

Abstracts

VASSILIKI PAPOULIA

THE BALKANS —A NEW POWDER KEG IN EUROPE?

The author examines the historical background of nationalism in the Balkan peninsula after the collapse of Communism. The Balkan region has always been considered as an area of confrontation of the Great Powers; a question is posed nowadays, namely in what measure the actual inter-Balkan conflicts are being fomented by certain Powers and whose interests they serve. Particular importance is attached to the Declaration of Independence of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the author explains why this not-yet recognized mini-state cannot claim the historical name of Macedonia. Finally, the author also expresses the view that the collapse of communism creates the appropriate circumstances for a United Europe, the main characteristic of which will have to be the *homo universalis*.

GEORGE ANDREIOMENOS

THE RECEPTION OF KALVOS BY MODERN GREEK CRITICISM: SOME INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

This paper gives an overview of the reception of Kalvos's poetry by modern Greek criticism, between the years 1818-1960. A number of issues, pertinent to the subject, are presented in the context of the reader-response criticism theory; more specifically, the material is viewed through the theoretical framework introduced by Hans Robert Jauss in his celebrated essay "Literary history as a challenge to literary theory".

XANTHIPPI KOTZAGEORGI

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES OF GREEKS IN VARNA

(mid 19th c.-1906)

During the 19th century, in Varna (Bulgaria), a vivid multinational and multicultural city, the presence of the Greek population was substantial. By the end of the century some 8000 Greeks lived in the city and their presence was intensely felt in all aspects of the city's life. It was the Greek community which, along with the Armenians, shaped the economic life of Varna; moreover it presented a multifaceted and intense social activity and displayed a particular interest in preserving and reinforcing its identity on the basis of a well-organised and comprehensive education. The present article focuses on the Greek educational and cultural activity in Varna and the apparent connection between this activity and the development and preservation of the Greek community's profile and ethnic identity.

CONSTANTINE PAPOULIDIS

THE GREEKS IN RUSSIA IN THE NINETEENTH AND EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY

The number of Greeks living in Russia increased considerably in the nineteenth century, as they fled the various forms of oppression inflicted upon them in the Ottoman Empire.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century organised Greek communities started to spring up, and they became increasingly active in the communal, commercial, ecclesiastic, educational, social, and cultural spheres.

In the hospitable environment of the Russian Empire, "our brother the Greek", as the Russians called him, embarked upon a wide variety of activities in communities with special privileges (such as Nežin) and in the Black Sea's free port of Odessa. All the Greeks enjoyed the official policy of "protection" and the special affection the average Russian felt for the enslaved Christians of the Balkans. It was in this climate that the *Filiki Etaireia*, the *Greek Philanthropic Society*, and the *Greek Imperial Subsidiary Committee* began to function.

This paper examines the activities of the Greeks element from the end of the eighteenth century to the fourth decade of the twentieth century. Specifically, it looks into the structure of the Greek communities within which the Greek merchants, artisans, landowners, teachers, clergy, scholars, academics, university professors, national benefactors, patrons of the arts, diplomats, consular and other civil servants, military and naval men, doctors, and masons lived and worked, and also includes within its scope Greek literature published at the time, educational activity, and theatre.

DOMNA VISVIZI-DONTAS

THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE DIPLOMACY OF VENIZELOS

In this study the author examines and analyses the post-Lausanne rôle Venizelos played during the diplomatic efforts towards the formation of a united Europe. It is argued that Venizelos was opposed to a "Balkan Locarno", and he pursued the foundation of an association of the countries of Eastern Europe. Such an association could be attained by creating a common market of agricultural products and a customs union connecting Danzig with the port of Thessaloniki. He upheld also that this European economic community could eventually develop into a political entity.

International circumstances afforded Venizelos but little ground for his policy to be fulfilled. However, his diplomacy resulted in bringing Greece out of her isolation after the defeat in Asia Minor, and in leading her to regain a place in the heart of Europe.

YIANNIS D. STEFANIDIS

GREECE, BULGARIA AND THE APPROACHING TRAGEDY, 1938-1941

This study focuses on the bilateral context and attempts to establish the course of Greek-Bulgarian relations and to identify the main factors that shaped them from the eve of the Second World War up to the occupation of Greece by the Axis powers. The role of the Great Powers is also taken into account, given its catalytic importance during that period of crisis and painful decisions.

BASIL KONDIS

GREEK NATIONAL CLAIMS AT THE PARIS PEACE CONFERENCE OF 1946

The purpose of this study is to examine and analyze the Greek claims at the Paris Peace Conference and at the Council of Foreign Ministers. Moreover an analysis is made of the policy of the Great Powers towards Greece's territorial demands. It is noted that Great Britain and the United States did not support the Greek claims as their national interest was not similar.

*GEORGE GREGORIOU*CYPRUS — "THE *STATUS QUO* IS UNACCEPTABLE"

On the eve of the talks between the leaders of the Greek and Turkish communities of Cyprus on the future of the divided island, an overview is provided of the attitude of the Greek diaspora in the United States and its lobbying activity against a background of dramatic political developments in Greece and Cyprus. The encouraging signs perceived in the summer of 1991 may prove misleading unless a number of negative factors are forcefully tackled: the record of false promises and the ensuing apathy in the Greek world, the persisting pro-Turkish attitude of the USA and the West, let alone the long-standing division between the two communities of the island.

VENIAMIN KARAKOSTANOGLU

THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND THE CASE OF YUGOSLAVIA

The recent revival of the right to self-determination in cases like Yugoslavia is indicative of the eventual emergence of a new special customary rule, allowing the secession of a people or a nation (but not of a minority) from an existing independent state, in cases involving federal and multi-ethnic states.

Historical rivalries, insufficient federal function, and economic crisis, combined with the failure of diplomatic interventions to lead to the disintegration of Yugoslavia. The current problems of the country raise once more the fundamental question of the optimum size of state structure.