rebutting Jason Miko's September 7, 2010 commentary "A place at the table for Macedonia?"

## AHI Op-Eds, Commentaries, and Media Placement

In 2010, Fifteen op-eds were written by Gene Rossides, Nick Larigakis, and Aleco Haralambides appearing in numerous Greek American publications including: *Greek News*, *The Greek Star*, *Hellenic News of America*, *The Hellenic Voice*, *The National Herald*, and *neoskosmos.com*. Topics ranged from U.S. relations with Greece and Turkey, to the new Obama administration, to reflective pieces on advocacy efforts of the Greek American community.

Additionally, *Washington Times* columnist James Morrison made the American Hellenic Institute's call to recall the U.S. Ambassador to Turkey James Jeffrey the lead of his prominent "Embassy Row" column in the February 23 edition of the paper.

## AHI FOUNDATION INITIATIVES

The American Hellenic Institute Foundation (AHIF) 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.

## Panelists Confirm Turkey's Destruction of Cyprus' Cultural, Religious Heritage



(l-r): 1. Ron McNamara, policy advisor, Helsinki Commission; 2. Nicholas G. Karambelas, Esq., partner, Sfikas & Karambelas LLP, and 3. Dr. Elizabeth H. Prodromou, vice chair, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and assistant professor, Department of International Relations, Boston University.

AHIF examined the facts and the law surrounding the destruction of Cyprus' religious and cultural heritage during a seminar hosted on January 20, 2010 at the National Press Club in Washington.

The panel of experts for "The Destruction of the Cultural and Religious Heritage of Cyprus: The Facts and the Law" included: Ron McNamara, policy advisor, Helsinki Commission; Nicholas G. Karambelas, Esq., partner, Sfikas & Karambelas LLP; and Dr. Elizabeth H. Prodromou, vice chair, U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and assistant professor, Department of International Relations at Boston University. Theresa Papademetriou, senior law specialist for the Law Library of Congress, moderated the panel.

McNamara presented slides from a recent visit to Turkish-occupied northern Cyprus that provided somber visual evi-

dence of the destruction of religious and cultural ruins in the occupied area. Karambelas added a legal perspective on what has transpired in Cyprus with respect to the destruction and looting of artifacts. Prodromou examined why religious freedom is often overlooked by the international community and explored the relevance of religious freedom to finding a solution to the Cyprus problem.

## Landmark Conference Marks Cyprus's 50th Anniversary



Philip Christopher, President PSEKA.



Congressman Brad Sherman, longtime member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, addresses the luncheon audience.



(l-r): Panel Four participants Ambassadors Patrick Theros, Robert Keely, and Thomas Boyatt examined the policy decisions leading up to the Turkish invasion of Cyprus and its aftermath.

AHIF hosted the "Fifty Year Anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus" conference on October 4-5, 2010, in Washington, featuring prominent academics, ambassadors, and policy analysts. Through a series of seven panels, they examined historical and contemporary topics that spanned the Republic of Cyprus's 50-year history.

AHIF President Eugene T. Rossides chaired the conference, and the keynote speaker was Andreas Jacovides, former Cypriot



(l-r) Ambassador Andreas Jacovides offered the conference's keynote address; Gene Rossides chaired the conference, and Amb. Pavlos Anastasiades also addressed the audience.

ambassador to the U.S. The conference dinner was chaired by Ambassador Clay Constantinou.

Conference attendees also heard special remarks from former U.S. Senator Paul S. Sarbanes, President Emeritus of New York University Dr. John Brademas, and Jess Baily, director of the Office of Southern European Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. Also, Cypriot Ambassador to the U.S. Pavlos Anastasiades, Greek Ambassador to the U.S. Vassilis Kaskarelis, PSEKA President Philip Christopher, Cyprus Federation of America Justice Committee Chairman Tasos Zambas, and AHEPA Supreme Governor Pete Nickolas all addressed the conference at the dinner.

The conference was held in cooperation with PSEKA, International Coordinating Committee Justice for Cyprus; and the Cyprus Federation of America.

For a comprehensive account of the conference's two-day proceedings, please visit [http://www.ahiorworld.org/press\\_releases/2010\\_063.html](http://www.ahiorworld.org/press_releases/2010_063.html).

## The Future of Hellenism in America



Award-winning Actor John Aniston (center) receives the AHF Hellenic Heritage Achievement Award from (l-r) Aleco Haralambides, Prof. Van Coufoudakis, Nick Larigakis, and Nick Karambelas.

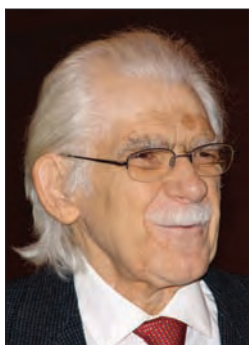
AHIF hosted its Ninth Annual Conference on the Future of Hellenism in America, keeping the discussion of the promotion and preservation of Hellenism at the forefront of the community. This year's conference was held in Los Angeles at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on November 20, 2010.

Professor Dan Georgakas, director of Greek American Studies at Queens College-CUNY's Center for Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, provided the conference's keynote address on the topic "The Now and Future of Greek America."

Featuring more than 25 prominent speakers from across the country, conference presentations analyzed key issues through the following topics:



- The Future of Greek American Organizations
- The Importance of Being Active in the Political Process
- The Role of Greek Americans in the Entertainment Industry in Promoting Hellenism
- AHI Hellenic Heritage Achievement Award
- The Now and Future of Greek America (Luncheon Keynote Address)
- Greek Education in America
- The Image of Hellenism: Hellenic Culture, Religious Identity, Greece's Economy, and the Next Generation
- Greek American Organization Study Programs to Greece and Cyprus
- A Perspective from Young Greek Americans



Professor Dan Georgakas.

The conference was held in cooperation with the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation (USA), the World Council of Hellenes Abroad (SAE) U.S.A. Region, and the Behrakis Foundation. Other sponsors of the conference included TGS Epsilon, Circle Management Company and Sigma-pharm Laboratories, LLC. Co-sponsors of the conference included AHEPA El Camino Real District 20, the American Hellenic

Council of California, and the Greek Heritage Society of Southern California.

For a summary of the conference proceedings and the major addresses presented, please visit [www.aheworld.org](http://www.aheworld.org).

### Battle of Crete Commemorated with Book Presentation

On May 12, 2010, AHIF in cooperation with the Pancretan Association of America held a book presentation and reception at the Hellenic House for the release of AHIF's latest publication, *The First Victory: Greece in the Second World War*, by George C. Blytas. The book was published jointly with Cosmos Publishing. *The First Victory* provides an explanation of Greece's vital role in the Second World War, including its resistance against the invading Axis powers that resulted in the first Allied victory. Ted Manousakis, president of the Pancretan Association of America, provided introductory remarks before author George Blytas presented the book.

### AHIF FALL 2010 ISSUE OF ONLINE POLICY JOURNAL

On December 29, 2010, AHIF published its second online issue of the *AHIF Policy Journal*, available at <http://aheworld.org/AHIFpolicyjournal/current-issue/>.

The fall 2010 issue includes a foreword by Gene Rossides and four articles: "Cyprus in the Eye of the Storm," by Gregory R. Copley; "The Republic of Cyprus at 50," by Van Coufoudakis, Ph.D.; "The Holocaust in Northern Greece: The Destruction of Sephardic Civilization," by Dr. Harry Dinella;

and "After the Treaty of Lisbon: Cyprus and the Direct Trade Issue in the European Union," by Nicholas G. Karambelas, Esq.

The *AHIF Policy Journal* invites authors to submit articles on recent policy and historical developments that affect U.S. relations with Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, southeastern Europe and the eastern Mediterranean. Authors are encouraged to submit completed articles to Demetra Atsaloglou via email at: [AHIFPolicyJournal@aheworld.org](mailto:AHIFPolicyJournal@aheworld.org). For submission guidelines and publishing information please visit our Web site at: <http://aheworld.org/AHIFpolicyjournal>.

### INTERNSHIP PROGRAM POLICY

AHIF offers several internship positions during the year. Designed for undergraduate and graduate students interested in U.S. politics, foreign policy and American government, the internship can serve as a great way to introduce and jump start a career in politics, journalism, lobbying, government, or the nonprofit sector. Interns can work at AHI Headquarters, on Capitol Hill, or at an embassy.

### LEADERSHIP, AWARDS, & STAFF NEWS

#### Haralambides Receives Honor

AHI was a proud participant at the inaugural National Innovation Conference 2010 (NIC 2010), hosted by the Greek America Foundation on June 12, 2010 in Chicago. The conference featured global leaders and corporate giants who presented their "ideas worth sharing" about how they incorporate innovation in their various endeavors. AHI Member Gregory Pappas organized this groundbreaking conference at which AHI President Aleco Haralambides was honored as one of Greek America Foundation's "40 Under 40" for having accomplished great success early in his professional career and personal life.

### THE AHI BUSINESS NETWORK

AHI highlights the professional accomplishments of its members through its various communications vehicles in an effort to provide the Greek American community with a viable business network. For example, AHI's semiannual newsletter features the "Member Spotlight" and "Members in the News" sections that highlight the latest "movers and shakers" in the community.

In 2010, our "Member Spotlight" section showcased: Mariyana Spyropoulos, commissioners for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD); U.S. Congressional candidate for the state of Maine Jason Levesque; President and Chief Operating Officer of Kimpton Hotels and Restaurants Niki Leondakis; and John Alahouzos, founding partner and executive vice president of Market Development Group Incorporated (MDG).

Moreover, as part of the business network, AHI held a break-fast network forum on March 16, 2010 featuring Ambassador Angelos Pangratis, who examined the economic crisis in Greece and its impact on the European Union. Pangratis is the chargé d'affaires and acting head of the European Union delegation in Washington.

## SECOND ANNUAL AHIF FOREIGN POLICY STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM



*With President of the Hellenic Republic, Karolos Papoulias.*



*With Panos Geroulanos, Minister of Culture & Tourism and Professor Dimitrios Pandermalis at the New Acropolis Museum.*



*Visit to Hellenic Army Special Forces Training Center Z'MAK Unit.*



*Visit to the Ministry of National Defense.*

AHIF sponsored a group of seven Greek American college students for the second annual AHIF College Student Foreign Policy Study Trip to Greece and Cyprus from June 17 to July 2, 2010. This program aims to introduce future Greek American leaders to the core foreign policy issues important to the Greek American community and their impact on U.S. interests in the southeastern Mediterranean region.

The trip began with briefings in Washington on June 17 and 18, which were followed by a series of activities and briefings in Cyprus (June 19-24) and Athens (June 25-July 2). The program is open to Greek American and Cypriot American college students in good academic standing who are studying political science, international relations, history, and/or foreign affairs.

The seven students selected to participate were: Arviri (Roula) Adonakis, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Leah Barkoukis, Georgetown University; John Papaspanos, Seton Hall; Georgea Polizos, Florida State University; Alfonso Romero, University



*At the old Nicosia International Airport with a member of the U.N. peace keeping forces.*

of Cincinnati; Michael Savvas, San Diego State and Ellen Yousios, Queens College, CUNY. AHI Executive Director Nick Larigakis and AHI Director of Government Affairs and Media Relations C. Franciscos Economides led the group on its trip.



*With the President of Cyprus House of Representatives, Marios Garoyian.*



*AHIF hosted farewell Cyprus dinner. Pictured with the students are (far left) Androula Lanitis, Director of the Press & Information Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and (Center) Presidential Commissioner, George Iacovou.*

# AHI History: 1974-2009

The American Hellenic Institute, Inc. (AHI) 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.

When Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and the United States Congress would not act to enforce U.S. laws following Turkey's invasion of Cyprus on July 20, 1974, AHI called on some of its friends in Congress. AHI wrote to them on August 28, 1974, setting forth Turkey's violations of the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) and the Foreign Military Sales Act (FMSA) in its invasion of Cyprus with the illegal use of American supplied arms and equipment.

Our friends in Congress adopted our arguments and sent a letter to Secretary Kissinger on August 29, 1974. Thus the rule of law issue was born. It should have been born the very day Turkey invaded Cyprus—July 20, 1974—and if it had been, there would have been no second aggression on August 14, 1974. Kissinger violated the FAA and FMSA and his constitutional oath of office to faithfully carry out the laws of the land when he refused to declare Turkey “immediately ineligible” for further U.S. aid and sales as required by law.

After a dozen major votes in the Congress between September and December 1974, in which the entire community was active in support of the rule of law, Congress passed an arms embargo against Turkey. AHI coordinated the effort in the community, kept a vote count on a daily



**Ribbon-Cutting:** Mr. George Spyropoulos, a long time supporter and friend of AHI, officially opens the doors to Hellenic House on October 25, 1994, under the watchful eye of Greece's then Ambassador to the U.S., Loucas Tsilas.

basis and provided the information to key supporters in the House and Senate. It was an historic success that should never be forgotten. It proved what could and

*“...one of the most effective lobbies in Washington today is that of Greek Americans...most effective has been the American Hellenic Institute Public Affairs Committee.”*

*—Time Magazine  
June, 1975*

can be done when we are in the right and united on policy. Fundamental to the success was the fact that we stood for the rule of law in international affairs as in the best interests of the U.S.

Also in December 1974, AHI initiated the proposal for \$25 million in humanitarian aid for Cyprus, which was adopted by our friends in Congress. As a result of that initiative, supported annually by AHI, Cyprus has received over \$400 million which has aided the island's remarkable economic recovery.

In the years since 1974, AHI has kept the spirit of the rule of law alive. AHI and its affiliate organizations 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 South-east Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean, a region critically important to American national interests.

AHI is a 501(c)(6) non-profit tax-exempt, independent public policy trade association. It provides an organization and program for strengthening relations between the U.S. and Greece, the U.S. and Cyprus, and within the American Hellenic community.

The **American Hellenic Institute Public Affairs Committee, Inc. (AHI-PAC)** was established in early 1975 with a charter similar to AHI's. While both AHI



*Nick Larigakis speaking at the Hands Around the Capitol Rally marking the 25th anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus.*

and AHIPAC are authorized to lobby, AHIPAC was formed to concentrate on lobbying. AHIPAC is the only Greek American organization registered with the U.S. Congress under the Lobbying Act.



*AHI's first congressional trip to Greece, August 1993: Reps. Newt Gingrich, Gerald Solomon, Carolyn Maloney and Mike Bilirakis at the Prime Minister's office.*

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.

The **AHI Business Network**, a division of AHI, was initiated in 1989 creating a national and international network for the Greek American business and professional community, and putting it to work helping other Greek Americans. Its purpose is to share business information and contacts. Its concept is people helping people by sharing experience, knowl-

edge and ideas.

In 1995, the Foundation for Hellenic Studies was established in Washington, D.C. under the auspices of AHIF and under the direction of Professor Van Coufou-dakis, who is dean emeritus and professor emeritus at Indiana University—Purdue University in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The foundation's main objective is to provide support to qualified individuals, institutions, programs and projects advancing the study of Greece and Cyprus in the U.S.

Through the years, AHI has grown into one of the key Greek American membership organizations. Below you will find descriptions of some of the programs and publications the AHI and its affiliates have developed over the years to strengthen relations between the U.S., Greece and Cyprus and within the Greek American community.

## TESTIMONY AND LETTERS TO CONGRESS AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH



*Nick Larigakis delivers testimony before the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations.*

AHI has testified annually on behalf of AHI, the Hellenic American National Council, and other major Greek American organizations before House and Senate committees on foreign aid proposals.



*Senator Paul Sarbanes and Congressman Michael Bilirakis are presented with an AHI award following a breakfast briefing in 2006. (l-r) James Marketos, Sen. Sarbanes, Congressman Bilirakis, Gene Rossides, Nick Larigakis.*

The testimony and letters to Congress and the Executive Branch highlight support of the rule of law regarding the Aegean, Cyprus, the Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Greek minority in Albania, and opposition to the recognition of the Skopje regime under the name of "Macedonia."

## LEGISLATION

AHI has periodically initiated legislation on the key issues of Cyprus, the Aegean, U.S. relations with Turkey, FYROM, and the Ecumenical Patriarchate. AHI successfully ended grant aid to Turkey and helped to pass: (1) H.R. 4545—Visa Waiver for Greek citizens, passed into law on March 25, 1999; (2) S. 1607, a bill applying a code of conduct to U.S. arms supplies to non-democratic countries

including Turkey; and (3) Section 2804 of the 1999 Appropriations Law, calling on Turkey to respect the Ecumenical Patriarchate and reopen the Halki Theological School.

In 2004, Representative Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) introduced the *American-Owned Property in Cyprus Claims Act, H.R. 5071*, which was initiated by AHI. If passed, this bill would enable U.S. citizens who own property in the Turkish occupied territory of Cyprus to seek financial remedies against either the current inhabitants of their property or with the Turkish government. And in 2006, Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R-ME) introduced the Senate version of the *American-Owned Property in Cyprus Claims Act* as S. 3520, along with her colleague Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ).

## POLICY STATEMENTS

The AHI initiated the annual *Policy Statements* on issues concerning U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus. The *Policy Statements* are authored by AHI and have been reviewed, edited and approved in past years by the Order of AHEPA, the Hellenic American National Council, the Hellenic American Women's Council, the Cyprus Federation of America, the Panepirotic Federation of America, the Pan-Macedonian Association of America and other organizations. Distributed to the members of the House, Senate, and the Executive Branch, the *Policy Statements* present a unified Greek American position on the issues of concern to the community.

## ELECTIONS QUESTIONNAIRE AND SCORECARD

AHI periodically issues a Candidate Questionnaire on issues of concern to Greek Americans, also asking them to answer policy questions. Also issued periodically are House and Senate Score Cards for Greek American issues which provide the voting records of the House and Senate members on issues regarding U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus.

AHI drafts and distributes the *Questionnaire for Congressional Candidates* to all candidates running for office in the House and Senate. As a result of the questionnaire, AHI evaluates the candidates' positions on issues important to the Greek American community. In ad-

dition, AHI issues a questionnaire to U.S. presidential candidates, most recently in 2008.

## ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER



(l-r) Former Ambassador of Cyprus to the U.S. Euripides L. Evriavidis, AHI Honoree and former CIA Director George Tenet, and former Ambassador of Greece to the U.S. George Sawaides.



Award-winning actress Olympia Dukakis was honored by AHI in 1996.



(l-r): Ted Pedas presenting George Pelecanos with the Hellenic Heritage Achievement Award.



Award recipient John P. Calamos (r) at the Annual Dinner in 2007 with George Stamas.

Each year, AHI hosts its major fundraising event—the Hellenic Heritage Achievement and National Public Service Awards Dinner. AHI takes tremendous pride in paying tribute to a distinguished group of individuals for their important career achievements and for their contributions to the Greek American community. Past honorees have included: world-renowned musician Yanni, prominent businessman and philanthropist George Behrakis; former CIA Director George Tenet; George Stephanopoulos, co-host of *Good Morning America*, and former anchor of ABC's *This Week* and former senior advisor to President Clinton; Fox Filmed Entertainment Chairman James N. Gianopoulos; AOL Vice Chairman Ted Leonsis; Senators Paul Sarbanes, Olympia Snowe, and Joseph Biden; Congressmen Michael Bilirakis, and his son, Gus; former U.S. Ambassadors to Greece Nicholas Burns and Thomas Miller; and acclaimed Chef, Phil-



(l-r) HANC President Ted G. Spyropoulos, former Greek President Kostis Stephanopoulos, AHI President Gene Rossides, His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, and Phillip Morakis at the First Annual AHI-Athens Awards Dinner in 2005.

anthropist and Author Cat Cora, to name just a few. In our history, we also have honored two long-standing Greek American organizations: The National Philoptochos Society and the Daughters of Penelope.

Prominent members of the Greek American community from both the U.S. and abroad attend the gala each year, making it an important event through which guests can celebrate the successes and achievements of our community together. In 2004, AHI dedicated the gala dinner to the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. A special segment during the evening paid tribute to three former Olympians by awarding them each with the Hellenic Heritage Achievement Award.

## CONFERENCES

Over the years, AHI has organized more than 60 conferences on legislative policy and how to lobby the Congress on U. S. foreign policy regarding Greece and Cyprus. In November 1999, AHI held its inaugural conferences in Nicosia and Athens. The conference was titled "U.S. Relations with Greece and Cyprus: The American Foreign Policy Process and the Role of Greek Americans." The participants learned about the issues and how



*President of Greece Konstantinos Stefanopoulos awards Gene Rossides with the Order of the Phoenix medal.*

Through its many years of dedicated service to the Greek American community, AHI has been recognized for its achievements and efforts promoting strong U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus, and within the Greek American community. In 2004, Gene Rossides received the Commander of the Order of the Phoenix from Greek President Konstantinos Stefanopoulos for his commitment to supporting Greek national issues, largely through his work at AHI. And in 2006, AHI was honored with the Greek Letters Award by the Three Hierarchs Parish in Brooklyn, New York, on the occasion of Greek Letters Day.

## AHI CHAPTERS

AHI has embarked on a program to develop its chapters across the country to better facilitate the grassroots activities of the AHI and its affiliate organizations. This program includes meetings with and letters to elected officials, contacts with the media and academic community, and organizing newsworthy events.

## FOUNDATION FOR HELLENIC STUDIES

The Foundation For Hellenic Studies' (FHS) main objective is to provide support to qualified individuals, institutions, programs and projects advancing the study of Greece and Cyprus in the United States. Since its inception in 1995, the FHS has dispersed approximately \$161,000 in grants to over 50 individuals and programs.

These grants have helped to support the following projects:

- A joint post-doctoral fellowship in Hellenic Studies with Princeton University



*(l-r) Congressman Zack Space, Professor Van Coufoudakis, Illinois State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulias, Endy Zemenides and Gene Rossides at the 2007 Hellenism Conference in Chicago.*



*Hellenic Caucus Co-Chair Congressman Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) in 2007.*

the foreign policy legislative process operates in the U.S. To analyze the state of the Greek American community, AHI launched its first annual conference on "The Future of Hellenism in the United States" in 2002. The conference, which continues today, features an expert lineup of speakers from the community and travels to a different city each year.

## AHI HONORS AND AWARDS



*Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) at center with the Return to Origins Folk Dance Troupe during the Congressional Salute to Greek Independence Day in 2006.*

- Support for the restoration of Cypriot antiquities owned by the Ringling Museum in Sarasota, Florida
- Support of Modern Greek Studies programs at various U.S. universities
- Support for the acquisition of library materials on Greece and Cyprus by university schools and other libraries
- Subventions for the publication of books and academic journals with a Greek focus
- Lectures on Greece and Cyprus
- Support of conferences with Greek themes
- Curriculum development grants
- Support of legislative seminars presented by AHI
- Ph.D. dissertation grants for dissertations on topics involving Greece and Cyprus
- Projects promoting Greece and Cyprus on the Internet
- Small research grants for researchers studying Greece and Cyprus
- Travel by Greek visiting scholars for lectures in the U.S.



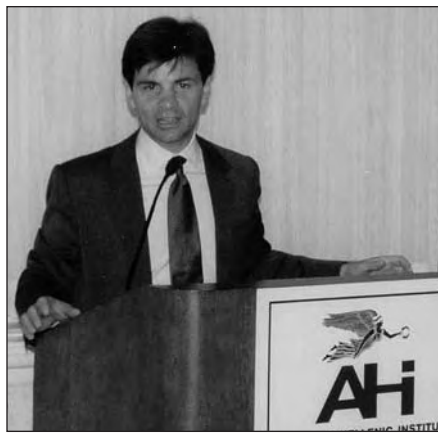
(l-r) Rita Cosby of Fox, Alexis Christoforou of CBS MarketWatch, AHI Executive Director Nick Larigakis, Dorie Klissas of NBC and John Metaxas of CNBC at a New York Business Network event in 2003.



## CONGRESSIONAL CONTACT LEADERSHIP TEAM (CCLT)

AHI Business Network events have included topics such as "Investing in Greek Real Estate," presented by Dr. Konstantinos Zacharopoulos in 2006.

AHI has organized a CCLT program which to date has at least one grassroots contact in



George Stephanopoulos speaking at an AHI Business Network luncheon in 2003.

over 400 of the 435 congressional districts and with 98 of the 100 U.S. senators. The goal is to develop at least five contacts with each of the members of the House and Senate.

The CCLT has played a leading role in the success of the bills in Congress. AHI members across the country have participated in letter writing and phone campaigns to their respective members of the House and Senate. AHI has made a special effort to involve the numerous Greek American communities who responded with petitions and letters to their elected officials in a strong show of support. AHI has kept the community informed of actions in Washington and provided information and guidance on reaching their members of Congress.

## AHI-BUSINESS NETWORK

Since 1989, the AHI Business Network has hosted numerous luncheons, recep-



Eleni Gage with her father, Nicholas Gage, and AHI staff after her book presentation.

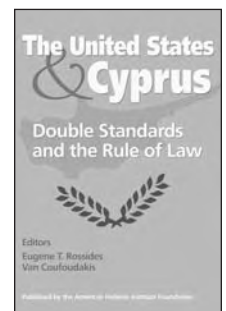
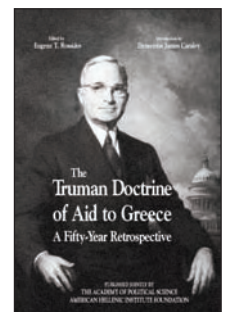
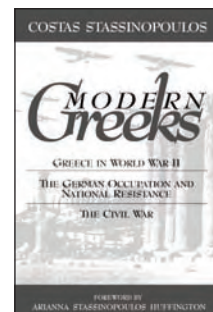
tions and meetings throughout the U.S., Greece, Australia and Canada. The AHI Business Network has successfully brought Greek American businessmen and professionals together to exchange ideas, share business information and extend contacts.

## TRADE CONFERENCES

AHI organized the first U.S.-Greece-Cyprus Trade Conference in 1975 and has held a total of 16 such conferences, including nine seminars between 1998 and 2000 titled "Cyprus: An International Business, Shipping and Financial Center." A key part of AHI's program is to strengthen business ties between the U.S. and Greece and between the U.S. and Cyprus. The *AHI Membership Directory* of members around the world, indexed by profession and geographic location, has been used as an everyday tool to generate greater interaction among our members and to stimulate participation in business networking.

## LECTURE SERIES

The American Hellenic Institute has hosted a series of Noon Forums, book signings and other events at Hellenic House for discussion of international issues relating to Southeast Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean, as well as historical and cultural themes. The AHI has also



hosted a number of Capitol Hill Briefings to reach out to Hill staff and policymakers regarding U.S. relations with Greece, Cyprus and Turkey.

## PUBLICATIONS PROGRAM

AHIF has developed an active publications program. In 1998, AHIF published the well-received *Truman Doctrine of Aid to Greece: A Fifty-Year Retrospective* jointly with the prestigious Academy of Political Science (APS). Since 1974, fourteen books and pamphlets on U.S. foreign policy and trade issues with Greece, Cyprus and Turkey were published. Publications include the *Handbook on United States Relations with Greece and Cyprus*, the *American Hellenic Who's Who*, *Doing Business in Greece*, *Modern Greeks* by Costas Stassinopoulos, *Greece's Pivotal Role in World War II and Its Importance to the U.S. Today*, *Blood and Tears: Greece 1940-1949*, by George C. Papavizas, and *The United States & Cyprus: Double Standards and the Rule of Law*. These publications, available to the public, were distributed to the U.S. Congress, the Executive Branch, Greek and Cypriot government officials, university libraries, domestic and Greek media, and to our members. In 2009, AHIF launched an Online Policy Journal.

## HOSTING VISITING DIGNITARIES

AHIF has hosted a number of receptions, luncheons, dinners and briefings for visiting dignitaries from throughout the United States, Greece and Cyprus in order to promote dialogue and cooperation between these countries.

## COOPERATION WITH GREEK AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS

AHI works in close cooperation with the Order of AHEPA, the Hellenic American National Council (HANC), the Hellenic American Women's Council (HAWC) and the various regional societies. In 1994, President of HANC Ted G. Spyropoulos announced that it designated AHI to coordinate lobbying efforts in Washington with the Congress and the Executive Branch on issues concerning the U.S., Greece and Cyprus.

## INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



AHI interns meet with the Ambassador of Cyprus. (l-r) Max Havanis, Amb. Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis, Adam Dice, Kristina Velys.

AHI offers several internship positions during the year. Interns have the opportunity to work in Washington, and to experience first hand the excitement and practical understanding for how foreign policy is developed in this country. It is an experience that they cherish and appreciate. The interns participate in a variety of activities such as monitoring legislation and congressional hearings, acting



as liaisons with Congressional offices, and conducting research on issues for Congressional testimony, for our *Handbook on U.S. Relations with Greece and Cyprus*, and for other critical areas.

## HELLENIC HOUSE

Thanks to the generosity of Mr. George Spyropoulos of Caracas, Venezuela, the Hellenic House, located in an historic building at 1220 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. just a few blocks away from the White House, became the new permanent headquarters of AHI and its affiliates on October 1, 1994. Mr. Spyropoulos contributed \$227,000, or thirty percent of the cost of the building. In 2004, the remainder of Hellenic House's mortgage was paid off in full, signifying a new chapter for AHI characterized by new opportunities for growth and expansion of programs in the future.

At the time of the donation of the building, Mr. Spyropoulos stated:

"As we all know, the Institute has grown over the years and has acquired more importance. That's why I considered that it was time it had its own roof as a demonstration of permanency.... However, I do have to say that this roof is fragile and needs your cooperation in order to make it stronger."

The importance of Hellenic House to our operations has exceeded our expectations.



(l-r): Brigadier General Ilias Leontaris, Nick Larigakis, Lieutenant General Dimitrios Voulgaris presenting Gene Rossides with a gift from the Hellenic Army.