



Hellenic Society Prometheas

(Celebrating 40 years, 1978-2018)

Τη γλώσσα μου έδωσαν Ελληνική

Το σπίτι φτωχικό στις αμμουδιές του Ομήρου.

Μονάχη έγνοια η γλώσσα μου στις αμμουδιές του Ομήρου.

www.Prometheas.org

Οδυσσέας Ελύτης

Newsletter

July 2018

Prometheas Events

- *Save the date! Please reserve evening of Saturday, December 1, 2018 to celebrate The Hellenic Society Prometheas' 40th Anniversary with us! For more information see:* <https://mailchi.mp/2fcd6c417f3c/prometheas-classic-greek-cinema-my-friend-lefterakis-3307481?e=82e18ac231>

Other Events

- *Το πρόγραμμα του Φεστιβάλ Επιδαύρου 2018:* <http://greekfestival.gr/to-programma-tou-festival-epidaourou-2018/>

Websites of the month

- *Η συμφωνία για το Σκοπιανό:* <http://s.kathimerini.gr/resources/article-files/symfwnia--2.pdf>
- *Η συμφωνία για το Σκοπιανό στα αγγλικά:* <http://s.kathimerini.gr/resources/article-files/symfwnia-aggliko-keimeno.pdf>
- *As Greece Ends a Decade of Bailouts, Problems Linger for Europe:* https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/19/business/economy/greece-europe-bailout.html?emc=edit_th_180620&nl=todaysheadlines&nid=377931710620
- *Fitch για Ελλάδα: «Σκόπελος» διαρκείας τα υψηλά πλεονάσματα:* <http://www.kathimerini.gr/971686/article/oikonomia/ellhnikh-oikonomia/fitch-gia-ellada-skopelos-diarkeias-ta-yghla-pleonasmata>

- **Δημήτρης Νανόπουλος: Αυτό που χρειάζεται σήμερα η Ελλάδα είναι μια σύγχρονη Φιλική Εταιρεία:**
<https://www.dinfo.gr/%ce%b4%ce%b7%ce%bc%ce%ae%cf%84%cf%81%ce%b7%cf%82-%ce%bd%ce%b1%ce%bd%cf%8c%cf%80%ce%bf%cf%85%ce%bb%ce%bf%cf%82-%ce%b1%cf%85%cf%84%cf%8c-%cf%80%ce%bf%cf%85-%cf%87%cf%81%ce%b5%ce%b9%ce%ac%ce%b6%ce%b5/>
- **Washington forum examines Turkey's claims to the Eastern Mediterranean:**
<http://www.ekathimerini.com/229923/article/ekathimerini/community/washington-forum-examines-turkeys-claims-to-the-eastern-mediterranean>
- **Πως η φύση «μαγεύει» τον ενεργειακό πλούτο νότια της Κρήτης:**
<https://slpress.gr/idees/pws-h-fysh-mageirepse-ton-energeiako-plouto-notia-ths-krhths/>
- **Greek Culture Minister Tables Parthenon Marbles' Return on London Visit:**
<https://news.gtp.gr/2018/06/21/greek-culture-minister-tables-parthenon-marbles-return-london-visit/>
- **Climate change is a top spiritual priority for these religious leaders:**
https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/climate-change-is-a-top-spiritual-priority-for-these-religious-leaders/2018/06/26/d5e06fd2-749e-11e8-9780-b1dd6a09b549_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.a2de12215a71
- **Πρόσκληση τελετής αναγόρευσης του Ιωάννη Σ. Μπάρα (John S. Baras), Καθηγητή του Πανεπιστημίου Maryland, ΗΠΑ ως Επίτιμοι Διδάκτορα του Ε.Μ.Π:**
<https://www.ntua.gr/el/news/events/item/580-prosklisi-teletis-anagorefsis-tou-ioanni-s-bara-john-s-baras-kathigiti-tou-panepistimiou-maryland-ipa-os-epitimou-didaktora-tou-e-m-p>
- **Why read Aristotle today?:** <https://aeon.co/essays/what-can-aristotle-teach-us-about-the-routes-to-happiness>
- **Athens, Rising:** https://www.nytimes.com/2018/06/18/travel/athens-after-the-economic-crisis.html?emc=edit_th_180624&nl=todaysheadlines&nid=377931710624
- **Greek Heritage Night at the Philadelphia Phillies:** <https://cosmosphilly.com/greek-heritage-night-at-the-philadelphia-phillies/>
- **Η ανάσταση ενός ναού:** <http://www.kathimerini.gr/969836/gallery/multimedia/vinteo-k/h-anastash-enos-naoy>
- **Αναζητώντας την ιστορία στο βοθό του Αιγαίου:**
<http://www.kathimerini.gr/966268/interactive/epikairothta/ereynes/katadysh-sthn-istoria-toy-ypovryxiou-katswnhs>

Books and Music

- ***Ο Βαγγέλης Παπαθανασίου τιμά τον Στίβεν Χόκινγκ:***
<http://www.kathimerini.gr/969583/article/politismos/moysikh/o-vaggelhs-papaathanasioy-tima-ton-stiven-xokingk>
- ***Ελεωνόρα Ζουγανέλη: Ιστορίες για έρωτες:***
<http://www.kathimerini.gr/967324/article/politismos/moysikh/elewnora-zoyganelh-istories-gia-erwtes>
- ***André Gerolymatos: «Εμφύλιος - Ελλάδα 1943-1949, ένας διεθνής πόλεμος»:***
<http://www.kathimerini.gr/967136/article/politismos/vivlio/andre-gerolymatos-emfylis---ellada-1943-1949-enas-die8nhs-polemos>

News – Articles

Why Turkey and the United States Can't Get Along

Jun 20, 2018

The two countries have clashed repeatedly in recent years over the conflict in Syria, over Turkey's friendship with Russia and over Islamist cleric Fethullah Gulen, who the Turkish government claims was involved in the country's attempted coup in 2016. And if Turkey continues refusing to compromise on key U.S. demands, the already poor relationship could suffer further if the United States acts on its sanctions threat.

Cold War Companions

In a twist of fate, Turkey and the United States are now being driven apart by what once brought them together: Russia. After the Soviet Union demanded greater control over the Turkish Straits, the United States became a welcome ally to Turkey. In return, Washington was able to use Turkey as a bulwark against Soviet expansion into the Middle East and Europe. The 1947 Truman Doctrine solidified U.S. support for Turkey, which was instrumental in helping the country stand up to Soviet demands. And in 1952, Turkey became a NATO member.

When the Cold War ended, Turkey and the United States lost their common enemy. Without the constant threat of Soviet invasion, Turkey turned its attention to domestic issues rather than external ones. The Russian military — particularly its actions in Ukraine — remains a worry for Ankara, but it now views the Kurdish separatist movement led by the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) as its primary security concern. In Turkey's eyes, the threat posed by Russian support for the PKK, which ended in 1991, has been replaced by U.S. support for the People's Protection Units (YPG) in Syria.

New strategic alignments, as well as accusations concerning the attempted coup in 2016, have led to a low point in relations between the once stalwart allies. Despite Turkey's best efforts to dissuade the United States, Washington has refused to end its partnership with the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), which includes the YPG. Thus, Turkey has refocused its diplomatic attention on a friendship with Moscow, which has enabled Ankara to better support its rebel allies in Syria and even secure tacit Russian approval for an [assault against YPG forces in Afrin, Syria](#).

Walking a Fine Line

Turkey's tense relationship with the United States has also become useful political fodder for Ankara's government, which is led by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his Justice and Development Party (AKP). Over the past 15 years, the AKP has often blamed Turkey's political and economic problems on outside forces. The poor relationship with the United States has provided Erdogan with a tool he can use to his advantage politically. The AKP government is intent on maintaining its hold on power after [presidential and parliamentary elections](#) scheduled for June 24, and sharp anti-Western and anti-U.S. rhetoric has become commonplace. Turkey's government has

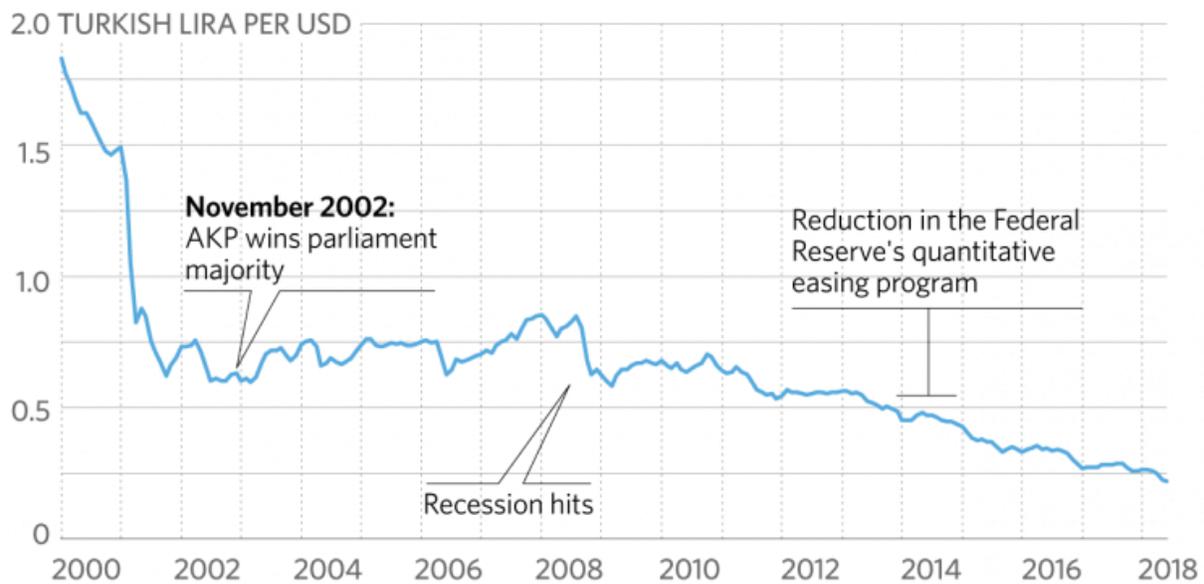
shown it will go to great lengths to remain in power, which will no doubt place even greater strain on Ankara's already fraught relationships with the United States and the European Union.

Still, Turkey's fear of Russia and the value it gets from a U.S. partnership are too great for Ankara to sever ties with Washington. In addition to having [recently struck a deal](#) with the United States over the Syrian region of Manbij, Turkey sees immense strategic value in its membership in NATO. Because of this, it will attempt to strike a balance in its friendships with the United States and Russia.

However, walking the fine line Turkey has chosen won't be easy. The United States has plenty of bones to pick with Russia, and it's not happy about Turkey cozying up to the Eurasian giant. U.S. legislators have made this displeasure clear through the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act and language attached to the pending National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The sanctions act threatens to penalize Turkey over its cooperation with Russia, particularly its purchase of S-400 missile defense systems, while the NDAA could prevent it from receiving the F-35 fighter jets it has attempted to purchase.

The Turkish Lira Steadies, Then Declines

The value of Turkey's currency, the lira, versus the dollar experienced volatility in the years preceding the Justice and Development Party's first-ever parliamentary victory in 2002. Throughout the 2000s, the lira's value remained fairly steady as Turkey's economy stabilized. Today, Turks have complained about the declining value of the lira versus the dollar, which limits purchasing power.



Source: Pacific Exchange

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Turkey has vowed to not take such punitive measures lying down, but it has few options to respond. Its struggling economy and unstable currency make it vulnerable to a U.S. response, giving it an incentive to lessen its reliance. And because the United States is Turkey's largest arms supplier, Ankara will work to develop its domestic defense industry and cultivate relationships with other

suppliers. Russia and China could step in to fill the gap, but Turkey is hardly looking to cultivate a dependence on Russia, and a partnership with China would risk further bad blood with the United States. Ukraine, Qatar and the United Kingdom have all recently increased their security ties with Turkey, on the other hand, and Erdogan's recent visit to London led to the approval of several joint defense projects.

Turkey has options to mitigate its dependence on U.S. security ties, but the thorny issue of Kurdish separatism remains. Ankara views the YPG as an existential threat, and it will continue to work against it however it can. For now, the presence of U.S. forces among the SDF and YPG makes it too risky for Turkey to act with outright aggression against the Kurds. However, Ankara won't stop viewing the Kurdish militias as a danger, and it is willing to wait [until it can act](#) to eliminate that danger.

https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/why-turkey-united-states-get-along?id=87179e919a&e=74ae26f01f&uuid=a0abefb7-b1ef-4d7e-a382-cc432417885e&utm_source=Daily+Brief&utm_campaign=e14289b45c-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_06_21_12_48&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_87179e919a-e14289b45c-53567477&mc_cid=e14289b45c&mc_eid=%5bUNIQID%5d