

It's Official: Greece Has Now Become a Euro-Protektorat

by Dean Andromidas

The European Union has created its first “Protektorat” modeled on the infamous Nazi *Protektorat* of Bohemia and Moravia erected by Hitler’s Germany in Czechoslovakia in 1938.

The “Munich Pact” of 2011 is called the new “Memorandum of Understanding.” It wasn’t signed in Munich this time, but Brussels, the capital of the first Euro-Reich. In return for a EU130 billion “bailout,” loans which will go directly to the banks, Greece will lose its last remnants of sovereignty.

This is stipulated in black and white in the “Euro Summit Statement” released Oct. 26, following the meeting of the 17 heads of governments that make up the Eurozone. The statement says that all this is being done at the request of the Greek government, a regime that the vast majority of Greeks know as nothing more than a puppet of the Troika—the European Commission, the European Central Bank, and the International Monetary Fund.

The statement demands: “The mechanisms for the monitoring of the implementation of the Greek program must be strengthened.” It further states the Troika “will establish for the duration of the program a monitoring capacity on the ground, including with the involvement of national experts, to work in close and continuous cooperation with the Greek government and the Troika to advise and offer assistance in order to ensure the timely and full implementation of the reforms. It will assist the Troika in assessing the conformity of measures which will be taken by the Greek government within the commitments of the program. This new role will be laid down in the Memorandum of Understanding.”

The much touted 50% “haircut” the banks will take on Greek debt, will theoretically bring Greece’s debt burden down from the current unsustainable 172% to the equally unsustainable 120% by 2020, which is the level which triggered the first bailout in May 2010.

Even under these conditions, Greece will only see more suffering through more cuts and “structural reforms,” including demands to cut the pay and pensions of the private-sector workforce. On top of this, the haircut will collapse the Greek banking system, which the Greek government will bail out with loans from the bailout package.

There is also a Green fascism aspect of the deal: The statement fully backs the so-called “Project Helios”—the Greek equivalent of the notorious DESERTEC solar park project slated for Africa, from which all the electricity is to be exported to Europe. The statement reads, “Greece commits future cash flows from project Helios or other privatization revenue in excess of those already included in the adjustment program to further reduce indebtedness of the Hellenic Republic by up to 15 billion euros with the aim of restoring the lending capacity of the European Financial Stability Facility.”

The Protectorate of Greece, Portugal, Ireland, Italy, and Spain

In March of 1939, five months after the Munich Pact was signed, the Nazis set up the *Protektorat* of Bohemia and Moravia, in what is now the Czech Republic. While they kept President Emil Hácha and his Administration in office, all their executive powers were turned over to hundreds of Nazi officials who took control of all government ministries, down to the provincial level. All officials took their orders from the *Reichsprotektor*, who held all executive power in the country. Needless to say, all trade unions and all popular resistance was suppressed, while the country was put under food rationing.

Under the *Protektorat* of Greece in 2011, officials will not be wearing black or brown uniforms, nor will they be armed with Luger pistols; instead they will wear business suits and carry briefcases full of direc-



Prime Minister's photostream

Greece's *Reichsprotector* in-waiting is Horst Reichenbach, who heads a 30-person task force on Greece at EC headquarters in Brussels. Reichenbach (right, with Prime Minister Papandreou), will take his orders from the Troika.

Reichenbach will take his orders from the Troika.

The policy now being forced on Greece was reiterated by outgoing ECB president Jean-Claude Trichet, in a farewell speech in Frankfurt Oct. 19, as his “vision” for Euroland: The Brussels superstate “would exert direct responsibilities” in “rigorous surveillance” of fiscal policies, and be able to “take decisions immediately applicable in a particular economy,” to be carried out with the same “democratic will” as now being seen in Greece. Trichet made similar remarks at an event in Berlin the following week, but was confronted by young Greek students with banners reading, “Troika out of Greece” and “No More Money for the Banks.” He was even confronted on the question of Glass-Steagall.

tives from the Troika.

The intention to set up a *Protektorat* in Greece was already known a week before the summit, when unnamed EC officials revealed their intentions to Reuters, which quoted one of them as having said, “It’s that or not getting the money,” adding, “It is assistance imposed from outside. It’s where outsiders take over some elements of the operation.” The proposal would “involve deploying several hundred technical experts on the ground to administer Greece. . . . The scale of the intervention is unparalleled. It is a matter of authority. There will be a lot of resistance. The formal authority is not in their hands—Greeks must accept that.”

Making it clear that the *Protektorat* was not intended *for* the Greeks, but *against* them, a source told Reuters, “You need someone who can speak Greek but who is not on the side of the Greeks,” while another source said, “Their powers would be tied to the conditionality of the loan. It has to be presented carefully—call it technical assistance or something. . . .”

There is even a *Reichsprotector* in waiting, the EC bureaucrat Horst Reichenbach who already heads a 30-person task force on Greece in Brussels. Sources told Reuters that all that will be needed, will be to expand Reichenbach’s task force by several hundred, relocate them “in country,” and give them full executive powers.

Green Fascism

The direct reference to “Project Helios” in the Euro Summit statement confirms that Greece is intended to become a model for Green fascism, which the British Empire plans to impose on all of Europe: The same people who are implementing the infamous memorandum for the bailout, with all its brutal austerity and “structural reforms” are pushing a “green energy” policy.

Project Helios is the Greek equivalent of the infamous DESERTEC project, which envisions building huge photo-voltaic installations throughout North Africa to export electricity to Europe. The EU400 billion project would offer zero development for those countries in which they are built.

Project Helios is the brainchild of Greek Energy and Climate Change Minister Georgos Papakonstantinou, who wants to build up to 10 gigawatts of photo-voltaic generated capacity that will cover no less than 200 square kilometers of government-owned land. Not only does this amount to more than the entire installed electricity capacity of Greece, but all of it will be exported, and the proceeds go to pay off the debt, as is stipulated in the European Summit statement. Greeks, who, as a result of the austerity and structural reforms, will be given Africa-level wages, so that they can become “competitive.”



Creative Commons/Ggia

Does “cooperation” between Greek security forces and the EC include attacks on peaceful Greek demonstrators, such as that which occurred June 29, and again, on Oct. 19 and 20? Here, riot police attack an elderly demonstrator in Athens, on June 29.

Until June, Papakonstantinou, as then-finance minister, signed the MoU for the first Greek bailout in May of 2010. He is one of the most despised politicians in Greece. Since he has been in office, he has more than doubled the installed capacity of photo-voltaic energy capacity from, 162 to 326 MW. Since this electricity costs more, and requires huge subsidies, it has created a deficit in the government-owned distribution company HTSO. Papakonstantinou says the deficit will decrease with an increase in consumer prices, and the revenues from the sale of carbon credits. All of this leads to higher consumer prices in the country that is already collapsing.

Project Helios is expected to cost EU20 billion. The question is, where will the financing come from? According to press reports, the German solar energy industry is willing to put up only 5% of the funding, and that is only if they find the terms acceptable. The funding will most likely come from the development funds Greece is entitled to under long-standing EU programs—EU18 billion, which has not yet been disbursed, because projects that are acceptable to the EU have not been presented. While these funds normally would go to infrastructure, such as railroads, highways, and bridges, they could be deployed into Project

Helios with the purpose of paying off the debt.

In fact, would-be *Reichsprotector* Reichenbach was in Athens earlier this month, where he met Papakonstantinou and discussed the possibility of releasing these funds for solar projects.

Euro-Reich Police Repression

While not said openly, there is no doubt that the MoU includes a security dimension to deal with popular resistance by the Greek people to the crushing of their lives. Throughout October, Greek blogs have been filled with unconfirmed reports that the so-called European Gendarmerie Force has deployed to Greece to assist Greek

police operations against demonstrators. The EGF was created in 2003, under a treaty signed by six EU countries—France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, The Netherlands, and Romania—which have gendarmerie, or paramilitary police. The force is overseen by a committee of relevant ministers from the participating countries. It is not part of the EU structures so it has no oversight from the EC or the European Parliament.

According to its statutes, it is, above all, at the service of the EU, to be deployed in crisis-management situations, within or outside of Europe. If it receives a mandate from the EU, then it is directed by the European Council of Heads of Governments. Its most likely deployment would be in the context of the invoking of the Lisbon Treaty’s “Solidarity Clause” which is invoked in case of terror attack on a member-state, or in the event of a natural, or man-made disaster. But this clause is so ambiguous that it has been invoked to back the Greek bailout, and therefore override the no-bailout clause of the EU treaty.

The Greek government has denied that the EGF has entered Greece, which is most likely formally true, but it certainly does not mean security cooperation does not exist on the EU level. During the same visit to Athens in which he met with Energy and Cli-

mate Change Minister Papakonstantinou, Reichenbach met Citizen Protection Minister Christos Papoutsis. The Citizen Protection Ministry is responsible for the Greek police, security, and intelligence services. Papoutsis said that the aim of the meeting was to brief Reichenbach on the ministry's actions and common cooperation with the EC, to enable the actions to be promoted, supported, and strengthened at European level as well.

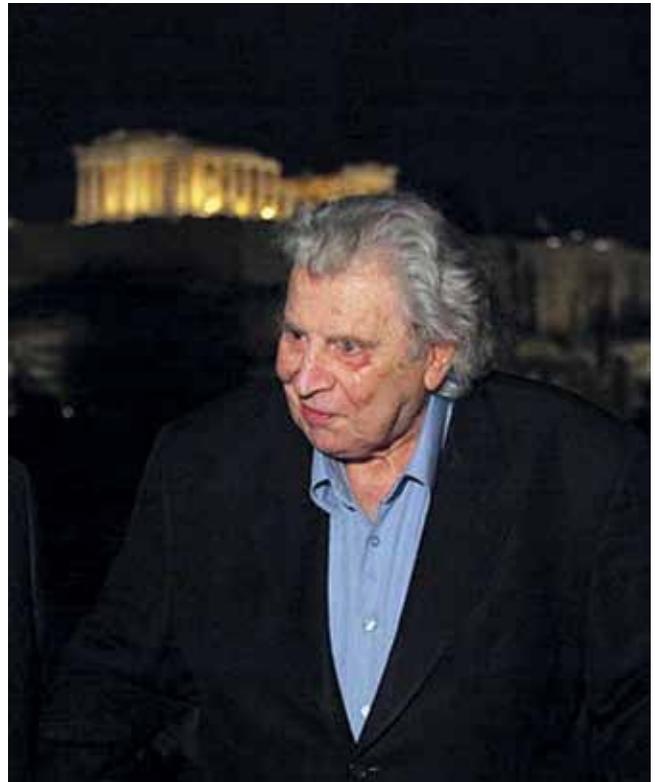
Does this "cooperation" include supervising attacks on peaceful Greek demonstrators such as that which occurred June 29, and on Oct. 19 and 20? Does it include an ongoing EC-directed population-control operation against the Greek people?

It should not go unnoticed that Papoutsis, like Reichenbach, spent part of his career at the EC, and therefore would be seen as the ideal partner for the European occupation force that now will be controlling all government decisions. Furthermore Papoutsis was European Commissioner for energy from 1995 to 1999, during which time, he drafted the EU's policy on green renewable energy. In fact, he has no experience in law enforcement. According to Greek sources, he replaced his predecessor, Michalis Chrysohoidis, who had been Public Safety Minister in two Pasok-led governments, because the latter would not deploy the security services against the general population; and unlike Papoutsis, he never served on the European Commission.

A Call To Fight

The Greek population continues to resist. One of Greece's most famous citizens, a music composer, and former government minister and member of parliament, the 86-year-old Mikis Theodorakis, in a statement on one of Greece's most popular political television programs, warned that if Greece submits to the demands of its so-called "European Partners," it will mean "our end as a nation and people." He accused the government of sitting like "ants" across the table from its so-called "partners," while the people see this government as "brutal and offensive." If this policy continues, he said, "we cannot survive. . . . The only solution is to stand up and fight."

Theodorakis, who had been imprisoned, and then exiled, under the British-backed Greek military junta of 1967 to 1974, in an open letter, which appeared throughout the Greek press, addressed the people of Europe saying, "Our struggle is not only a struggle of Greece"; do not believe that the money will go to help



Greek Prime Minister's Office

If Greece submits to the demands of its so-called "European Partners," it will mean "our end as a nation and people," warned the renowned composer and political activist Mikis Theodorakis.

Greece; the bailout "will only help the foreign banks and the politicians and government's that are in their pay. . . ."

He said there was "no other solution than replacing the current European economic model, which was designed to create debt. . . ." Citing Solon of Athens, who "canceled the debts of the poor against the rich," he called for a "drastic control of the financial markets."

"We are not asking you to support our struggle in solidarity because our country was the cradle of Plato and Aristotle, Pericles and Protagoras. . . . We ask you to do it in your own interest. If you allow the sacrifice of Greek, Irish, Portuguese, and Spanish society on the altar of debt and the banks, you will soon be next. You will not thrive on the ruins of European societies. . . . Time is running out but, we are awake. Let us together build a new Europe. . . . Resist the totalitarianism of the markets, which threaten to disrupt and to transform Europe into a third world, which incites the nations of Europe against each other and destroys our continent by promoting a return of Fascism."