

on Rhodes and appointed the first Roman Catholic archbishop in 1929. Almost all the businesses —industrial, agricultural, commercial, construction— and the banks were taken over by Italians. The farmers suffered under crushing restrictions, fines, and debts. It was now that Greek islanders departed *en masse* to the Greek state, to be replaced by droves of Italian colonists, for whom Italian villages or settlements were built on Rhodes, Kos, and Leros. There were radical interventions, too, in the urban and rural landscape, as roads were built and surfaced with asphalt, cadastral surveys were carried out, and land was expropriated. Vivid traces of the “policy of stone” still remain on the islands today. The alienation of people and institutions proceeded still further as the occupiers intervened in local government, court practice, and the dispensing of justice, and did their best to bring the legislation into line with that of Italy.

The narrative ends with an account of how the German forces overran the Dodecanese between September and November 1943. This is followed by an addendum, containing lists of the Italian governors of the Dodecanese and the Greek consuls on Rhodes; and a very full appendix, in which twenty-five Greek, Italian, and French documents are published for the first time, with a commentary. They are divided by subject into five groups: inadequate food supplies, famine, fear, and death from starvation; the Dodecanese at the end of the First World War; the Italianisation of the geographical names of the Italian-held islands; how the Dodecanesian students at the University of Pisa were watched by the secret police; and the educational policy of Mario Logo, the Italian governor.

Finally, the text is accompanied by 131 beautiful illustrations and maps, either unpublished or taken from rare prints, that complement the excellent overall appearance of the book, while at the same time making it exceptionally elegant and attractive to the reader.

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Thanos M. Veremis and Dimitrios Triantaphyllou (eds), *Kosovo and the Albanian Dimension in Southeastern Europe: the Need for Regional Security and Conflict Prevention* (Athens: ELIAMEP, 1999), pp. 330.

This is a very important book, consisting of contributions by many experts from different countries, including Yugoslavia, Albania, Greece, FYROM, as well as Kosovar Albanians, and international experts and statesmen who have dealt with the Balkan crises of this decade. These papers were presented during two meetings in Athens, in March 1998 and January 1999; indeed,

ELIAMEP has consistently followed developments on Kosovo in the last years, an indication of the Foundation's interest and foresight concerning security questions in Europe.

As the title suggests, the book is based on an extremely important starting point: the Kosovo question is not an isolated problem, but one which involves, in the first instance, the role and the prospects of the Albanian population in the wider region of Southeastern Europe (in Albania and in FYROM), the delicate Balkan balances, the role of the Great Powers, and, in the final analysis, the question of stability in this wider region. Furthermore, as the editors perceptively note in the introduction, the future of this large part of the continent should not be separated from the future of Europe through artificial theories which arbitrarily place ill-defined "cultural" boundaries between "worthy" and "unworthy" states and peoples —theories which run the risk of reproducing exactly the social/ethnic separation which they profess to reject for the western world.

If, indeed, the problem for the post Cold War Balkans is the search for regional stability (and, consequently, for economic, social and political development), it becomes clear that the recent war over Kosovo is by no means the end of the problem: it simply created a different environment in which the Balkan peoples must continue their search for a better future —and it remains to be seen whether this new context is better than the old. This is why, regardless of the outcome of the war, this book continues to be compulsory reading for people who specialize, or who want to be properly informed, about developments in a crucial area of Europe.

Finally, one has to note an extremely important point which comes out of this book. The search for stability is a one-way street for the Balkan peoples, and the danger always exists of a repetition of conflicts such as those of Bosnia or Kosovo elsewhere. Yet, Southeastern Europe is not a region which through some strange mystical tendency is doomed to eternal conflict; it must not be excluded from the rest of Europe; on the contrary, it will be in the West's own interest to help integrate the Balkans in the wider Euro-Atlantic community, through careful security arrangements and the encouragement of economic development. This latter aspect may also involve some cost to the western countries; yet, the cost, both political and economic, of not helping the region get on its feet may, in the long term, prove even greater.