Ελληνική Εταιρεία Γεωγραφικών Μελετών
«Ο Στράβων»

GEOPOLITICAL ACTUALITIES

- Yesterday's visit of PM of the Hellenic Republic to Ankara, evolved in a professional and civilized atmosphere. Mr Mitsotakis was fair and righteous in outlining the Greek position with regard to the war in Gaza, a human and not just humanitarian catastrophe, emphatically pleading against a prolongation of Israel's incursion in Raffa and in favour of the two state formula in the Holy Land. He was also quite eloquent referring to the festering Cyprus question, the Greek minority of Istanbul (Constantinople) and the fate of the world-famous byzantine monument of Chora Monastery (Karyie camii) as a mosque.

- The performance of the Greek PMinister in the press conference was solid. Yet, it seems as if a step towards putting in abeyance the Greek positions pertaining to the continental shelf and the exclusive economic zone in the Aegean and beyond was made; Greece does not give up anything attributed to her by International Law, but stays mute and immobile, not proceeding with the implementation of what International Law and the practice of civilized nations is acknowledging to her.

- Southern Caucasus

The Armenians have at a critical time for them miscarried. They have been trying to overrule the mandatory lessons imposed by their geographical location, and they were defeated two times, 2020 and 2023, by Azerbaijan. Wrong political choices have preceded their military defeat and the ensuing humanitarian tragedy and ethnic cleansing of Artsakh. Yerevan got willy nilly to redress bonds with Moscow, recognizing that for all the good will that Washington can offer to them, USA is oceans away and cannot replace Russia as a security provider to this bedeviled and stricken Christian nation. Last gloss: Both, bordering Iran and France -the latter having been rightly part of the Minsk group to address the Karabagh issue- represent the other two angles of the security quadrate of Armenia. It is a pity that Israel does not look eye to eye with the nation the tragedy of which is at the origin of the term genocide.

- Ukraine

It is time to reevaluate the Chinese peace proposal about Ukraine. Let us hope that both Russia and Ukraine will appreciate the merits of Xi-Macron rekindled and revamped peace opening. It is high time to stop the bloodshed

in Ukraine. An armistice should not be left to declare in the autumn. The international community will respect and sanction the notion of territorial integrity of Ukraine, while no change of hands in Donbass and along the northern shore of Sea of Azov is foreseen. Ukraine would better stay out of military alliances following the Austrian model, while freedom of conscience in its all manifestations should be guaranteed. Crimea is a special case; a plebiscite should define the future of the peninsula as autonomous entity within Russia or Ukraine.

- Nuclear power, after the colossal failure of Energie Wende of Chancellor Merkel comes back to the foreground of discussion on the energy mix. Greece cannot afford to stay indifferent.

- Advent of the nationalist forces to the levers of power in the Republic of North Macedonia create a lot of fuss, but after the dust sets, we do not anticipate changes. Republic of North Macedonia is going to remain Republic of North Macedonia, as renouncing the Prespa treaty (2018) will create many more problems for them than complying in good faith with the provisions of the said treaty. Greece should closely monitor the implementation of the treaty and play its part in full without inhibitions and second thoughts. STRAVON is noting the statement of the prudent President of Bulgaria Rumen Radev, issued in the aftermath of the unconstitutional stance of Mrs. Seljanovska while she was taking oath as the new head of State of this multi ethnic Balkan republic.

- Last but not least STRAVON takes note of the overtures of the Italian Prime Minister Mrs. G Meloni, this time visiting the chief of the Libyan National Army Marshal Haftar in Benghazi, Cyrenaica, an example to be followed by other European neighbors of Libya.

Stravon of Amaseia,
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