

C'est avec raison que l'auteur lie les événements en question avec la politique religieuse changeante de Venise qui se retourne finalement vers les orthodoxes; d'autre part les renseignements qui nous sont donnés sur la participation au legs des nouveaux illustres humanistes de la Renaissance, tels que Aristoboulos (Arsène de Monemvasie) Apostolis et son neveu le comte Georges Corinthios sont particulièrement dignes d'intérêt. L'auteur ne néglige non plus ici de publier pour la première fois un long exposé de l'évêque catholique de Sitia Gaspare Viviano, dans lequel sont esquissés en couleurs noires la vie et les faits des huit unionistes qui recevaient de l'argent indignement.

Le supplément qui suit (de la page 176 à 239) décrivant les villages patriarcaux de Crète constitue une vraie mine de connaissances d'importance topographique, économique et sociale pour toute la période de l'occupation vénitienne dans la grande île. Enfin, dans l'Appendice (de la page 237 à 320) sont édités de façon diplomatique trente-huit documents en tout (dont vingt étaient inconnus) accompagnés d'un sommaire, d'une bibliographie, d'un mémoire critique etc. L'étude se termine par une liste des sources inédites et par une riche bibliographie, une liste complète des noms grecs et étrangers et un résumé détaillé en français.

Même si de nouveaux documents et éléments sont susceptibles de voir le jour grâce à d'autres investigateurs ou au même auteur, nous devons reconnaître le travail appliqué et consciencieux de Zacharie Tsirpanlis, la rigueur de sa paléographie, de même que l'apport positif de son oeuvre dans l'éclaircissement des sombres replis de l'histoire de la Crète sous la domination vénitienne pour une connaissance plus complète de la politique religieuse européenne durant le Moyen-Age et l'histoire moderne.

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Harry J. Psomiades, *The Eastern Question: The Last Phase. A Study in Greek-Turkish Diplomacy*. Institute for Balkan Studies. Thessaloniki, 1968. Pp. 145 + two Maps.

The Eastern Question, usually defined as the problem of filling up the vacuum by the collapse of the Ottoman Empire has been historically connected with the conflicting intrigues of the Great Powers and local nationalist aspirations for the Ottoman succession. Greek-Turkish

relations up to the signing of the Treaty of Lausanne in 1923 constitute an important chapter in the history of the Eastern Question and this is the subject of Professor Psomiades' book.

In this thoughtfully written presentation of the last phase of the Eastern Question, Mr. Psomiades analyses with detached impartiality the relationships between Greece and Turkey in the period between the Balkan Wars and the Lausanne settlement. The author analyses with expert knowledge and in a systematic fashion the historical setting of the relations between Greece and Turkey. At the same time the book gives a brilliant analysis of the basic elements which constitute the foundations of the foreign policy of the two Balkan States. In this way the book proves to be of particular value for the understanding of contemporary Greek-Turkish diplomacy.

The author, Harry J. Psomiades, is Associate Professor of Political Science and Chairman of the Department of Political Science at Queens College of the City University of New York. He is at the same time Director of the Carnegie Program in Diplomacy at Columbia University. Professor Psomiades has taught modern Greek history and politics as well as the political institutions of the Middle East. He has written extensively on the Balkans and the Middle East and his knowledge of both Greek and Turkish languages, his frequent travels in the area and his interviews with the statesmen of this part of the world have all contributed in an expert knowledge of the subject he is dealing with.

The object of the book as mentioned is to trace the events that led to the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, especially the rôle played by Greece in the politics and struggle for the Ottoman succession. The book is divided in ten chapters — Chapter I places the subject of the book in perspective by analysing the rôle of Hellenism at the time of the imperial legacy of the Ottoman Empire, the relationships between the Christian Orthodox Church and the Ottoman State, and the rôle played by nationalism in the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. In Chapter II Mr. Psomiades traces the Greek revival and explains how the settlement of 1830 creating a tiny Kingdom of Greece, left most of the Greek nation outside its boundaries and provided Greece with the slogan of *Megali Idea* to liberate the Greek territories under the Ottoman yoke. Chapter III deals with the end of the Ottoman Empire, the secret partition agreement, the rivalry of the Great Powers in filling up the vacuum created by the gradual disappearance of the Ottoman Empire, the Italian - Greek rivalry and the treaty of Sèvres, which provided for a zone of Greek

influence in Smyrna leading to its annexation by Greece, as well as the expansion of Greece over Eastern Thrace and several of the islands of the Aegean. In Chapter IV the author discusses in detail the Turkish revival, the relations of Turkey with the Great Powers and in Chapter V the diplomatic struggle for Thrace in the Lausanne Conference. Chapter VI reviews the contest for the Aegean and the Dodecanese islands, as well as of Cyprus. Chapters VII and VIII, in which the author outlines the exchange of the greco-turkish minorities and the legal status of minorities excluded from the Exchange, are more analytical and most interesting. The fate of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Constantinople, which historically has been in modern times the subject of continuous debate and its status under the Lausanne settlement are discussed in Chapter IX. The author examines the Lausanne settlement between Greece and Turkey in retrospect in the last Chapter. Mr. Psomiades comes to the conclusion that the Lausanne Settlement became a milestone in Greek-Turkish relations because it meant a final arrangement, implying the wholehearted acceptance of the new *status quo*, which for Greece meant the decision to abandon, forever, the *Megali Idea*. The author analyses in depth the Lausanne Settlement and writes that the timing of the rapprochement and the improved political atmosphere in Greek-Turkish relations served immensely the cause of peace in eastern Mediterranean. It is Mr. Psomiades contention that the removal of 1.300.000 Greek Christians from their ancestral homes in Anatolia and Eastern Thrace, although a tragic and cruel experience for the individuals involved, undermined the *Megali Idea* and thereby eliminated the main source of friction between the two States. By reaching such a conclusion, Mr. Psomiades proves to be consciously realistic, even hard boiled in this book. Yet the compulsory exchange of minorities is prohibited in international law and the forceful expulsion of peoples from their own homeland is one of the most ugly experiences in international relations, which in fact does not help at all to promote international peace and security. One may even argue that the genocide practiced by the Turks against the Greeks and the Armenians in Anatolia did not help to eliminate the friction between the two States. The author admits in this respect "that the tremendous upheaval created by the population exchange and the sullen and grudging spirit which characterized the negotiations concerning compensation of the refugees for their abandoned property contributed substantially to keep ill-will alive."

The author is quite justified in concluding that at the time of the

Lausanne Settlement Greece and Turkey had strong leaders capable of carrying out an unpopular agreement—and that the Greek-Turkish rapprochement was made possible by the compelling need of Greece and Turkey for security. The quest of security indeed proved to be, as the author declares, the most important basis for the rapprochement. This was so because common defence problems necessitated this political understanding.

Professor Psomiades' book is a scholastic work of an expert, enhanced by a wealth of literary and documented references and quotations. The book is not voluminous but suprisingly compact. It is at the same time consciously realistic. The author deals with power politics with the same charm as when he deals with human interests. The treatment of the material in the book is unquestionably clear to the point, and accomplishes precisely what its title promises. His facts are marshaled with masterly ease and the inclusion in the appendixes of the Treaty of Peace of Lausanne and of the convention concerning the exchange of Greek and Turkish populations is of great help.

The book's greatest contribution lies in its brilliant exploration of the historical setting of the Greek-Turkish relations. The author analyses a rather short period of the diplomatic history of the two States, but exactly the period that covers the last phase of the Eastern Question. The period under review and the Lausanne Settlement constitute in broad terms the very foundations of contemporary Greek-Turkish relations.

It seems that fate has predestined the Balkans to play an active rôle in the development of international affairs, and an understanding of its problems is of particular interest to those whose duty is to know and act. Professor Psomiades' book will prove of great value for the understanding of Greek and Turkish diplomacy, since decisions on important matters of foreign policy should not be made without carefully considering their historical background and the way similar problems have been handled in the past.