



## Contributors

**Alon Ben Meir** holds a master's degree in philosophy and a doctorate in international relations from Oxford University. Dr. Alon ben Meir is a professor and Senior Fellow at New York University's Center for Global Affairs and Senior Fellow at the World Policy Institute. He is an expert on Middle East politics and affairs, specializing in international negotiations, conflict resolution, and backchannel diplomacy.

**Michael Boosalis** was born in rural Pennsylvania. He was a co-founder of Critical Relief for Children (CRC) in 2016 while studying at the Elliot School of International Affairs at the George Washington University. He is a published photographer who has traveled extensively in the Middle East, Africa, and throughout southeast Europe, including extensive travel in Greece. On his most recent visit to northern Greece when he saw up close the great humanitarian crisis there, he felt compelled to commit his energy to CRC.

**Peter Bratsis** is professor of Political Science at the Borough of Manhattan Community College and the author of *Everyday Life and the State*. He is currently at work on a new book on corruption with the working title, *The New White Man's Burden*. He is a member of the editorial collective of *Situations* magazine published by the Center for the Study of Culture, Technology, and Work (City University of New York Graduate Center) and a board member of the Institute for the Radical Imagination.

**Chris Deliso** is an American journalist, travel writer, and director of the regional current-events website, [Balkananalysis.com](http://Balkananalysis.com). He has published numerous articles and books involving Greece (including parts of the four Lonely Planet travel guides pertaining to Greece), and has visited Greece often since 1998. He holds an Honor Mphil in Byzantine Studies from Oxford

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**Melina Dunham** is a junior at Barnard College (Columbia University) where she studies Political Science with a concentration in Comparative and International politics. She is an Athena Leadership Scholar and a Speaking Fellow. A second-generation Greek American, she is particularly interested in the geopolitics of the European Union and Mediterranean. She has written extensively on the austerity and refugee crises in Greece. She plans to pursue a career in foreign policy work as a diplomat, journalist, or at the UN.

**Karolos Gadis** is the former Greek Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Deputy Ambassador to Ankara and Washington, D.C.

**Dan Georgakas** is director of the Greek American Studies project at the Center for Byzantine & Modern Greek Studies at Queens College. He is a bi-weekly contributor to the *National Herald*, executive editor of the *Journal of Modern Hellenism*, and editorial consultant to *Cineaste* film quarterly. He has written extensively on Greek American topics for academic journals and popular publications. A Greek-language edition of his *My Detroit: Growing up Greek and American in Motor City* was published 2016.

**Constantine G. Hatzidimitriou** is editor of *Founded on Freedom & Virtue: Documents Illustrating the Impact of the United States on the Greek War of Independence—1821-1920*, and *American Accounts Documenting the Destruction of Smyrna by the Kemalist Turkish Forces, September 1922*. Among his other writings, Dr. Hatzidimitriou authored the foreword to *The Greek Community of New York City: Early Years to 1910* by Michael Contopoulos and Greek-related entries in *The Encyclopedia of New York*.

**Marcia Haddad Ikononopoulos** is Museum Director of the Kehila Kedosha Janina, President of the Association of Friends of Greek Jewry, and sits on the editorial board committee for Sephardic House's publication of Greek Holocaust memoirs and studies. She is a graduate of Queens College where she received the Constantinos Paparrigopoulos Prize for highest distinction in Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies.

**Nicholas G. Karambelas** is a partner of law firm Sfikas & Karambelas, LLP in Washington DC, Baltimore, Maryland, and New York City. He is legal counsel to and a director of the American Hellenic Institute, also in Washington, DC. He has authored numerous articles on politics, business, and law. Three such essays are "European, Union Law Fundamentals," "United Nation's Conventions on International Sale of Goods," and "Greece's Century Long Subjugation."

**Chris Kennard** is a British national who lives with his wife in Thessaloniki where he has resided for the last fifteen years. He holds a MBA and a BA in International Relations from the State University of New York (SUNY). He is interested in the dynamics of the Balkans region and plans to remain in northern Greece.

**Despina Lalaki** received her Ph.D. in sociology from the New School University. She currently teaches at the City University of New York and has taught at New York University and the Eugene Lang College, a division of the New School University. Her work has been published in *Hesperia*, the *Journal of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens*, the *Journal of Historical Sociology*, and the *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society*. She was Managing Editor of the latter for four years. She contributes to the general press and media on current developments in Greece.

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**Nick Larigakis** is president of the American Hellenic Institute, a non-profit Greek American public policy center and think tank. The AHI works to strengthen relations between the United States and Greece and Cyprus and within the Greek American community. Larigakis initiated the AHI's The Future of Hellenism in America annual conferences in 2002 and annually leads the AHI Foundation's Student Foreign Policy Trip to Greece and Cyprus. The essay in this issue originally appeared as Guest Commentary for *The Hill* (November 10, 2016).

**George Mavropoulos** is Executive Director of the Asia Minor Society and Pontos Research Center, and he is vice-president of the Pontian Greek Society of Chicago.

**Leonidas Petrakis** holds a PhD in physical chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley, was Chairman and Senior Scientist of Department of Applied Sciences at Brookhaven National Laboratory, has taught at various universities in the US, France, and Greece, did research in the private sector, and is the author of several books and of more than 150 peer-reviewed scientific publications in energy and the environment. He resides in Oakland, California.

**Georgea Polizos** is the legislative director at the American Hellenic Institute. The contents of this essay have been edited and adapted for the AHI social policy journal from an article that originally appeared in *The Hill* to response to a column by Bill Nicholov. Her essay "We Are All Hellenes" was published in the Winter 2013-2014 issue of this journal.

**Hannibal Travis'** works include *Genocide in the Middle East: The Ottoman Empire, Iraq, and Sudan* and the "Construction of the "Armenian Genocide: How Genocide Scholars Unremembered the Ottoman Assyrians and Greeks," in *Hidden Genocides: Power, Knowledge, Memory* edited by Alexander Laban Hinton, Thomas La Pointe, & Douglas Irvin-Erickson. He has presented his research on this question at Harvard University, the University of Chicago School of Divinity, the Free University of Berlin, the Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe, and the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation/Institute for War, Holocaust, and Genocide Studies.

**Ruth-Helen Vassilas** is a second-year law student at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, where she double majored in Political Science and Spanish, with a minor in Modern Greek. Her mother and father immigrated to the United States from Denmark and Greece, respectively. Vassilas has Greek and United States citizenship, and she is developing a specialization in international business law.