

ΑΠΟΨΗ

Οράματα και ονείρατα (εφιαλτικά) θερινής νυκτός...

• ΣΕΛΙΔΑ 5

ΕΕΚΑΘΑΡΗ ΤΟΠΟΘΕΤΗΣΗ ΤΟΥ ΕΛΛΗΝΑ ΥΠΕΕ:

Ν. ΚΟΤΖΙΑΣ: «Προφάσεις των Τούρκων η “Ενωση” για να μείνουν κατοχικά στρατεύματα μετά τη λύση»



«ΑΔΥΝΑΤΟ ΣΗΜΕΙΟ ΤΗΣ ΤΟΥΡΚΙΑΣ ΟΙ ΕΓΓΥΗΣΕΙΣ ΚΑΙ Η ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑ»

Εξέκπασε την τουρκική τακτική στις συνομιλίες για το Κυπριακό ο υπουργός Εξωτερικών της Ελλάδος Νίκος Κοτζιάς, τονίζοντας ότι η αντίδρασή τους σε διδαχή ενός ιστορικού γεγονότος στα Ελληνόπουλα της Κύπρου γίνεται για να δικαιολογήσουν την απαίτησή τους για παραμονή κατοχικών στρατευμάτων και μετά τη λύση.

Σε συνέπεια του στο ΣΚΑΪ Ελλάδος ο κ. Κοτζιάς θεωρεί ότι η θέση και η στάση του στο επίμαχο ζήτημα των Εγγυήσεων και της Ασφαλείας ήταν ορθές και κακώς εμφανίστηκε σε μερίδα του Τύπου σε Ελλάδα και Κύπρο, επειδή, όπως είχε διάσταση απόψεων με τον Πρόεδρο Αναστασιάδη. Ήταν κοινή πολιτική, συνέχισε, και κρίνει ως πολύ θετικό το γεγονός ότι το θέμα μπήκε στο τραπέζι και η Τουρκία δέχτηκε να συζητηθεί.

«Αλλά προσέξτε: Η Τουρκία αντιλαμβάνεται ότι είναι το πιο αδύνατό της σημείο για την Κύπρο. Και είναι ένα σημείο – συγκρατήστε αυτό που θα σας πω – που ή θα κάνει έναν ουσιαστικό συμβιβασμό και παραχωρήσεις ή θα λυθεί ως το σημείο που θα σπάσει η διαπραγμάτευση».

Κατά τον κ. Κοτζιά, επειδή η Τουρκία δεν έχει καταλήξει, τουλάχιστον μέχρι να γίνει το δημοψήφισμά της, πώς θα διαχειριστεί πραγματικά το θέμα των Εγγυήσεων και της Ασφαλείας, αν πραγματικά, δηλαδή, θα συμφωνήσει να καταργηθούν ή όχι, προσπαθεί να βάζει ενδιάμεσα ζητήματα ώστε να αποπροσανατολίζει την κουβέντα.

ΣΥΝΕΧΕΙΑ ΣΕΛΙΔΑ 2

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Πολιτική συμφωνία για την Ελλάδα στο Eurogroup

ΔΗΜ. ΤΖΑΝΑΚΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ: «ΟΥΤΕ ΕΝΑ ΕΥΡΩ ΕΠΙΠΛΕΟΝ ΛΙΤΟΤΗΤΑ»

ΣΟ·Ι·ΜΠΛΕ: «ΤΟ ΠΡΟΒΛΗΜΑ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΣ ΔΕΝ ΕΙΝΑΙ ΤΟ ΧΡΕΟΣ ΆΛΛΑ ΟΙ ΜΕΤΑΡΡΥΘΜΙΣΕΙΣ»

• ΣΕΛΙΔΑ 8



ΤΟΥΡΚΙΑ - ΨΕΥΔΟΚΡΑΤΟΣ ΣΥΜΦΩΝΟΥΝ ΣΕ ΕΞΕΥΤΕΛΙΣΜΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΥ ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑΔΗ ΓΙΑ ΝΑ ΣΥΝΕΧΙΣΟΥΝ ΤΙΣ ΣΥΝΟΜΙΛΙΕΣ

Ο ΑΚΙΝΤΖΙ ΑΚΥΡΩΝΕΙ ΤΗ ΣΥΝΑΝΤΗΣΗ, ΕΠΙΜΕΝΕΙ ΣΕ ΤΑΠΕΙΝΩΣΗ ΤΩΝ Ε/Κ



■ ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΣ ΑΝΑΣΤΑΣΙΑΔΗΣ: «ΕΧΕΙ ΚΑΙ Η ΥΠΟΜΟΝΗ ΟΡΙΑ – ΕΠΙΜΕΝΟΥΝ ΕΓΩΙΣΤΙΚΑ ΔΙ' ΑΣΗΜΑΝΤΟΝ ΓΕΓΟΝΟΣ ΝΑ ΤΑΠΕΙΝΩΣΟΥΝ ΤΟΥΣ ΣΥΝΟΜΙΛΗΤΕΣ ΤΟΥΣ»

■ «ΣΕ ΚΙΝΔΥΝΟ Ο ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΟΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΣΜΟΣ ΑΝ ΠΑΡΑΧΩΡΗΘΟΥΝ ΟΙ 4 ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΙΕΣ ΣΕ ΤΟΥΡΚΟΥΣ»

• ΣΕΛΙΔΑ 2

ΚΑΤΑ ΤΗ ΣΥΖΗΤΗΣΗ ΓΙΑ ΤΟ ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΟ ΣΤΗ ΒΟΥΛΗ ΤΩΝ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΩΝ ΠΡΟΧΘΕΣ, ΤΡΙΤΗ

Η Βρετανία επανέλαβε την «Ουδέτερη» θέση της στο θέμα των Εγγυήσεων και της Ασφάλειας

■ ΑΠΕΦΥΓΕ ΝΑ ΠΑΡΕΙ ΘΕΣΗ Ο ΥΠΟΥΡΓΟΣ ΕΥΡΩΠΗΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΥΘΕΙΑ ΕΡΩΤΗΣΗ ΤΗΣ ΤΕΡΕΖΑΣ ΒΙΛΛΙΕΡΣ ΟΤΙ ΔΕΝ ΧΡΕΙΑΖΟΝΤΑΙ ΤΡΙΤΟΙ ΕΓΓΥΗΤΕΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΚΥΠΡΟ

■ Ο ΣΕΡ ΑΛΑΝ ΝΤΑΝΚΑΝ ΕΒΑΛΕ ΣΤΟ ΙΔΙΟ «ΚΑΛΑΘΙ» ΤΙΣ ΕΥΘΥΝΕΣ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΣ ΜΕ ΕΚΕΙΝΕΣ ΤΗΣ ΤΟΥΡΚΙΑΣ



• ΣΕΛΙΔΑ 3

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C A L E N D A R O F E V E N T S

Πέμπτη 23 Φεβρουαρίου 2017

25 Φεβρουαρίου 2017
(ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ)

● **Ετήσια Χοροεστερίδα
Ανεξάρτητου Ελληνικού
Σχολείου Μάνορ Χίλλ**

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Royal National Hotel
ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ: 07956 245 706

● **Αποκριάτικη Εκδήλωση για τα
παιδιά στο Ελληνικό Κέντρο**

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Ελληνικό Κέντρο Λονδίνου,
16-18 Paddington Street,
London W1U 5AS

ΩΡΑ: 13.00 - 16.00 μ.μ.
ΕΙΣΟΔΟΣ: £10 λίρες για ενήλικες
και παιδιά άνω των 3 ετών.

ΚΡΑΤΗΣΕΙΣ: 020 7487 5060

● **Ετήσιος Χορός Συνδέσμου
Ελληνοκυπρίων Γυναικών
Χάρινγκει**

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Denmark Road,
London N8 0DZ
ΕΙΣΟΔΟΣ: £25 λίρες
ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ: 020 8341 6658 ή -7984 845 740

27 Φεβρουαρίου 2017
(ΚΑΘΑΡΑ ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ)

● **Καθαρά Δευτέρα στο Ελληνικό
Κέντρο Λονδίνου**

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Ελληνικό Κέντρο Λονδίνου,
16-18 Paddington Street,
London W1U 5AS

ΩΡΑ: 7.00 - 10.00 μ.μ.
ΕΙΣΟΔΟΣ: £18 (£16 για μέλη του Κέντρου)
ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ: 020 7487 5060

Θα προσφερθούν πατροπαράδοτα νηστίσια
και θα υπάρχει ζωντανή μουσική

5 Μαρτίου 2017
(ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΗ)

● **Ετήσια Γενική και Εκλογική
Συνέλευση Συνδέσμου**

Αρμοχώστου Η.Β.

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Κυπριακό Κοινοτικό Κέντρο,
Earlham Grove, Wood Green
London N22 5HJ
ΩΡΑ: 3.00 μ.μ.
ΗΜ. ΔΙΑΤΑΞΗ: 1) Έκθεση Πεπτραγμένων
2) Ταμιακός Απολογισμός
3) Συζήτηση -
‘Έγκριση Απολογισμού
4) Ψήφισμα
5) Εκλογή νέου Διοικ. Συμβουλίου
ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ: 07742 648 737
Θα ακολουθήσει δεξιώση

Εθνικό Μνημόσυνο Ευαγόρα Παλληκαρίδη στο Leyton



Λάβαμε την ακόλουθη ανακοίνωση:

Η κοινότητα Αγίου Ελευθερίου στο Ανατολικό Λονδίνο (Leyton) όπως κάθε χρόνο έτσι και φέτος θα τελέσει Εθνικό Μνημόσυνο για τον ήρωα μας **Ευαγόρα Παλληκαρίδη** και όλους τους Κυπρίους ήρωες που έδωσαν τη ζωή τους για την ελευθερία της πατρίδας μας την **Κυριακή 12 Μαρτίου 2017** και ώρα **9:00-11:45 π.μ.** Μετά το τέλος της Θείας Λειτουργίας οι κυρίες της Αδελφότητας και της Σχολικής Επιτροπής θα προσφέρουν τσάι και εδέσματα στην αίθουσα εκδηλώσεων της κοινότητάς μας.

9 Μαρτίου 2017

(ΠΕΜΠΤΗ)
● **Γεύμα για την Ημέρα της Μητέρας
από τον Φιλανθρωπικό Σύνδεσμο
Ελληνίδων Γυναικών Φίνσλεϋ &
Μπάρνετ**

ΟΜΙΛΗΤΡΙΑ: Άντρη Αναστασιάδη,
σύζυγος Προέδρου
Κυπριακής Δημοκρατίας
Trent Park Club,
Bramley Road,
London N14 4UW
(απέναντι από το Oakwood
Underground Station)

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Trent Park Club,
Bramley Road,
London N14 4UW
(απέναντι από το Oakwood
Underground Station)

ΩΡΑ: 11.45 π.μ. – 2.30 μ.μ.
ΕΙΣΙΤΗΡΙΟ: £35 λίρες

ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ: 07711 246 655 (Αλίκη)
07973 407 243 (Άννα)
07815 534 426 (Λούσι)

Εθνικό Μνημόσυνο Γρηγόρη Αυξεντίου



Λάβαμε την ακόλουθη ανακοίνωση:

Ο Ελληνοκυπριακός Σύνδεσμος Εφέδρων Καταδρομέων Αγγλίας τελεί την **Κυριακή, 26 Φεβρουαρίου**, το επίτιο μημάσιον του Σταυραετού του Μαχαιρά και υπαρχηγού της ΕΟΚΑ **Γρηγόρη Αυξεντίου**, στις **11.30 π.μ.**, στην εκκλησία των Δώδεκα Αποστόλων (Kentish Lane, Brookmans Park, Hatfield, Herts AL9 6NG).

Κύριος ομιλητής θα είναι ο Ακόλουθος Άμυνας της Κυπριακής Υπάτης Αρμοστείας, Αντισυνταγματάρχης **Ελευθέριος Χατζηστεφάνου**.

Ιδιαίτερες προσκλήσεις δεν θα σταλούν.

Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες και καταθέσεις στεφάνων μπορείτε να τηλεφωνήσετε στο **07723 069879**.

Σάτος Πολιτάκης
Πρόεδρος ΕΣΕΚΑ

17 Μαρτίου 2017

(ΠΑΡΑΣΚΕΥΗ)

● **Διάλεξη: «Ο Τύμβος Καστά και το
Λιοντάρι της Αμφιπόλεως 2012-14»**

ΟΜΙΛΗΤΡΙΑ: Κατερίνα Περιστέρη,
Αρχαιολόγος, Διευθύντρια
Ανασκαφών Τύμβου Καστά

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Ελληνικό Κέντρο Λονδίνου,
16-18 Paddington Street,
London W1U 5AS
ΩΡΑ: 7.00 μ.μ.

ΟΡΓΑΝΩΤΗΣ: Ένωση Μακεδόνων Μ.Β.
ΚΡΑΤΗΣΕΙΣ: 07904 086 677
Η διάλεξη θα γίνει στα αγγλικά

26 Μαρτίου 2017

(ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΗ)

● **Παμπαροικιακός Εορτασμός 25ης
Μαρτίου 1821 και 1ης Απριλίου
1955 από Εθνική Κυπριακή
Ομοσπονδία Η.Β.**

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Ashmole Academy

ΩΡΑ: 4.00 μ.μ.

ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ: 020 8445 999 και 020 8445 7070

7 Μαΐου 2017

(ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΗ)

● **Ανοιξιάτικο Γεύμα Φιλανθρωπικού
Σωματείου Αλκυονίδες Η.Β.**

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Κοινοτική Αίθουσα
Αγίου Παντελέμονος
(660 Kenton Road, Harrow,
HA3 9QN)

ΩΡΑ: 12.30 μ.μ.

ΕΙΣΙΤΗΡΙΟ: £15 λίρες

ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ: 01189 472 402, 07913 968 639
Θα παίξει βιολί ο Μάριος Παύλου

20 Μαΐου 2017

(ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ)

● **Ρεμπέτικη και Λαϊκή Βραδιά
των ελληνικών σχολείων Μάνορ
Χίλλ και Φίνσλεϋ**

ΤΟΠΟΣ: Penridge Banqueting Suite,
470 Bowes Road,
London N11 1NL

ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ: 07956 245 706

17 Ιουνίου 2017

(ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟ)

● **Ετήσια Γενική Συνέλευση
Συνδέσμου Αλκυονίδες Η.Β.**

ΤΟΠΟΣ: 15 Westdene Crescent, Reading,
RG4 7HD

ΩΡΑ: 2.30 μ.μ.

ΗΜΕΡ. ΔΙΑΤΑΞΗ: 1. Έγκριση Πρακτικών
προηγούμενης Γεν. Συνέλευσης

2. Έκθεση Δράσης από
την πρόεδρο

Μ. Παρισινού-Nicholsby

3. Παρουσίαση Ισολογισμού

4. Εκλογή Διοικ. Συμβουλίου

5. Άλλα θέματα

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ΤΟΥ ΔΗΜΗΤΡΗ
ΕΥΣΤΑΘΟΥ

Αυτές τις μέρες ζούμε το θέατρο του παραλόγου. Για μια τροπολογία που ψήφισε η Βουλή μας, για να γίνεται μνεία στα σχολεία μας η επέτειος του Ενωτικού Δημοψηφίσματος του 1950, βρήκαν την ευκαιρία οι Τούρκοι και απέδειξαν με φοβέρες και διακοπή των συνομιλιών, το τι ακριβώς εννοούν όταν μιλούν για συνεταιριστικό κράτος. Απαίτησαν, ούτε λίγο ούτε πολύ, να ζητήσει ο Πρόεδρος συγγνώμη και να πάρει μέτρα για να ακυρώσει την απόφαση της Βουλής, αγνοώντας κάθε έννοια λογικής και καλής συμπεριφοράς. Ούτε λίγο ούτε πολύ, απαίτησαν όπως στα παλιά χρόνια απαιτούσαν οι νικητές βασιλιάδες «γην» και «ύδωρ». Θυμήθηκαν ή μάλλον δεν έχασαν καθόλου, το πώς συμπεριφέρονταν επί Τουρκοκρατίας και ζήτησαν περίπου να γονατίσει ο πρόεδρος και φιλώντας τα πόδια του εδώ βεζήρη του Σουλτάνου, να ζητήσει ήμαρτον. Προς τιμήν του ο Πρόεδρος Αναστασίδης αρνήθηκε. Δήλωσε δε πως και η δική του υπομονή έχει τα όρια της και αυτό να μην το ξεχνά ο Ακιντζί.

Οι Τούρκοι, όμως, έχοντας στο μιαλό τους άλλα σχέδια και πιο σοβαρές απαιτήσεις, όπως την εκ περιτροπής προεδρία και τις τέσσερις ελευθερίες που ζητούν, δεν κάνουν πίσω. Αντίθετα, ο υπουργός Εξωτερικών της Τουρκίας, που έκανε παράνομη επίσκεψη στα κατεχόμενα, δήλωσε πως τα πλοία του τουρκικού στόλου περιπολούν στην περιοχή και αυτό να μην το ξεχνούμε, γιατί και η δική τους υπομονή εξαντλείται. Μας απειλούν με νέο πόλεμο δηλαδή.

Ο Πρόεδρος Αναστασίδης δεν πρέπει να αγνοήσει αυτή την απειλή. Θα πρέπει να απαντήσει στους Τούρκους άμεσα. Να καταγγείλει τις απειλές τους στην Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση και τα Ηνωμένα Έθνη. Συνάμα να καλέσει τον λαό να συσπειρωθεί γύρω από την ηγεσία του και να επαγρυπνά. Να προετοιμάστε για τα χειρότερα. Εμπιστούμηντος στους Τούρκους δεν πρέπει να έχουμε.

Η συμπεριφορά τους και οι μεθοδέσεις τους είναι προκλητικές και απαράδεκτες. Στην ουσία μάς ζητούν να τουρκέψουμε με την θέληση μας. Η εξέλιξη, όμως, αυτή μάς διδάσκει και ένα σπουδαίο μάθημα. Μας διδάσκει το τι θα συμβεί στο μέλλον. Αν από τώρα, με την παραμικρή αφορμή, οι Τούρκοι μάς ζητούν να αυτο-εξευτελιστούμε, φανταστείτε πώς θα μας συμπεριφέρονται αύριο, όταν θα έχουν δικαιώματα κάτω από το κοινό ομοσπονδιακό σύνταγμα; Με τουρκικό στρατό και τουρκικές εγγυήσεις, καταλαβαίνει ο καθένας τι πρόκειται να συμβεί. Με ψύλλου πήδημα θα μας απειλούν και το κράτος από την πρώτη στιγμή θα διαλυθεί. Και τότε εμείς θα μείνουμε μετέωροι. Χωρίς την ύπαρξη της Κυπριακής Δημοκρατίας, στην ουσία θα καταντήσουμε Ταϊβάν.

Αν μάλιστα η Τουρκία θελήσει να επέμβει ξανά, τότε ούτε στα Ηνωμένα Έθνη δεν θα μπορούμε να απευθυνθούμε για βοήθεια. Εν τω μεταξύ το φυσικό αέριο και τα πετρέλαια που κρύβονται στην οικονομακή μάζων θα έχουν με την υπογραφή μας παραχωρηθεί στην Τουρκία, μέσω των Τουρκοκυπρίων που θα έχουν πάρει με την δική μας υπογραφή τα μισά.

Η λύση της ΔΔΟ είναι πια φανερό πως θα είναι η καταστροφή της Κύπρου και των Ελληνοκυπρίων. Καιρός είναι λοιπόν να σταματήσει αυτός ο κατηφόρος. Να αλλάξουμε πορεία. Το πρόβλημα μας είναι η κατοχή και μόνο με την άρση της και την επαναφορά της νομιμότητας στον τόπο, χωρίς τούρκικο στρατό, εγγυήσεις και εποίκους θα μπορέσουμε να επιβιώσουμε. Αυτή τη λύση πρέπει να επιζητούμε και αυτό θα πρέπει να απαιτήσουμε από την Ευρώπη, τα Ηνωμένα Έθνη και τις μεγάλες δυνάμεις. Διαφορετικά το μέλλον μας διαγράφεται από τώρα ζοφερό και αβέβαιον.

Το εκπαιδευτικό συνέδριο του ΕΦΕΠΕ για το Πιστοποιητικό Ελληνομάθειας

Λάβομε την ακόλουθη ανακοίνωση:

Ο Ενιαίος Φορέας της Ελληνικής Παροικιακής Εκπαίδευσης Μ. Βρετανίας (Ε.Φ.Ε.Π.Ε.), σε συνεργασία με τις Εκπαιδευτικές Αποστολές Ελλάδας και Κύπρου, πραγματοποίησε την Κυριακή 12 Φεβρουαρίου 2017, στην αίθουσα εκδηλώσεων του Καθεδρικού Ναού Κοιμήσεως της Θεοτόκου, το Εκπαιδευτικό Συνέδριο του Κέντρου Ελληνικής Γλώσσας με θέμα: «Διδασκαλία της Ελληνικής Γλώσσας ως Δεύτερης / Ξένης και Πιστοποίηση Ελληνομάθειας».



Ο καθηγητής Ιωάννης Καζάζης

ψηφιακότητα. Πύλη του ΚΕΓ και Πιστοποίηση Ελληνομάθειας».

Ιδιαίτερη αναφορά έγινε κατά την εισήγηση στις ολοένα αυξανόμενες ανάγκες εκπαίδευσης και επιμόρφωσης που δημιουργεί η πολυυσυνθετότητα του συγχρονού τρόπου ζωής.

Οπως επισήμανε ο κ. Καζάζης, η πολιτισμικότητα, πολυγλωσσία και η ψηφιακότητα που χαρακτηρίζουν την εποχή μας απαιτούν από τους νέους να είναι τοχείς, επιλεκτικοί και κριτικοί χρήστες των πηγών και εργαλείων διαχείρισης της γνώσης.

Να θεμελιώνουν την πνευματική και γλωσσική τους ανάπτυξη στην εις βάθος γνώση του προδιαγραφές και

νία και τον αλληλοεσβασμό.

Στη συνέχεια, επεξηγήθηκε η υπόσταση του Κρατικού Πιστοποιητικού Ελληνομάθειας ως τίτλος που χορηγείται από το Κέντρο Ελληνικής Γλώσσας (ΚΕΓ) και η αξία του ως τίτλου με ευρωπαϊκή και διεθνή αναγνώριση, σε πλήρη αντιστοιχία προς τα επίπεδα που περιγράφει το Κοινό Ευρωπαϊκό Πλαίσιο Αναφοράς για τις γλώσσες.

Το πιστοποιητικό, όπως λέχθηκε, εκδίδεται ώστε από επιτυχή συμμετοχή σε γραπτές και προφορικές εξετάσεις, κατανεμημένες σε 6 γλωσσικές μορφής, διαγνωστικά τεστ, past papers, ενημέρωση για προγράμματα



παρελθόντος σε ότι αφορά στη γλωσσική και πολιτισμική τους κληρονομιά, αλλά να μπορούν, επίσης, με ευελιξία να προχωρούν σε αλλαγές, ώστε να ανταποκριθούν σε μελλοντικές ανάγκες κι εξελίξεις. Οπως επιπλέον, η γλώσσα ως ζωντανός οργανισμός που καλλιεργεί νου και πνεύμα πρέπει να εξηνηστεί την κοινωνία, ώστε να υπάρχουν υγιείς κοινωνικές σχέσεις που να βασίζονται στην επικοινω-

δασκάλους, γονιούς και μαθητές.

Ειδικότερα, στο τοπικό πλαίσιο της Μ. Βρετανίας οι μαθητές ελλαδικής και ελληνοκυπριακής καταγωγής των αγγλικών σχολείων, μπορούν να αξιοποιήσουν τη Νέα Ελληνική Γλώσσα (Modern Greek) για να φοιτήσουν σε βρετανικά πανεπιστήμια.

Οπως αναφέρθηκε από τον κ. Καζάζη η συστηματική τριβή των μαθητών αυτών από μικρή

επιμόρφωσης, πολυμεσικούς πόρους και υποστηρικτικού υλικού για τη διδασκαλία, μελέτες και σενάρια διδασκαλίας κ.λπ.

Σημειώνεται ότι οι προσεχείς εξετάσεις Πιστοποίησης Ελληνομάθειας θα διεξαχθούν στις 16, 17 και 18 Μαΐου 2017.

Οι εγγραφές σε κάθε εξετασικό κέντρο έχουν ήδη αρχίσει και γίνονται ηλεκτρονικά στο διάστημα από 1 Φεβρουαρίου έως 19 Μαρτίου 2017.

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THURSDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 2017

Anastasiades calls on Akinci to leave excuses and return to the talks

Hopes for a settlement in the Cyprus problem are hanging by a thread after Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci walked out of the UN-sponsored talks with President Nicos Anastasiades on Thursday morning.

Anastasiades told a live TV press conference at the Presidential Palace shortly after the unexpected development that Akinci and his delegation left the meeting without a sound reason or excuse during a brief interruption.

"During a brief interruption, due to a disagreement between the UN and our side, the Turkish delegation left without reason or excuse," the President said.

He added that UN officials had tried to convince the Turkish Cypriots to return but Akinci was uncompromising.

"My impression is that this (development) was a decision taken in advance so as to justify the position sustained by the Turkish Cypriot side," the President also said.

The President then called on Akinci to leave excuses aside and come back to the negotiating table with good will so that the UN-brokered reunification process continues.

The two leaders met on Thursday with the mood having recently been soured by a move by MPs to vote through a bill amendment calling for Enosis Day to be given a special mention at secondary schools.

Akinci told reporters outside his office that at the stage in the negotiations have reached after 20 months, there is no logic behind the emergence of the issue of Enosis.

"The Greek side says we are exaggerating but I tell you that our reaction was quite mild. At this point, there is no point in passing a law for the celebration of Enosis at schools" commented Akinci.

Akinci said that the Turkish Cypriot side has not left the negotiation table as they "are the side who truly wants a solution".

"It is in the hands of the Greek Cypriots to reopen the door as they are the ones who need to fix the matter with Enosis Day."



Anastasiades had earlier reiterated the Greek Cypriot side's position that the controversial Enosis Day bill amendment – which Turkish Cypriots claim threaten to derail efforts for a Cyprus settlement – does not alter his policy after heading into a meeting with Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci on Thursday.

The bill essentially calls for secondary school pupils to honour the anniversary of the 1950 Enosis (union of Cyprus with mainland Greece) Referendum which is already part of the history curriculum.

Smaller parties had backed the bill while Opposition left-wing Akel party voted against and ruling party Disy abstained. The amendment had been supported by far right party ELAM.

A meeting that had been set to take place on Wednesday between negotiators Andreas Mavrogiannis and Ozdil Nami was cancelled on last Tuesday by Akinci.

An announcement by the Turkish government described Anastasiades' move to play down the vote by MPs as "meaningless and unacceptable" before going on to demand that Greek Cypriots change their "mentality" when it comes to accepting Turkish Cypriots as "co-owners of the island".

"I will use everything within my power in the effort to reunify our country and to restore the pride and dignity our people are worthy of," said Anastasiades – who was addressing a ceremony for the Youth Awards 2016 in Limassol.

He added: "It is inconceivable that after some 37 years of dialogue aiming to achieve our country's reunification, to rid it from occupying troops on the basis of a bizonal, bicultural federation that the Greek Cypriot side's will can be put into question because allegedly and of course in an untimely manner, I wish to be clear, a matter of a ten minute reference to a historical fact has been brought up."

"No-one has proposed that with this amendment we are changing our policy and that we are turning in the direction of an unattainable solution which no one seeks, no one puts forward and no one calls for."

"This is also shown by the unanimous decision of the National Council that we remain committed to the goal as it is expressed by the unanimous decisions of the National Council, as it is expressed through the decisions of UN General Assemblies and UN Security Councils."

Greece and Eurozone gov'ts agree to resume bailout talks

Eurozone finance ministers and Greece agreed on Monday to resume negotiations over its bailout review next week, and to be concluded swiftly afterwards, a Greek government official said.

"The agreement includes the inviolable condition that was set by the Greek side for not even one euro more of austerity," the government official said.

Greece accepted to legislate reforms which would be adopted from January 1, 2019 onwards, on condition that the fiscal impact would be neutral, the official said.

Talks over Greece's bailout had



stalled over delays in reforms by Athens, and disagreements among lenders themselves on whether the International Monetary Fund would participate in the bailout, brokered in mid-2015 and worth up to 86 billion euros.

The Greek official did not refer to the possibility of the IMF being part of the bailout.

The official said technocrats representing the lenders would return to Athens immediately after February 27 with a view to "concluding a staff level agreement within a few days."

Turkish vessel opens fire around Farmakonisi

A Turkish military patrol boat fired shots early Friday morning in the area around the eastern Aegean island of Farmakonisi, the Greek defense ministry said.

According to the ministry, Turkish authorities issued a Navtex on Thursday informing of a military exercise with live ammunition in the area east of Farmakonisi on Friday morning.

But the Greek defense ministry issued a Navtex rejecting the Turkish notification saying it was invalid because it covered Greek territorial waters.

The Greek gunboat Nikiforos was sent to the area to monitor the Turkish ship until it left the area.

The incident occurred after a recent flurry of Turkish violations of Greek airspace and increased tensions between Athens and Ankara, which were further fueled last month when the Greek Supreme Court refused to extradite eight Turkish servicemen to Turkey for their alleged role in the botched coup attempt in the neighboring country in July.

EIB aims to provide Cyprus with financing totalling e230m in 2017

The European Investment Bank (EIB) intends to provide financing amounting to e230 million in 2017 to Cyprus, Jonathan Taylor, the EIB Vice President has said.

Speaking to CNA in the sidelines of the signing ceremony for a e100 million loan agreement with Bank of Cyprus in the context of a scheme to support small and medium-sized companies and mid-caps Taylor said the bank is looking into possible investments in the field of energy as well as financing options for infrastructure project following a settlement of the Cyprus problem.

The EIB exposure to Cyprus in relation to the island's GDP amounts to 15% or e1.4 billion, the highest among the EU member-states.

"Last we provided e230 million or roughly 1.5% of GDP and that is the sort of level that we would want to continue this year," Taylor said.

European Commission calls on leaders in Cyprus to resume talks

The European Commission called on Saturday the two community leaders to overcome the recent breakdown in resettlement talks and reiterated that if all parties put on hard effort a solution is within reach.

More specifically, the deputy Chief Spokesman of the EC, Alexander Winterstein, asked by CNA to comment on the recent developments of the negotiation processes said: "These are obviously difficult discussions and I think it is normal that in discussions like these there are ups and downs, it is also quite normal that there are emotions involved. From our point of view, we would encourage the leaders to overcome this current incident, and to continue the talks, so that as soon as possible a solution has been found. Given that everybody tries hard, the solution is within reach".

Limassol woman wins e16.4m Joker, to pay e3.3m in tax

A Cypriot from Limassol has won over e16m on the OPAP lottery, Joker, the highest amount ever collected by a single winner in Cyprus. An OPAP announcement said the winner was a woman who had already contacted the gaming company.

Following 16 consecutive jackpots on Joker, the Limassol resident guessed the 5+1 numbers correctly, winning some e16.4m by paying just e3.

The previous record was e19.2m shared by two lucky winners. In November 2014, Joker again paid e18.4ml to two winners.

The lucky coupon was played at Fotini Kavazi's OPAP agency, on Archbishop Makarios Avenue in Mesa Yitonia.

The winner will have to part with around e3.3m that will be paid to the government as tax.

Cyprus and France conduct joint Search and Rescue exercise

Cyprus and France conducted on Saturday their first joint Search and Rescue Exercise for 2017.

The exercise, titled "CYPFRA-01/17", took place south of Cyprus, with the participation of aeronautical forces from both countries, the Cyprus Defence Ministry announced.

The scenario dealt with a maritime accident in open seas, following the capsizing of a boat with refugees on board.

The Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC) Larnaca implemented the national search and rescue plan called NEARCHOS to deal with the accident.

The exercise was the first between Cyprus and France for 2017 and was part of their long-term cooperation in search and rescue matters, the Ministry added.

Greece says 'not a euro more' in cuts as EU officials call for speedy deal

European Union officials urged Greece and its lenders last Thursday to conclude a long-overdue bailout review quickly to safeguard economic recovery but Athens said it wouldn't ask "a euro more" from its austerity-wrecked citizens.

Inconclusive talks between Greece and its international creditors on economic reforms and debt relief are in danger of retriggering the crisis that almost ended in Greece being pushed out of the eurozone two years ago.

Failure to agree on various aspects of what must be done has cast doubt over the future of Greece's €86bn bailout programme, with new aid withheld while the stalemate persists.

EU officials were urging speed to avoid catastrophe and one German politician close to Chancellor Angela Merkel hinted that one bone of contention – the participation of the International Monetary Fund – may be got around.

But Greece remained firm that it would not impose more austerity than already agreed on its population, which has been living with deep recession, deflation and a roughly one-in-four jobless rate.

European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs Pierre Moscovici, who had visited Athens last week, said he was "hopeful" for a political agreement before a meeting of eurozone finance ministers last Monday.

"An agreement on the way forward for the Greek programme is absolutely necessary. With (a) little effort from all stakeholders, (it) seems to me doable," Moscovici told reporters in Vienna.

Another EU official, who asked not to be named, said it would be better to conclude negotiations soon but there was no real financial crunch.

"The liquidity situation in Greece is benign," the official, who has in-depth knowledge of the negotiations, said.

The Greek government is negotiating with



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras (L) welcomed European Economic and Financial Affairs Commissioner Pierre Moscovici at the Maximou Mansion in Athens, last week

responsibility and resolve but all of that must, however, be without any additional burden, and without additional costs for Greek society," Greek government spokesman Dimitris Tzanakopoulos told a news briefing.

"Our aim continues to be an agreement with not even a euro more of additional measures."

The Greek government has resisted the imposition of more austerity by the lenders, particularly on groups such as pensioners who have already seen 11 cuts to their income.

COSTS

In Brussels, the European Commission's vice president responsible for the euro, Valdis Dombrovskis, said there are costs in delaying agreement on Greece's bailout review, and a solution needs to be found swiftly.

"There is a common understanding that time lost in reaching an agreement will have a cost for everyone," Dombrovskis told Greek news portal Euro2day.

Dombrovskis said the situation in Greece could not be compared with the situation in early 2015 when the country narrowly avoided default and toppling out of the eurozone.

Greece has about €7.5bn of debt falling due

by July, which it is unable to pay without more loans from lenders.

So far it has received some €31.7bn from the latest bailout accord, its third since 2010.

Disagreements over labour and energy market reforms lenders want Greece to adopt have been complicated by broader misgivings from the IMF, which will not participate in the most recent bailout because of concerns Athens will never be able to extricate itself from debt.

European policymakers have said that the bailout programme cannot continue without IMF input, although a Manfred Weber, a German who heads the conservative bloc in the European Parliament, said IMF participation is no longer crucial.

The fundamentals of the Greek economy have been strengthened, Dombrovskis said, but that strong growth potential was contingent on reforms being implemented. "So policy makers are faced with this choice – work hard to reach an agreement that will build on progress made or slip back into uncertainty. I think the choice is obvious," he said.

Recent Greek economic data has shown how tenuous the recovery is, with inflation rising and economic growth contracting again.

Stalled bailout talks fuel debate in Greek Parliament, while Merkel talked to Lagarde

Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras and New Democracy leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis clashed in Parliament on Friday in a debate that was intended to focus on crime but dealt primarily with Greece's stalled bailout negotiations. Meanwhile, German Chancellor Angela Merkel appeared to have undertaken an effort to bridge differences between Berlin and the International Monetary Fund over the best way to deal with Greece.

According to daily Die Welt, Merkel spoke with IMF chief Christine Lagarde and determined that the Fund will participate in Greece's third bailout after all. Der Spiegel went further, reporting that the Fund would contribute 5 billion euros to the third bailout, significantly less



than had been initially expected.

Merkel and Lagarde were expected to meet again yesterday Wednesday for talks that will likely focus on Greece.

Speculation about the meeting was keener on Friday than that related to Monday's Eurogroup, where

European Union officials do not expect any decisions on Greece's bailout. At most, officials had hoped for a decision on when bailout monitors might return to Athens, but that goal also seemed out of reach on Friday.

Sources indicated that envoys

will likely return to Athens at the end of next week or early the following one.

In Parliament meanwhile, Tsipras and Mitsotakis blamed each other for the deadlock. Tsipras called on the ND leader to take a position on the "irrational" demands for additional austerity being made by Greece's creditors, intimating that Mitsotakis was identifying with the IMF by not distinguishing his stance.

The conservative party leader, for his part, lashed out at Tsipras for the impasse, claiming that Greece's creditors are only demanding additional austerity from Athens because of the left-led administration's foot-dragging.

CYPRUS

Applications for company registration up by 14.7% in January

New companies registered with the Department of the Registrar of Companies and Official Receiver this January were up by 14.7% compared to the same month of 2016, making January the 17th month in a row with an upward trend.

Data released by the Registrar on Thursday show that the number of applications for the registration of a new company came to 1,062 in January 2017 compared to 916 last January, recording an increase of 14.7%.

The number of applications seeking the Registrar's approval for a company name came to 2,164 this January compared to 2,066 in January 2015, recording an increase of 4.7%.

The total number of registered companies as of January 31, 2017 stood at 209,413. Within January 920 new companies were registered. New registrations of foreign companies came to 6.

Andreas Vyras is the new Union of Municipalities head

Coastal Larnaca Mayor Andreas Vyras on Monday was elected as the new head of the Union of Municipalities (UoM) for the next five years.

Vyras beat opponent and former incumbent, Famagusta mayor Alexis Galanos, by two votes.

He received 46 votes to Galanos' 44. There was one blank vote.

Also elected on Monday was the ten-member executive board, for the period 2017-2021.

In total 92 mayors and councillors acted as authorised representatives of the municipalities in the UoM's general assembly vote.

GREECE

State recoups 4.3 million euros from defense deal kickback

The Greek state has recouped 4.3 million euros that was pocketed by a businessman alleged to have taken kickbacks from a defense procurement deal, Justice Minister Stavros Kontonis revealed on Friday.

The money was returned by the entrepreneur Giorgos Kamaris – who has been linked to various defense deals – to secure more lenient treatment by the Greek authorities, Kontonis indicated, without referring to the money laundering suspect by name.

"The sum of 4.3 million euros, which comes from the crime of bribe-taking at the expense of the Greek state, in cases of procurement, was transferred in January 2017 into the bank account which has opened at the Bank of Greece with the Greek state as beneficiary," Kontonis said.

New Democracy MP dies of heart attack at age 63

New Democracy MP and former minister Evangelos Basiakos died of a heart attack on Friday at the age of 63.

ND leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis said he was "deeply shocked" at the death of a "friend and comrade who, as an MP and minister for ND governments, served the real needs of the people and our country."

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Jean-Claude Juncker: UK faces hefty Brexit bill



European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker has warned the UK it faces a "very hefty" bill for Brexit.

He promised two years of "tough negotiation", when discussions on leaving terms get under way between the government and the European Union.

Exit will not come

"at a discount or at zero cost", he said in a speech to the European Parliament.

Reports suggest the UK could have to pay the EU up to 60 billion euros (£51bn) after Brexit talks start.

Mr Juncker's comments came as the House of Lords began last Tuesday a second day of discussion of the government's European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Bill, which, if passed, will allow Prime Minister Theresa May to trigger Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty, allowing formal talks with the EU to start.

She is hoping to do this before the end of March, with EU negotiations expected to take up to two years.

Discussions are taking place in Brussels on the size of the bill to be presented to Mrs May when she launches the talks. The amount will cover the UK's share of the cost of projects and programmes it signed up to as a member, as well as pensions for EU officials.

In his speech, Mr Juncker, a former Prime Minister of Luxembourg, said: "It will be a tough negotiation which will take two years to agree on the future architecture of relations between the United Kingdom and the European Union we will need years.

"The British people have to know, they know already, that it will not be at a discount or at zero cost. The British must respect commitments they were involved in making. So the bill will be, to put it a bit crudely, very hefty."

He added: "We need to settle our affairs not with our hearts full of a feeling of hostility, but with the knowledge that the continent owes a lot to the UK. Without Churchill, we would not be here - we mustn't forget that, but we mustn't be naive."

"Our British friends will need to understand that we want to continue to develop European integration."

Mrs May has already said the UK will leave the European single market, but has promised to push for the "freest possible trade" with European countries.

In a speech in January outlining her priorities for Brexit, she warned the EU that to "punish" the UK for leaving would be "an act of calamitous self-harm".

Earlier this month, the House of Commons overwhelmingly backed the EU Bill and the government has said the Lords must not "frustrate" its passage into law.

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Brexit: Lords confident they can force changes to Theresa May's plans

Peers in the House of Lords are confident they can force changes to the Article 50 Bill and derail Theresa May's timetable for starting Brexit, in conclusion to the two-days first reading of the Bill for the Brexit..

There was also a clarification about the areas of the legislation that Labour peers are determined to amend – the rights of EU nationals, the vote on the final deal and regular reports on the exit talks.

The Liberal Democrats will also go into battle over EU nationals and other attempts to reshape Brexit are certain to come from independent crossbenchers.

The stance puts the Lords firmly on a collision course with the Government, which has demanded that the upper chamber "get on and deliver the will of the British people".

Immediately after the Commons passed the Bill – unamended – a Government source threatened: "The Lords will face an overwhelming public call to be abolished if they now try and frustrate this Bill."

Ms May is thought to want the Bill to receive Royal Assent on March 8 – allowing her to formally notify the EU that she is invoking Article 50 at an EU summit later that week.

But any amendments to the Bill will force the Prime Minister to wait at least another week, while still allowing her to achieve her original target of the "end of March".

A Labour source in the Lords said: "We believe we can find a way to get the Lords behind us to push the Bill back to the Commons for another go at changing it."

On the touchstone issue of EU nationals, specifically, he added: "We are optimistic that, if this



has to be pressed to a vote, the numbers will be there."

That confidence was echoed by Dick Newby, the Lib Dem leader in the Lords, who said: "We believe we have support on all sides to deliver on the promises the Government should have made to millions of people who have made our country their home."

The European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Bill reaches the House of Lords on 20 February, when no fewer than 150 peers are expected to try to speak in a two-day debate.

Labour will attempt to persuade – or force – the Government to think again over an immediate, unilateral guarantee that the rights of 3m EU citizens in the UK will be protected after Brexit.

A threatened Tory rebellion in the Commons evaporated when Amber Rudd, the Home Secretary, insisted "nothing would change" without MPs' consent.

However, that still means the uncertainty fac-

ing EU citizens will continue unless and until Ms May agrees a deal with EU leaders when the exit talks get underway in April.

A written guarantee that Parliament will be given a "meaningful" vote on any final deal that the Prime Minister secures – and, crucially, if she fails to agree one.

In the Commons, Keir Starmer, Labour's Brexit spokesman, claimed victory when ministers conceded a vote before the European Parliament starts its consideration, probably in late 2018.

But the assurance was verbal only. The source said: "We want it on face of the Bill and written into the legislation."

An amendment demanding reports every two months was thrown out in the Commons after a minister branded it "dangerous", because it might allow further interference by the courts and delay the negotiations.

However, Baroness Angela Smith, Labour's leader in the Lords, has echoed Jeremy Corbyn by insisting the party will not block Brexit.

Hospital cuts planned in most of England

Hospital services in nearly two-thirds of England could be cut or scaled back, BBC analysis of local plans shows.

The proposals are part of a programme to transform the health service and save money across 44 different areas.

The BBC found 28 proposals affect hospital care, from full closures to centralising services, such as A&E and stroke care, on fewer sites.

NHS England argue patients will receive better care in the community to compensate for the hospital cuts.

The proposals also include the creation of "super" community hubs of GPs, care workers and district nurses, seven-day access to GPs and getting hospital specialists to run clinics in the community.

The BBC analysis found:

- Plans to reduce the number of hospital sites in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland from three to two

- In the Black Country a £700m funding gap means one hospital may have to be closed

- Maternity and children's services being "centralised" on to one site in Lincolnshire

- A warning in West Yorkshire and Harrogate that having five hyper-acute stroke services may "no longer be viable"

- The downgrading of two out of three A&Es in Mid and South Essex, with only one retaining specialist emergency care

- In South West London, proposals to reduce the number of major hospitals from five to four

Plans in Nottinghamshire to significantly downsize City Hospital and reduce the number of beds across Nottingham by 200

- In Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, consideration being given to centralising specialised orthopaedic trauma services at two

local hospitals

Overall, a third of the 44 plans look to reduce the number of hospitals providing emergency care, while in another third of areas they have said they will consider moving non-emergency care to fewer sites.

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French campaign comes to London

French presidential contender Emmanuel Macron, an independent pro-reform centrist, held a rally last Tuesday aimed at the estimated 300,000-400,000 French nationals who live in London — an international-minded constituency that in theory should be rich pickings for him.

It bears repeating that every vote is going to count in a presidential race that is looking tighter by the minute. Polls show the National Front's Marine Le Pen will comfortably win the first round with around 27 percent of a highly fragmented vote, before going on to lose the second-round run-off whether she faces Macron or the conservative contender, Francois Fillon.

But for the first time, one survey in France suggested she could score above 40 percent of the second-round vote whoever she faced.

Complaints and scandals in the Cyprus University of Technology

Complaints and scandals divide CUT

The Auditor General's office is asking the Cyprus University of Technology to investigate dozens of complaints about academics, accused by colleagues of money squandering and abuse of power, in what could be political payback.

Auditor General Odysseas Michaelides sent last week a CD with data on official complaints against academics at Limassol's state-funded CUT, pointing to professors serving personal interests and bending the rules.

Accusations, which have been levelled by academics against their colleagues, point to professors taking part illegally in private companies as well as academic and administrative staff having special relationships with members on special or voting committees.

Cases also alluded to unlawful and irregular dealings between CUT professors and foreign universities, but media sources say complaints listed on the CD are only one side to the story.

According to daily "Phileleftheros", which went on to imply that the allegations could have a political backdrop, those who contacted the auditor general's office are also facing an internal probe after colleagues had filed com-



plaints against them with the Board.

Michaelides asked CUT's President of the Board, Stathis Papadakis, to investigate the allegations recorded on the CD and get back to him by mid-March.

The "Cyprus Weekly" understands that activities listed on the CD also include questions into money spent on school dinners and complaints that one professor faced unfair restrictions in grading and teaching his classes.

The issue of irregularities at CUT had come up earlier, when Michaelides told a House com-

mittee several weeks ago that there were no legal institutions or regulatory framework which CUT staff ought to follow.

CUT made headlines two years ago when power abuse allegations emerged, raising doubts over the ability of search committees members, tasked with evaluating candidates for promotion, to do their jobs properly.

A number of scandals had been brewing for some time at CUT, but the latest developments suggest it is nearly impossible for all colleagues to get along.

Rikkos Erotokritou & others to be sentenced on 1st March



THE Nicosia criminal court set March 1 as the day of sentencing for former attorney-general Rikkos Erotokritou, two other lawyers, and a law firm, all found guilty on charges of bribery, conspiracy to defraud, and conspiracy to subvert the course of justice.

Defence lawyers argued for leniency on Friday following last week's guilty verdict in the high-profile corruption trial involving Erotokritou, Andreas Kyprizoglou, Panayiotis Neocleous and the Andreas Neocleous law firm.

The defendants were released until March 1.

The four were said to have colluded to arrange for Erotokritou to launch the criminal prosecution of five Russian individuals and one company, at the behest and to the benefit of the Neocleous law firm, which had long been battling them in Cypriot and Russian courts over ownership and control of Providencia, a trust-fund worth millions.

In exchange, the prosecution said, Erotokritou was rewarded for his troubles with the Neocleous law firm failing to appear in court on the day a lawsuit the former AG filed against legacy Laiki bank – then represented by the Neocleous law firm – demanding that over €500,000 of his personal loans be offset against his 'haircut' deposits.

Pleading for leniency on behalf of Erotokritou, lawyer Christos Pourgourides said his client had not made any financial or other gains.

Pourgourides said it was not a systematic act of corruption but an isolated deed whose starting point was the deposit haircut. No third party had been victimised, he argued.

"You don't have before you someone who sought financial gain through greed," Pourgourides said, adding that the object of the conspiracy, offsetting debts against deposits, was impossible to achieve and was never achieved.

The defence said Erotokritou lost €630,000 from the haircut on deposits and that was the reason he sought to offset it against his debts, which he still owed and banks have filed lawsuits against him.

The former deputy attorney-general also spent a substantial sum for his defence, the court heard.

"You have before you today, a man who lost his job as deputy attorney-general. Not only did he lose his job, but he is financially stricken," having no prospect to work as a lawyer, but also due to his age, Pourgourides said of 61-year-old Erotokritou.

The defendant was also vilified for the past two years, a painful experience that took a toll on his family, the defence said. His son has lost the prospect of working at his father's firm, he added.

Pourgourides also warned that possible imprisonment posed grave dangers for his client because of his former profession.

Ayia Napa declares nine Swedes as "ambassadors of tourism"



In what has become a new tradition, Ayia Napa has once again honoured tourists who have visited the resort town for more than 20 times, by declaring them 'ambassadors of tourism'.

This time, deputy mayor Christos Zanettos bestowed the honour on nine Swedes, three couples and three individuals during a cere-

mony at town hall.

They are Marie Coughlan (40 visits), Kerstin Persson (33), Britt Engman (23), Anders and Lena Franzen (22), Rolf and Mayny Elgbritt (22), Jonas Assar and Kajsa Sylvia Margareta Bystrom (25), all in the picture with Deputy Mayor.

Cyprus casino satellites seeking locations

Three months after winning the licence for the first casino resort, investors are still looking for locations to host their satellite casinos in other cities, as well as somewhere for the intermediate casino in Limassol.

The consortium of Melco International, Hard Rock International and Cyprus Phasouri (Zakkiki) has already secured a location in Limassol for the main resort west of the port. However, it aims to start operating an intermediate casino in Limassol within 2017, as well as a five-table casino in Nicosia.

Investors have a long list of places, but have not yet agreed, a person within the investor group told the Cyprus Weekly. Another source said that a location in Nicosia is being scouted.

"Investors are seriously examining a real-es-

tate location on Makarios Avenue for one of the satellite casinos," a person in a position to know told the Cyprus Weekly, while the consortium declined to comment on this specific location.

Other cities will have casinos, but without tables.

The well-known Monte Caputo night spot outside Limassol had been named in the local media as the place that would host the intermediate casino. However, this notion was dismissed by the owner, who said he had not agreed to rent his property.

Any decision that the investors will take is subject to approval from the newly-appointed Gaming and Casino Supervision Authority, which also needs to grant the official casino licence. According to the Ministry of Commerce, the licence

will be granted by the end of March.

Smoking in the casino

Meanwhile, investors are waiting for Parliament's decision regarding smoking in the casino. The government had originally approved smoking in the casino but the opposition has pointed out EU legislation that bans indoor smoking.

The government has defended plans to allow smoking in the country's first casinos to avoid the project collapsing, as happened in Spain.

Last month minister of energy, commerce, industry and tourism George Lakkotrypis told MPs that smoking would be permitted in certain areas of the casino-resort and four satellite casinos.

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Thursday 23rd February 2017

Current News**Weddings & Special Occasions
at the Penridge Suite - N.London**

The Penridge Suite's annual Wedding & Special Occasions Fayre took place on Sunday 12th February and welcomed over 120 visitors.

It was a great opportunity for bride and grooms to be, as well as for visitors who are planning a special event, to view The Penridge Suite as well as meet a selection of suppliers to assist them with organising their special day.

All visitors were greeted with a complimentary glass of sparkling wine and canapés and had the opportunity to discuss their requirements with the exhibitors.

Exhibitors included: The Penridge Suite, Pit-

selis Event Catering, One & Only Events & Wedding Planners, 3A Photography & Videography, Venue Stylists Decor, Mia Sposa, James Higgs Toastmaster, RS Jewellers, Cake Worx, Darling Hair & Make Up, Vanilla Patisserie, Magic Drinks, Lords Cars, Elianna Event Decor, Bella Collection, The Photo booth Club, Bambino Couture, Swiss Care, Costco, Sweet Wishes, and Adams Dental Practice.

The organisers would like to thank all the exhibitors and visitors for attending this event and making the day a great success.

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KOPA Sports Round-up

34 • ELEFTHERIA

Thursday 23rd February 2017



- TOP TEN APOEL
- KOMI KEBIR BOUNCE BACK
- LIVADIA LATE 3-2 SHOW

BY MIKKOS CHRYSOSTOMOU

REVAMP TIME FOR KOPA...

KOPA are facing a serious problem to get to terms with teams failing to fulfil their fixtures. We had two postponements out of the four games scheduled on Sunday in the First Division. Admittedly both Omonia and Brotherhood have informed their opponents Olympia and Salamina respectively but nevertheless it is two more teams failing to get on the pitch on Sunday.

KOPA needs to get the facts and at the same time find ways to solve the problem otherwise the value of the competition in our league will diminish. Clubs also have to take responsibility in that they have an obligation to fulfil their fixtures.

Getting more organised both on and off the field is a must and gives a lift to everyone. Organised clubs have shown more stability, resulting in success. KOPA should find ways of supporting the organised clubs because they are the ones that are propelling up the league at the moment. Embracing local academies who could provide young players of Cypriot origin would go a long way in bolstering the poor squads of some teams.

Lack of Cypriot origin players is one of the problems but clubs have to get out and do some more work in recruiting players. At the end of the day it will be a better league with ten organised clubs than 15 disorganised.

In the games that were played, the spectators were treated with a fistful of goals and entertainment. The televised match between Anorthosis and Livadia ended with a 3-2 victory for the latter after a late, late show. In the tail ender's match Arachne came out on top in another high scoring match beating KLN 6-3.

Division Two leaders APOEL hit a top ten against in form Achna winning 10-3. Second place Komi Kebir bounced back to beat Asha 3-1 and revitalised Cetinkaya beat Maronites 4-0.

In details:

To merely judge Real Madrid by their trophy cabinet between 2008-13 would demonstrate the issues of oversimplification in football. The Madridistas have won just one league title since 2008. In the stated period they waited to achieve the famous La Decima, winning just one Coppa del Rey title.



By
**MARIOS
LEONIDOU**

Meanwhile, Barcelona conquered domestic and European football with five league titles and two UEFA Champions Leagues. The difficulty in competing with one of the greatest teams to ever play the beautiful game is apparent. This is not necessarily a failure on behalf of Real Madrid – but more a testament to the greatness of their most recent achievements.

In the past three seasons they have won the UEFA Champions League twice. With two games in hand and a point ahead in La Liga, Real Madrid are in pole position to secure their second title win in eight years. As Barcelona



Livadia's scorers Andreas Kyprianou 2 and Elias Katsoulides

DIVISION ONE

ANORTHOSIS **2**
LIVADIA **3**

Livadia back on the domestic scene continued their good run with a 3-2 victory over Anorthosis at New River Stadium. Both teams took time to settle with Anorthosis opening the scoring with a penalty goal from George Gregoriou after 15 minutes. Livadia were clearly rocked and did well not to go further behind. They also missed a chance to draw level when Elia Katsoulides had his penalty saved by Andy Anastasiou in goal.

Livadia were labouring in the second half to get back in the game until the switch of Andreas Kyprianou from the left wing to more central. Livadia began to create more and it paid off with Kyprianou scoring with great goal. Anorthosis' response was a shot from Vas Hriskos straight from the half way line that beat the keeper but hit the cross bar to the relief of Andy Anastasiou. Livadia continued to press and captain Elia kat-

soulides fired home a 30 yard free kick to make it 2-1. Once again Anorthosis tried their luck with a half way shot but this time Anastasiou back pedalled to tip George Gregoriou's long strike over. From the resulting free kick Anorthosis levelled with a good header from Charlie. It looked like the game will end as a draw but the impressive Andreas Kyprianou stole a yard from Anorthosis defence to slip the ball home for a 3-2 winner.

KLN **3**
ARACHNE **6**

Arachne continue to be involved in high scoring matches with another big win beating bottom of the table KLN 6-3. Their goals came from Anthony Panayi a hat trick the others from Chris Constantides, Khan and Chris Andrea. KLN's reply was goals by Papacosta brothers Max 2 and Chris. Arachne are gradually getting closer to the teams just above the relegation zone so we could see an interesting battle to avoid the drop between three or four teams.

DIVISION TWO

ASHA **1**
KOMI KEBIR **3**

Asha are struggling with injuries and bad luck. Their defence has let them down recently and on Sunday Komi Kebir made them pay again as they raced into a 3-0 lead.

Mind you the unfortunate Adem Ali hit the woodwork twice before his team went down. Komi scorers were Duncan and Andreas Bryant Economides 2, while once again Chris Spyrou scored for Asha,

APOEL **10**
ACHNA **3**

What a difference a week makes as Division two leaders APOEL found their scoring touch. They just could not score last week and took it out on Achna on Sunday scoring seven goals in the last half an hour to reach double figures.

Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ.	
"Από το πρώτο πρωταθλήμα το πεδίοντα με σπουδαίους και χαροπαλεύοντα παίκτες στην περιοχή της νότιας Ασίας παρέμενε οι μάζες της νότιας Ασίας παρέμεναν, απελάστηκαν δύο ελαφριά παρατάξεις. Είχαν μόνο ήτοι, γύρησαν, άθλησαν και αποσύρθηκαν. Γι' αυτό θα προχωρήσουμεν."	
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Μάνατζερ: Αντώνης Παρδακός	Αρχιγέρος: Σιδηρός Μυραζής.
Ποδοσφαίρος: Τάσος Πλάκας, Πάολο Μάρκος, "Αντρέας Μάρκος, Νίκος Γιάννης, Χρήστος Αντρέας, Κώνος Αντρίκος, Αλεξάνδρης Πέτρος, Αντώνης Κριστ. Διγενής, Αναστασίας Γιάννης, Μιχαήλ, Παναγιώτης Στεφανός, Κωνσταντίνος, Ράφερτος, Ιωάννης Λαζαρίδης, Άντριανος Μάρκος, Βασίλης Μάρκος.	Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΟΥΓΛΗΝΙΑΚΟΣ 1-4 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΑΕΜ 0-2 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΕΒΝΙΚΟΣ 0-6 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΠΑΟ 1-10 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΑΠΑ 0-11 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΤΖΙΚΙ ΣΟΥΦ 2-11 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΑΚΡΙΤΑΣ 0-7 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΠΑΟΚ 1-5
Ποδόσφαιρος: Τάσος Πλάκας, Πάολο Μάρκος, "Αντρέας Μάρκος, Νίκος Γιάννης, Χρήστος Αντρέας, Κώνος Αντρίκος, Αλεξάνδρης Πέτρος, Αντώνης Κριστ. Διγενής, Αναστασίας Γιάννης, Μιχαήλ, Παναγιώτης Στεφανός, Κωνσταντίνος, Ράφερτος, Ιωάννης Λαζαρίδης, Άντριανος Μάρκος.	Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΑΚΡΙΤΑΣ 0-12 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΠΑΟΚ 2-7 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΕΒΝΙΚΟΣ 0-10 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΑΠΑ 0-10 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΤΖΙΚΙ ΣΟΥΦ 0-13 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΠΑΟ 0-14 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΟΥΓΛΗΝΙΑΚΟΣ 1-7 Ε.Κ.Ο.Λ-ΑΕΜ 1-3
Πρώτος Σ. Καρέρα : ΚΡΙΣΤ ΣΙΑΡΡΑ	†

Μάρτιος πρώτη Μάρτιο & Φεβρουάριος δεύτερη προπονητής στην έπειτα πρώτη. Στην 19η γράμμα της παραπέμπεται για την τρίτη που θα στρέψεται. Είναι γρήγορος και με μεγάλη επιταχύνση πάντα.

Thanks to a hat trick from Theo Charalambous, Achna held their own for an hour. Missing two or three players and injuries Achna finally succumbed to APOEL's pressure, who went on to win 10-3 and get closer to the title. In fact just eight points from their remaining six games will do it. Sunday's goals came from Adam Lambrou 3, George Sifionis 3, George Loutraria 2, Vincent Lwanga and Alex violaris.

MARONITES **0**
CETINKAYA **3**

There is no stopping Cetinkaya as they hit the winning trail to climb up the table. Most of the teams above them will now be looking over their shoulders in the chase for promotion. The first two APOEL and Komi Kebir are currently in a good position but Pantel and Cetinkaya look well equipped to gatecrash the promotion race after a poor start to the season. Cetinkaya's goals came from Daniel Florence, James Smith and Dean.

A reminder to some clubs who give up after losing a couple of games.

EKOL a team in KOPA's first season in 1975 turned up and fulfilled ALL their 16 fixtures despite never winning a game..

They ended the season happy that they had the opportunity to play and enjoy a game of football and more important make a lot of friends.

Madrid in Real Positions to Make History

He has missed eight matches since the start of the season. This is no small matter for a player that demands to be fielded week in week out, with ambitions of contributing to his team's efforts in all competitions.

Ronaldo's 21 goals in 28 matches is only frowned upon by those who compare his statistics to his performances on paper in the past seasons. It is true that his figures for passes (short and key), assists and dribbles have all shown decreases across the past three years. But in previous seasons the current Ballon D'or winner has had to play the predominant role in helping his team compete with the force that is Barcelona – particularly Lionel Messi. The Argentinian has been pulling his weight this season with 34 goals from 34 games. But his side's lack of defensive stability has seen them fail to win in eight of their 23 league matches.

Granted, the Euro 2016 winner has been hampered with injury for almost a year now. He struggled to maintain fitness during the European Championships in summer, and throughout the latter stages of the 2015-16 La Liga and Champions League campaigns.

With the return of Gareth Bale already providing a visible boost in the atmosphere at

the Bernabeu, Madrid are in the ideal position to achieve a record-breaking dominance over their competitors. Their two games in hand ensure a comfortable chance to maintain fitness through squad rotation.

The ageing players of both Madrid and Barcelona mean that we are witnessing the final seasons of the great squads that have dominated world football for the past decade. Whilst I do not believe Messi and Ronaldo will decline, or have declined, as rapidly as critics have forecasted, the two greatest players to ever play football, along with their strongest teammates, are surpassing prime average ages for physical fitness. Ronaldo, Ramos, Benzema, Pepe, Messi, Suarez, Pique, Iniesta, Mascherano and Busquets – all world class player in their own rights – are above the age of 28. Within two seasons we may experience a decline in the standard of football produced by the generation.

We have become accustomed to the con-

sistently high standard of football that these players have produced. They were so relatively able and talented from a young age that they have featured in most starting 11s for their respective clubs and national teams. Like the class of '92, these players feel timeless, as they have featured so consistently on the pitch. One interesting aspect will be how the clubs attempt to deal with the inevitable transition in squads that are approaching. Youth players have had few chances to break into and maintain positions in these great sides. We may soon realise that Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo are of an incredibly unique breed, and that players scoring in the region of 70-90 goals in a calendar year, when football is at the highest standard it has ever been, is unusual.

The battles between Real and Barcelona in the next two seasons will be monumental for these reasons. With three months left until the domestic and international finales of this year, Madrid will be rightfully satisfied and ambitious with their prospects.

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Important wins for Omonia Youth teams

There were some important wins for many of teams of community football club Omonia Youth FC, who are sponsored by P&M Construction Ltd.

Chris and Jimmy Mousicos' Under 12 Gold kept a clean sheet and scored two goals as they won 2-0. Louis Georgiou and Cem Poyraz with the goals. Cem was also named Man of the Match.

Another Under 12 team also came away with a victory as George Sammoutsis and Harry Theodorou's Under 12 Silver won 3-1 in what was described as an all-round fantastic team performance. The team showed great resilience in coming back after going a goal down. Goals were scored by Joshan, Ben and Oscar. Man of the Match was awarded to Aman and Ben.

Unfortunately it was not a clean sweep for the under 12s as Michael Pieri's White lost in their Spring Trophy Cup group game, unusually conceding 5 goals to lose 5-3. Goals were scored by Sammy Hristov, Anthony and Andreas Fereos. Man of the Match was Owen Bluffield.

In the Mide Herts Premier League, the U14 Green secured another important three in their quest for the title as they won 8-3. It was a fantastic result by the team, away to a very physical and strong side. The boys played some fantastic football and remain top of the Premier League with 6 games to go.

Goals were scored by George Stasi (3), Toby Abanna (3), Michael Dionisiou and an own goal. The management and coaching team could not split Toby Abanna and Michael Dionisiou's contribution to a stunning victory as so were both named Man of the Match.

Nick Zimaras' Under 16 Whites lost 5-0 away. It was described as 'one of those days' where little went right for the boys.

Elia Constanti's Under 16 Green also lost but by a narrower margin, 2-1. The boys played well but unluckily scored two own goals. The Green goal was scored by Amelio Georgiou and Man of the Match awarded to Charlie Constanti.

Kyri Georgiou's Under 15 Greens won 4-3 away in the Spring Cup. Goal scor-



U12 Silver: Came from a goal down to win 3-1

ers were Temi, Andreas, Michael and Solo with Temi named as Man of the Match. It was good game a good performance from the boys.

Andy Charalambous' Under 14 White drew 0-0 in their Spring Cup group game. Man of the Match was Nick Georgiou.

Finally, Andy Michael and Panos Papa-Michael's Under 13 Gold were de-

feated but unbowed as they lost 3-2 to a goal seven minutes into injury.

To put into context how strong their performance was, the Golds had to play with 10 men and actually took the lead against the league leaders. Youssef Habibi and George Constanti got the goals and for the camaraderie they showed, the whole team was awarded with Man of the Match. Both Andy and Panos are very

proud of the team and they way they battled and performed on Sunday.

Should you feel enthused and want to know more about Omonia Youth FC, you can contact the club at omoniyouthfootballclub@hotmail.com via the contact page on www.omoniyouthfc.com and follow the club on twitter @OmoniaYouthFC.



The U9 'Derby' was a brilliant occasion

Under 8 and Under 9 Omonia Youth news

Sunday saw the Omonia Youth Under 9 Green and White teams meet in the Under 9 'Derby' and it was an outstanding occasion with both sets of players, coaches and parents enjoying the match.

It is always an exciting game when the current Under 9 Green meet White and Sunday's game did not disappoint. The great pitch and mild weather conditions allowed the boys to show off the superb skills they have been developing all season.

It was a high tempo game from the beginning with both teams showing great determination and total commitment. They demonstrated tremendous teamwork, great skill on the ball and looking for the pass.

The supporters were in full voice as the boys treated them to many goals, with some flawless finishes.

Coaches Zeno, Mike and all supporters are very proud of the boys for showing great sportsmanship both during the game and after the final whistle. Well done boys.

As with the Under 9s, the Under 8 category also play non-competitive football where the emphasis is on development.

On Sunday Kyri Eleftheriou and Myri Demetrou were especially proud of their team for the effort, determination and skill they showed in their match, proving that what they practice in training can be used in matches.

Well done to all.

AEK U8s keep winning

AEK U8 played an enjoyable match with a good team performance to score seven goals with Lucca 4 and Deen 3.

Photo left: Scorers Lucca and Deen



Kyri and Myri are proud of the development of their young team

