



INTERNATIONAL MASONIC ORDER "DELPHI" ATHENS - GREECE

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"The country's politico-economic crisis"



An open letter from the President of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" Vassilios Patkas to every free-thinking citizen:

Athens, 17 May 2012

In the last years, Greece, just like many other countries in the European Union, has been facing the most severe political and economic crisis after the Second World War.

It has generally been established that, because of the crisis and the ineffective measures taken, there has also been a division in the social fabric, the challenge and loss of longstanding social achievements, and an increase in violence and the extremist views, which are all elements that jeopardise the foundations of Democracy in our country.

Lately, the civilians have become witnesses

of the inadequacy of the politicians in our country to properly tackle the political and economic challenges, which are besieging society and frustrate the people's hopes for isonomy and social justice.

The Greek Freemasons, being fully aware of our responsibility which emanates from our traditions and institutional principles, being liberal civilians in our thinking, sensitive and solidaristic in social pain, but also progressive vis-à-vis the changes that are brought upon by life itself, we stand as guardians of the stability in our society, we work in favour of an intellectual and social progress, and we encourage the expression of the creative abilities and the initiatives of active citizens to tackle the part of the crisis that is proportional to them.

As Greek Freemasons, we express our deeply-ingrained conviction that under the roof of our common home, that is the European Union, we are obliged to declare the need to support the solidarity

among the state-members and to claim for our country the position of equality that it deserves in the manipulation of the European citizens' fate.

More specifically, as members of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI", which is based in Athens, Greece, we make an appeal to all free-thinking citizens of the country that, in the forthcoming national elections, they actively support with their vote those who dare to tell the truth about the country's problems regardless of the political cost, those who stand up for its interests, its national wealth and its national resources, those who work with solidarity towards the strengthening of social cohesion, the prosperity of our society, the happiness of its people and the stability of our homeland.

*Vassilios Patkas
President of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI"*

Celebration of the National Summer Solstice



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Celebration of the Summer Solstice: Salutation of the Sovereign Grand Commander and Grand Master of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" Br.: Vassilios Patkas amidst the Puissant Brs.: Voulis, Poulkouras, Gasparis, Kimon Patkas, Karpos, Moutzourakis, Delakis, Papanelopoulos, Paipetis, and members of the Grand Mixed Lodge of Greece



Official visit of the National Grand Master of the G.:M.:L.:O.:G.: to the Orient of Heracleon, Crete

On Saturday 28 April 2012, the National Grand Master of the Grand Mixed Lodge of Greece Br.: Panagiotis Moutzourakis 33°, accompanied by Grand Officers and a multi-membered delegation, paid an official visit to the Orient of Heracleon for the Installation of New Authorities of the united Lodges "Nikolaos Kazantzakis" no 2011, "Radamanthys" no 2012 and "Theseus" no 2019. The splendid ceremony, which was performed under the sceptre of the National Grand Master, was honoured with the presence of the Sovereign Grand Commander and Grand Master of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" Br.: Vassilios Patkas 33° and the Deputy Sovereign Grand Commander Br.: Emmanuel Delakis 33°. After his installation, the Worshipful Master Br.: Ioannis Samniotis proclaimed honorary Worshipful Masters the founding member and Worshipful Master of the Lodge Br.: Emmanuel Delakis 33° and the past Worshipful Masters Br.: Michael Stafylakis and Sr.: Maria Kostaki.



Passage to the "Eternal Orient" of the Most Illustrious and Puissant Sr.: Maria Giotaki 33°

On 30 April 2012, the Supreme Council of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" convened extraordinarily and regretfully informed all its members and Lodges worldwide about the passage to the "Eternal Orient" of the Most Illustrious and Puissant Sr.: Maria Giotaki 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General and Grand Chancellor of the Supreme Council of the 33° and founding member of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI".

To her memory, the Council resolved that money be offered by its Members and brethren to the association FLOGA (parents of children with neoplastic disease).



Publication of a book entitled 'Masonry Today'

The International Masonic Order "DELPHI" has published the book 'Masonry Today'. Author of the book is the Puissant Grand Chancellor of the Supreme Council and Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS", Professor Stefanos Paipetis 33°, with the collaboration of Br.: Iordanis Poulkouras 33°. In his book foreword, the Sovereign Grand Commander Vassilios Patkas 33°, inter alia, mentions the following:

"I would like to express my great pleasure, because I had the opportunity to read the book written by Professor Stefanos Paipetis, Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS" entitled 'Masonry Today'.

Within a maze of opinions expressed by historians and scholars of Masonry, it is very rare for someone to be able to discern the quickest path to his insight and his reaching a point of the horizon wherefrom he may contemplate the splendour of the Masonic method. This is the path illuminated by the praiseworthy and informative study of Stefanos Paipetis, who makes references to the masonic tradition and highlights the contemporary trends that have been shaped and are currently prevalent about it worldwide. Through the information that has been provided, a new Mason may appreciate and an older one may consolidate the necessity to show respect towards tradition, as well as to persist in progress and development.

I wish every success to Professor Stefanos Paipetis in continuing his intellectual effort, but also in the laudable new course that he has entered upon with the establishment of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS", which operates under the auspices of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI".

In the introduction, the author, Professor Stefanos Paipetis 33°, mentions inter alia:

"This publication aspires to inform any person interested in the origin, the essence, the purpose and the methods of contemporary Free-



Professor Stefanos Paipetis, Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS"



masonry in general, and of the European or Liberal Freemasonry in particular.

An informed opinion about these two principal masonic paths is necessary, particularly because of the widespread tendency among those who deal with it to indiscriminately use the term 'masonry' for any masonic or even self-proclaimed masonic body, attributing to its entirety any negative feature they can think of. Another effort to increase awareness, which only concerned the traditional or conservative Masonry, was a brief publication by the author, about two decades ago, entitled 'What is Masonry'. Since then, however, there have been important developments, such as the rapid growth of Liberal Masonry all over the world, and particularly in our country.

The latter is mainly represented by the International Masonic Order "DELPHI", to which the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS" also pertains, and which, as becomes evident with this publication, aspires to declare its principles, its purpose and its methods with clarity, so that there should be no doubt about them whatsoever in the mind of any citizen and in any country in which it operates.

The author would like to express his appreciation to the Rev.: Br.: Iordanis Poulkouras 33°, a temperate historian of Masonry, for his material contribution to points that have been decisive for the objectivity of this book, particularly in relation to the Scottish Rite, to which he is obviously more specialised than him."

The Sovereign Grand Commander Br.: Vassilios Patkas 33° (left), the Worshipful Master Br.: Ioannis Samniotis (centre), the National Grand Master of the Grand Mixed Lodge of Greece Br.: Panagiotis Moutzourakis 33° (second to the right), flanked by Grand Officers of the G.:M.:L.:O.:G.: after the Installation of New Authorities at the Orient of Heracleon, Crete



Charitable activity of the Lodge "Delphi" no 1380 on the remote island of Leipsoi

On Tuesday 8 and Wednesday 9 May 2012, the Lodge "Delphi" no 1380 offered a large quantity of medical supplies to the Greek borderline island of Leipsoi, in an effort to cater for the needs of the municipal clinic. The Worshipful Master Sr.: Maria Manetta personally attended



to the delivery of the supplies, in the presence of the local Authorities as well as of delegates of the Authorities of the island of Agathonisi, while in her brief salutation she thanked among others the authorities of our Order, and personally the Brothers and Sisters who beneficially contributed to the materialisation of this effort.



Seminar of the Hellenic Red Cross on 'Cardiorespiratory Resuscitation'

On Sunday 20 May 2012, the Lodge "Hellas" no 1117 organised a seminar open to the public focusing on 'Cardiorespiratory Resuscitation' at the Masonic Shelter of Athens "Nikolaos Panagopoulos". The guest speakers, Volunteer Samaritans, Rescuers of the Hellenic Red Cross, presented First Aid techniques to handle various types of accidents and emergencies. The seminar was attended by the Sovereign Grand Commander and Grand Master of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" Br.: Vassilios Patkas 33°, the National Grand Master of the G.:M.:L.:O.:G.: Br.: Panagiotis Moutzourakis 33°, as well as many brothers and sisters and members of their family.



Visit to the Cavern of Vari

On 20 May 2012, members of the Autonomous Lodge "Athena - Sophia" no 2030 visited the cavern of Nympholeptos Archedemos in the area of Vari. In this ancient grotto - home to the Nymphs, to which Plato was taken according to ancient sources in order to be initiated into their mysteries - Nympholeptos carved the oldest figure bearing a Square and a Mallet in 450BC.



Visit to the Orient of Chania

On 23 May 2012, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Perfection of Greece Br.: Panagiotis Papanelopoulos 33°, together with the 1st Grand Inspector Br.: Michael Kofinas 33°, visited the Lodge of Perfection "Agape - N. Delakis" at the Orient of Chania. The Lodge was opened in the 4th Degree, and the Grand Master delivered a lecture focusing on a 'Discussion with Oneself'. After the Lodge was closed, all brothers and sisters participated in the agape and a lengthy discussion ensued about the contents of the lecture.



Lodge "Hestia" no 1478, Installation of New Authorities

On Wednesday 23 May 2012, the Installation of New Authorities of the Lodge "Hestia" no 1478 took place at the Orient of Athens. During that splendid ceremony, under the sceptre of the National Grand Master Br.: Panagiotis Moutzourakis 33° and with the participation of numerous delegations of the Symbolic Lodges of our Order, Sr.: Christina Kremydi was installed as the Worshipful Master.



From left to right: Professor Stefanos Paipetis, Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS", the Sovereign Grand Commander Br.: Vassilios Patkas 33o, the Worshipful Master Br.: Pantelis Voulis 33o, the National Grand Master of the Grand Mixed Lodge of Greece Br.: Panagiotis Moutzourakis 33o, and the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Perfection of Greece Br.: Panagiotis Papanelopoulos 33o, after the ceremony of the Lighting of Fires of the Autonomous Lodge "Filiki Etairia" no 2033.



Lighting of Fires of the new Autonomous Lodge "Filiki Etairia" no 2033

On 8 June 2012, the Lighting of Fires of the new Autonomous Lodge "Filiki Etairia" no 2033 was performed by the Sovereign Grand Commander and Grand Master of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" Br.: Vassilios Patkas 33°. The lodge was formed by 38 senior brothers and sisters led by Br.: Pantelis Voulis 33°.

The ceremony was attended by the National Grand Master Br.: Panagiotis Moutzourakis 33°, the Honorary National Grand Master Br.: Dimitrios Lymperis 33°, the Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS" Br.: Stefanos Paipetis, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Perfection of Greece Br.: Panagiotis Papanelopoulos, several Puissant and Illustrious members of the Order as well as delegates of other Lodges and Autonomous Organisations.



Award of the 33rd degree by the Sovereign Grand Commander Br.: Vassilios Patkas

During the last session of the current masonic year, and during a celebratory ceremony of the Supreme Council under the sceptre of the Sovereign Grand Commander Br.: Vassilios Patkas, the 33rd and ultimate degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite was awarded to Br.: Periklis Vlachopoulos of the Grand Mixed Lodge of Greece, to the heads of lodges of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" - Br.: Vassilios Karpos for the USA, Br.: Kimon Patkas for Brazil, and Br.: Crisan Ionescu for Romania - as well as to the Brs.: Pantelis Voulis and Evangelos Gasparis members of autonomous Organisations.



Meeting of the Research Lodge "Dioni" no 2021

On Friday 15 June 2012, the Research Lodge "Dioni" no 2021 met under the mallet of the Worshipful Master Sr.: Thekli Poulouki 33°. The order of the day was dedicated to a research project undertaken by its members entitled: "The 4th Column and the extension of the consciousness of the initiated", which was presented in parallel with a PowerPoint presentation. The text of the presentation was distributed to the participants at the end of the ceremony. The ceremony was honoured with the presence of the Sovereign Grand Commander and Grand Master of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" Br.: Vassilios Patkas 33°, the National Grand Master Br.: Panagiotis Moutzourakis 33°, as well as Worshipful Masters and delegates of Lodges of the Grand Mixed Lodge of Greece and autonomous Organisations of our Order.



Celebration of the summer solstice of the autonomous Lodge "Isis 1896" no 2029

On 21 June, the day of the Summer Solstice, the autonomous Lodge "Isis 1896" no 2029, following its tradition, held a reception for its members and guests at the restaurant 'Paradiso' in Chalandri. This celebratory event was also attended by the Sovereign Grand Commander of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" Br.: Vassilios Patkas, the Grand Master of Ceremonies of the Grand Mixed Lodge of Greece Sr.: Angela Karaiskou, the Worshipful Master of the autonomous Lodge "Athena-Sophia" no 2030 Br.: Iordanis Poulkouras, as well as many brothers and sisters from other Organisations in amity with our Order.



Pan-Hellenic Celebration of the National Summer Solstice

On Saturday 23 June 2012, the annual Pan-Hellenic celebration of the National Summer Solstice took place at a private venue near Athens. The function involved the Ritual Celebration during an official ceremony performed by the Grand Mixed Lodge and a formal reception

open to the public. As many as twenty-six (26) Lodges of the G.:M.:L.:O.:G.: nationwide participated in the Ritual Celebration, under the sceptre of the National Grand Master Br.: Panagiotis Moutzourakis 33°, with delegations led by their Worshipful Masters, as well as Lodges of the autonomous Organisations of our Order. The ceremony was honoured with the presence of the Sovereign Grand Commander and Grand Master of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" Br.: Vassilios Patkas 33° with his official visitors, the Deputy Sovereign Grand Commander Br.: Emmanuel Delakis 33° leading a delegation of the members of the Supreme Council, the Honorary National Grand Master Br.: Dimitrios Lymperis 33°, the Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS" Br.: Stefanos Paipetis 33°, Br.: Vassilis Karpos 33° head of the Lodges in the USA, Br.: Kimon Patkas 33° head of the Lodges in Brazil, the Worshipful Masters of the autonomous Lodges Brs.: Evangelos Gasparis 33°, Iordanis Poulkouras 33° and Pantelis Voulis 33°, as well as delegates of Greek Masonic Organisations in amity with our Order. The ceremonial Ritual was of high initiating value and fraught with emotion for the participants, culminating in seven symbolic trees being offered to St. John's pyre by seven woodcutters.

During the formal reception which ensued, the National Grand Master in his brief salutation congratulated the organising Lodge "Hellas" no 1117 and the Worshipful Master Sr.: Gianna Sakkali, as well as the Officers of the Grand Lodge for their contribution to the success of the celebration. The soirée concluded in the early morning hours of Sunday with a music programme and dancing.



Celebration of the summer solstice of the Lodges "Chrysous Aeon" no 2026 and "Filiki Etairia" no 2033

On 29 June 2012, the Lodge "Chrysous Aeon" no 2026 of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS" and the Autonomous Lodge "Filiki Etairia" no 2033 co-organised an event for the celebration of the Summer Solstice. The event

was saluted by the Sovereign Grand Commander of the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" Br.: Vassilios Patkas, the Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS" Br.: Stefanos Paipetis, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge "Chrysous Aeon" Br.: Panagiotis Papanelopoulos, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge "Filiki Etairia" Br.: Pantelis Voulis and, among the distinguished guests, by the National Grand Master of the Grand Mixed Lodge of Greece Br.: Panagiotis Moutzourakis and the Worshipful Master of the Autonomous Lodge "Athena - Sophia" no 2030 Br.: Iordanis Poulkouras.

The event was also honoured with the presence of the Deputy Sovereign Grand Commander Br.: Emmanuel Delakis, Members of the Supreme Council of the Order, a delegation of the Grand Mixed Lodge of Greece, delegations of other Lodges, as well as numerous brothers and sisters, members of their families and friends. After the salutations, the Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Greece "ORPHEUS" Br.: Stefanos Paipetis delivered a lecture on "The Solstices".

The lecture was followed by a presentation of masonic poetry and music with the aid of audio-visual multimedia under the direction of Br.: Ion Kechagioglou, culminating in Br.: Pantelis Kontogiannis' recitation of masonic poetry written by Br.: Stefanos Paipetis, and the presentation of the Pan-European Anthem of Taekwondo "Axios Agon" with lyrics written by Br.: Ion Kechagioglou and music by Giorgos Avramidis, performed by the tenor Br.: Vangelis Zoulas.



Participation in the 5th Convention of Young Masons of the Grand Lodge of Italy

On 29, 30 June and 1 July 2012, the 5th Convention of Young Masons of the Grand Lodge of Italy of the Ancient and Accepted Free Masons took place at the Orient of Falerna of Catanzaro, Calabria, focusing on the topic: "Under the sun of the Mediterranean a multitude of peoples get together. The interaction and harmonisation of different cultures." Our Order was represented by Br.: Michael Patzis, member of the Lodge "Hellas" no 1117.

The editorial board of the Newsletter published by the International Masonic Order "DELPHI" was formed by virtue of the resolution No 5491 dated 11th January 2012.

Members of the board are:

Co-ordinator: Br.: Iordanis Poulkouras, Deputy Co-ordinator: Sr.: A. Voudouri,

Members: Br.: Gabriel Michalatos, Br.: Athanasios Pyrgaroussis

Lodges and other organisations can communicate with the editorial board for news and reports through electronic mail at: newsletter@delphiorder.org.

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