

LABORATORY GREECE SCREENPLAY

LABORATORY GREECE - LABORATORIO GRECIA

Written and directed by Jacopo Brogi

Documentary research: Jacopo Brogi

Editing and original animations by: David Mitrani Arenal

Interviews by: Jacopo Brogi, Ruggero Arenella, Umberto Del Noce, Riccardo Donat – Cattin

Athens editorial board: Nicoletta Fatsea

Script adaptation-translation-subtitles: Nicoletta Fatsea

Graphic Design: Laura Gineprini, Original Design: Elena Carrea

Music: Dance with Invisible Partners

Running time/format: 165 minutes – HD, col. Release: 2019

Official site: www.labgreece.org -info@labgreece.org

Imdb - <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt12889398/>

Dedicated to Alexandros, Dimitris, Nikolas, Theodoros, Luca and to all the ones who did not make it.

The Age of Chivalry is gone. That of sophisters, economists, and calculators has succeeded; and the glory of Europe is extinguished for ever

Edmund Burke

If democracy can be destroyed in Greece, it can be destroyed throughout Europe.

Paul Craig Roberts,

1 July 2015

Economist, former member of the Reagan Administration

NARRATOR

Greece, cradle of thought, culture, and democracy, mirror of western civilization: a journey in the present, throughout history and memory, cronicles of our future.

Fear and Hope: those who hold power use fear to impose themselves and hope to legitimize themselves.

LABORATORY GREECE

Written and directed by Jacopo Brogi

Exarcheia, Athens

ANGEROULA PITSAKI

Actress

This is where the police shot 15-year-old Alexis Grigoropoulos. This was the beginning of the hatred and disunity that gradually arose in Greek society between the police and the citizens; it gradually grew with the onset of the crisis and intensified with the arrival of the Troika, reaching boiling point.

GERASIMOS PRODROMITIS

Professor of Social Psychology, Panteion University of Athens

Disappointment, rage, anger, and due to various manipulative practices implemented by external but also internal authorities we had a strong sense of fear.

ELENA

Police repression was often so brutal that even ordinary citizens were aware of the harshness of the authorities.

3 June 2009

GIORGOS PAPANDREOU

Leader of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement

(Pasok)

The IMF is not known for its social justice nor for its effectiveness. When visiting developing countries and telling them: “since you have many loans, you’ll have to cut back, when and on what, on education” for example. These are official actions. This in essence holds back the country’s future. That country might save some money for a couple of years, but essentially it is condemned to underdevelopment on a permanent basis. We have no reason to enter into negotiations which may result in terms that are detrimental to the future of the country.

Flashback

1941

ANTONIS PAPANTONIOY

Former Greek Navy Admiral

During the occupation of 1940-44, the presence of the occupational forces was evident, in that we could see them, we sensed their presence as they arrived with weapons, military uniforms and equipment. You could see the German occupier, with the swastika on his arm or on his clothes, you could see the tanks on the streets.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

The Germans invaded villages or towns, they were killing children, women, everyone.

NARRATOR

While King George II and the government opt for exile, the army’s senior officers choose to surrender.

But not Greece: the people resist and fight for freedom.

NIKOS RAFTOPOULOS

Greek Patriot

The young, middle-aged, elderly, the whole Greek population took part in the Resistance.

NARRATOR

The Resistance is supported by the British: through the SOE it is provided with recruits, training, weapons, and ammunition.

24 July 1944

Bizaniou Street ,

Kallithea , Athens

NIKOS RAFTOPOULOS

Greek Patriot

The battle lasted for five hours. The Germans suggested they put down their weapons and surrender.

The ten brave youths, kept saying: "No!" and shooting back. They fought until they fell, one by one.

The last ones saved the last bullet for themselves.

NARRATOR

1-22 July 1944

Bretton Woods Conference

Two days before the heroic boys of Bizaniou Street give their lives for the freedom of their homeland Greece, the New World is already born. At the Bretton Woods Conference, the United States prevails in setting the rules of international trade and financial relations.

The dollar is established as the exchange currency of reference, the only currency convertible into gold, the price of which is set by the American Treasury. To prevent new crises and eradicate poverty, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank are established.

They are both on the same street in Washington, and indeed it is Washington that gets the quotas that count.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

USA (17.46% SHARE; 16.52% VOTING POWER)

JAPAN (SHARE 6.48% ; 6.15% VOTE)

CHINA (6.41% SHARE ; 6.09% VOTE)

GERMANY (SHARE 5.60% ; 5.32 % VOTE)

UK (4.24% SHARE ; 4.03% VOTE),

data as at 2019

WORLD BANK

USA - SHARE 16.88% ; VOTING POWER 15.98%.
JAPAN - SHARE 7.26% ; VOTING POWER 6.89%.
CHINA - SHARE 4.68% ; VOTING POWER 4.45%.
GERMANY - QUOTA 4.24% ; VOTING POWER 4.03%.
FRANCE - 3.97% SHARE ; 3.78% VOTING POWER
UK - QUOTA 3.97% ; VOTING POWER 3.78%.

data as at 2019

Flashback

October 1944

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

We are the only occupied country that was liberated before the allies arrived; it was liberated by the Resistance, primarily by EAM-ELAS.

NARRATOR

In Moscow, Churchill and Stalin divide the spoils. England and the United States have freedom of action on the guinea pig Greece, while Romania and Bulgaria join the sphere of influence of the Soviet Union.

*[Greece: 90% UK/USA
- 10% USSR]*

East and West: the world is now divided in half.

On 14 October, British troops enter Athens.

NIKOS RAFTOPOULOS

Greek Patriot

When the English arrived, the Germans were already gone. They did not arrive to liberate Greece, but to occupy it once again.

NARRATOR

Minister Harold MacMillan arrives from London. Churchill is clear: "the King must be restored to the throne. At any price".

MANOLIS GLEZOS

Partisan

They chased us, detained us, cursed us, beat us, tortured us, executed us.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

Unfortunately, the Civil War followed, to the advantage of the English, who were able to retain the colony they called "Greece".

NARRATOR

Great Britain also deploys LOK, a military unit composed of Greeks. And yet, despite everything, the Resistance is prevailing.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

The English could not cope and the Americans arrived with the Truman Doctrine.

HARRY S. TRUMAN, USA PRESIDENT

We must keep that hope alive. The free peoples of the world look to us for support in maintaining their freedoms

NARRATOR

Americans unite with LOK, while the resistance forces are left without supplies from the Soviet Union: this is the price of Yalta. The Greek people, who defeated the Italians, the Germans, and the English, are now vanquished by the new masters.

BRADY KIESLING

Former US Diplomat

The US mission was itself divided: there were people who saw their role as to democratize Greece, to liberalize Greece to make it more democratic; and others who saw that an authoritarian Greece with a strong military role was better in the context that the growing Cold War

NARRATOR

17 November 1947

The American mission in Athens sends a memorandum to Washington:

"We have established practical control over the national budget, taxation, currency issuance, price and wage policies, state economic planning, as well as over imports and exports, the issuance of foreign exchange, and direction of military reconstruction and relief expenditures".

The Office of Strategic Services creates the Greek Intelligence Service. Hundreds of its agents will be trained in America. The name of one will soon be known: Georgios Papadopoulos.

Americans establish a military alliance for the purpose of protecting Western Europe from a possible Soviet invasion. The Headquarters is in the heart of Europe: Brussels.

States may join by invitation, "by depositing its instrument of accession with the Government of the United States of America". As former State Department official William Blum explains, "Greece had been molded into a supremely reliable ally/client of the United States. It was staunchly anti-communist and well integrated into the NATO system"

LOK becomes an army led by the CIA, integrated in the secret network coordinated by NATO.

The Marshall Plan's aid and loans exceed \$700 million. "There is no such thing as a free lunch". The Communist Party —a protagonist of the Resistance—is outlawed and other alternative groups are marginalized. Politicians and unionists are exiled or imprisoned. The priority of those who govern is not full employment, but monetary stability.

In 1963 alone, unemployment reaches 13.88%. In less than two decades, over a million people are forced to leave Greece. Hidden unemployment and emigration: the "employment issue" is solved.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

They forced the post-civil-war governments to sign an arrangement, for the pre-war debt, a colonial-type arrangement, arguing that "if you don't sign, we won't admit you to the European Community".

ANTONIS PAPANTONIOY

Former Greek Navy Admiral

What you see now is not military uniforms, the swastika the tanks or the panzers. It's the suit and tie and the laptop.

NIKOS RAFTOPOULOS

Greek Patriot

They tried to enforce it violently, with tanks, cannons, executions, holocausts. Now, in the EU, they are attempting to unify Europe financially under German hegemony.

ANTONIS PAPANTONIOY

Former Greek Navy Admiral

These financial means have created genocidal conditions for the people.

Flashback

GIORGOS PAPANDREOU

PRIME MINISTER - Speech in the Hellenic Parliament

Ladies and Gentlemen, colleagues we are at war with the negative scenarios concerning our homeland. As a Greek citizen, I am sorry that somebody has led the country to this state.

GREEK TV BROADCAST

There is too much talk about whose fault it is, and why we got here, right?

NARRATOR

Who is to blame for this terrible crisis? Why isn't there any money?

MP THEODOROS PANGALOS

"We squandered it all together", in the context of political clientelism, corruption, bribery, and the debasement of politics.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT- B

I totally agree, not with his political ideology, but with what he stated, that it's everyone fault, we all played our part.

GREEK TV BROADCAST

Look what's happening in the public sector due to the wastefulness that has come to light. Incredible wastefulness in the public sector. They spent €285 million on phone calls €5,300 on cigars, up to €3,000 on silk underwear.

TELEVISION NEWS JOURNALIST

This year,once again, the world's perception of the Greek public sector remains the worst possible.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT- A

Continuous deficits, led the country to the crisis. The fact that the governments distributed money to the people

HOTEL OWNER

There were wages that were a little higher than average

HARRIS KOKOSSIS, LAWYER

The Greek people as Mediterraneans never had a sense of proportion, they had no limit of consumption, luxury. They lived a lifestyle above their means

GREEK TV BROADCAST - NEWS

Only Mexico has a credit rating worst than that of Greece. Now the thorniest issue is tax evasion.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT- A

It's our fault too as citizens. Because people that own a small business, a kiosk do not issue receipts or pay taxes.

GREEK TV BROADCAST - NEWS

Now, what the solution could be? Probably public awareness, the establishment of more organizations where people can make formal complaints

GIRL

Major tax evaders, but I think we arall partly responsible

GREEK TV BROADCAST - NEWS

According to a study by the University of Linz, which does not take into account black money earned from criminal activities, the leader in the shadow economy is tourism, with €14.19 billion. Other services such as private lessons, hairdressing, domestic helpers, and babysitters ccount for €11.61 billion

BOY

I believe that we are not as irreproachable as we should be as citizens**GIRL/2**

Because we think about the present and not the future

STUDENT/B

Each Greek citizen is to blame.

GEORGE PAPANDREOU – PRIME MINISTER

These are harsh measures against corruption, not against the poor, pensioners, and employees. Against corruption.

GREEK TV BROADCAST

Ungrateful Greek citizen, do you want to know who is to blame for the government's expenses?

You!

BOY/2

We are all accessories and accomplices.

MONI OVADIA

Author

A vast part of the vocabulary and the neologisms that we could coin, in the field of medicine, science and conceptual philosophy, is Greek. We should all consider ourselves Greeks. All of us.

NARRATOR

Crisis from the Greek "krìsis": choice, decision. Are we really to blame for the crisis we are undergoing?

18 October 2009

The new government of George Papandreou announces to the world that the State accounts were cooked.

Greece ends up being targeted by rating agencies and is at the mercy of international finance.

8 February 2010 New York

In the heart of Manhattan, a dinner is taking place among the main hedge fund managers, the Wall Street Journal reports. They will make a lot of money attacking the euro, through its weakest link: Greece.

And then it will be the domino effect. In the following days, banking giants such as Goldman Sachs, Bank of America and Barclays advise their clients to stand against the European currency. Meanwhile the dollar, which has been weak for too long, regains strength. Ten-year Greek bonds take off by more than 12%, five-year state bankruptcy insurance soars by more than 1,000 points, and the spread by more than 800 points. The State is shipwrecked in the financial storm, now at the mercy of skyrocketing interest rates, pulling it into the void. Greece must ask for help.

GIORGOS PAPANDREOU

PRIME MINISTER

23 April 2010

Kastellorizo-

Port of Megisti

It is a national and imperative need to officially request from our EU partners, the implementation of the support mechanisms that we have jointly created.

NARRATOR

The contagion spreads rapidly to Ireland and Portugal, then speculation strikes Spain and Italy. Cyprus capitulates in 2013. But what happened in Greece between October 2009 and April 2010? According to the Parliamentary Truth Committee on Public Debt, composed of figures of national and international stature: "The newly-elected government of George Papandreou illegally revised and increased both the public deficit and debt."

HOW?

€2.3 billion in hospital expenses become €6.6 billion. The president of ELSTAT, in agreement with Eurostat, transfers the liabilities of the 17 state-owned enterprises to the public sector, and public debt increases by €18.2 billion overnight. Thanks to swap contracts with Goldman Sachs, ELSTAT increases public debt by €21 billion, distributed between 2006 and 2009. "The European Parliaments voted on the "rescue" of Greece based on falsified statistical data."

LEONIDAS VATIKIOTIS

Economist, Member of the Truth Committee on the Greek Public Debt

There have been scientists who have suffered in the same way left-wing actors did during the McCarthy era. They were dismissed from their jobs and their scientific posts because they revealed the tremendous scams devised by the EU.

NARRATOR

"Frequent announcements about a deteriorating situation provoked speculation. Speculation that affects Greek government bonds.

HOW?

Immediately after the 2009 elections, the Central Bank of Georgios Provopoulos magically changes HDAT market rules that determine the cost of the country's debt: the period for settlement of transactions is increased from three to ten days; additionally any penalty for those who do not enter into a sale transaction is removed.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

This intervention is typical of unregulated markets where, in order to give investors – even speculators –

maximum liberty, they are permitted to sell short for a prolonged period. This practice is typically speculative and therefore usually forbidden in regulated markets.

NARRATOR

19 MAY 2010

“The Bank of Greece knew the country's negative fiscal situation. Why did it facilitate the speculation?” asks Vasso Papandreou, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Affairs, in a parliamentary question, reports the Financial Times.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

In a few months, the interest rate on the Greek public debt bond securities soars, essentially as a result of speculative activity that wouldn't have been possible in a regulated market, but which was made possible by this specific intervention by the Bank of Greece. It is unthinkable that such action was taken unbeknown to the central European authority, the ECB.

NARRATOR

The ECB allows refinancing of Greek securities, only after the Papandreou government signs the memorandum.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

Had it been done before the memorandum was signed, this would have encouraged the banks to underwrite Greek debt securities and thus would have prevented the price collapse.

NARRATOR

With the signing of the memorandum, €110 billion will be arriving for three years. Money in exchange for reforms. The Troika, which will verify its implementation comprises: the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

The Troika did not exist before Greece requested support from the EU. The Troika is an American invention and from the very beginning the Americans wanted to force the EU to have a debt management mechanism in place so the IMF could function legally within the EU.

Flashback

NARRATOR

Prime Minister George Papandreou is visiting Vladimir Putin. Russia is willing to lend a hand, but Papandreou declines: the United States, the European Union and the International Monetary Fund say NO.

This is revealed by the person who organised the meeting: the president of the Greek community in Russia and member of the Duma, Ivan Savvidis.

IVAN SAVVIDIS, CRETE TV

As Ivan Savvidis stated, “at the moment in Greece US politics is being implemented with a German government”, while what’s most important is that Greece has lost its independence by signing the memorandum. Merkel did what Hitler couldn’t.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

On 5 March 2010, George Papandreou, then Greece’s PM, goes to Berlin and signs a treaty which until today has never been submitted to the Greek Parliament. The treaty is called “Greek-German Partnership”. Greece’s infrastructures and wealth were conceded to the Germans.

This treaty turned Greece into a German colony. After that, Germans said “fine” and in May the first memorandum was signed. This is how the story begins.

RANIA ANTONOPOULOS

Economist

November 25th 2013,

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY - NEW YORK

Now, I'm pretty sure that you all know that Latin America went through plenty of similar financial trouble in the 1980s and they had also to be rescued through these packages of funds that they would be receiving and they had to sign memoranda of agreements in order to receive these loans and the whole idea back then, and exactly the same idea was applied in Greece, but in other countries as well.

NARRATOR

Man is a social being, a political animal, because by nature he tends to be with others. The community built for daily living is the family, more families form villages to meet non-daily needs, more villages form the State.

Therefore, the State exists by nature and it comes into being because no one is self-sufficient, but has many needs.

It is not just American dollars, it’s the nation-state, redesigned by democratic constitutions that relieve western post-war societies of need. A State that issues and controls its own currency, and spends it for the community.

WORK, EDUCATION, HEALTH, WELFARE, SERVICES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC TRANSPORT,

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, SECURITY, CULTURE AND TERRITORY PROTECTION,

DEMOGRAPHIC BOOM AND PRIVATE SAVINGS.

State expenditure, and therefore state debt is the wealth of the private sector.

During the Cold War, real macroeconomics is born, inspired by the theories of John Maynard Keynes. The State guides economic growth and regulates the market. The State restricts the wealthiest, forcing them to redistribute a large part of their profits as taxes and wages. The State is no longer run like a family dealing with daily needs, but supports the development of the entire society: millions and millions of people are saying goodbye to poverty and heading towards a new era: neither rich nor poor.

The best political community is formed by citizens of the middle class, for where some
possess much and the others nothing, there may arise a tyranny

ARISTOTLE

A colourful globalization of rights and better living conditions, is under way.

While the common market is being built in Western Europe, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank are granting and promoting loans; commercial banks are lowering interest rates and many developing countries are becoming indebted. The Bretton Woods Agreement wanes: the United States unpeg the US dollar from the price of gold. Modern money comes into being: each State creates its own currency from nothing through its Central Bank, and will never have debt problems.

The time is ripe for the big reaction. When the American Supreme Court gives the green light to electoral funding by big business, multinationals effectively take control of the political system through donations. There is no choice but to embrace the new or almost new, idea: the market must again be free. Free from what? Free from the State, which by nature is inefficient and corrupt and must be reduced to the minimum. The State issues too much money: this creates a general rise in prices. The State spends too much, creating debt as no respectable family should do. Central Banks must therefore be made independent of governments, everywhere. The wealthy must be free to act: private interest promotes the common good. The ideas of Milton Friedman, Robert Lucas and Robert Mundell, inspired by Friedrich Von Hayek, are spread everywhere.

The global market must be conquered by any means. Political philosopher Leo Strauss is clear on one thing. Without the State, there is chaos: there is no enemy army and no risk of defeat.

Friedman's disciples begin their rapid-rise career within the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund; Strauss's disciples scale the Pentagon hierarchy and soon influence NATO policies. According to Friedman: "Only a crisis produces real change".

Shock economy is born: establish military or technocratic juntas to obtain free markets. The energy crisis of 1979 brings the Keynesian model and Western economies to a standstill. The American Central Bank raises interest rates sharply, stopping inflation but leading dozens of countries into bankruptcy. The debt of countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America is in dollars, a foreign currency they do not issue or control. But now they have no alternative: they must ask for IMF support. They will only get money in exchange for reforms. What economist John Williamson reveals publicly is the economic recipe destined for the New World, the "Washington Consensus": austerity, liberalizations and privatizations.

Margaret Thatcher and Ronald Reagan lead the war against the State, freeing the market. International aid is also privatised. The solidarity multinationals, NGO's, are born. A dense network of associations and foundations emerges, financed and supported mainly by Washington, to spread free market principles. These operations were previously only delegated to the CIA. Private philanthropy often blends with strategic and geopolitical interests. The twentieth century draws to a close, indicating the path: NATO becomes belligerent and can operate everywhere, for global security reasons: economics, energy and

migration. The IMF becomes a lender a sort of central bank for nations that find themselves in financial difficulty. According to economist Joseph Stiglitz: we go "from serving global economic interests to serving the interests of global finance".

The 1999 Nobel Prize winner is Robert Mundell, ideator of "trickle-down economics", inaugurated by Ronald Reagan: the unlimited wealth of those at the top, drop by drop, will trickle down to the bottom.

Will it be an age of prosperity or a step backwards to an archaic society?

Where the strong do as they wish, and the weak as they should.

And the State?

According to Aristotle, "the State exists by nature to make a happy life possible". The word "globalization" was coined by economist Kenichi Ohmae. In his view we have gone beyond the "paralyzing nation state", now turned into a region State. A region of the global free market. Only rich and poor.

According Milton Friedman and Leo Strauss, markets must be opened by finance or war.

JOHN PERKINS. FORMER AGENT NSA, USA

Once we identified these countries, do arrange huge loans to these countries, but money would never actually go to the countries, instead, it would go to our corporations to build infrastructure projects in those countries, things like power plants and highways, that benefited a few wealthy people as well as our own corporations, but not the majority of the people who couldn't afford to buy in to these things. And yet, there were a total of a huge debt, very much like Greece has today, this is a phenomenal debt. And once bound by that debt, we would go back usually in the form of IMF, and in the case of Greece today it's the IMF and EU; - and make tremendous demands on the country: increase taxes, cut back on spending, sell public sector things to private companies, things like power companies and water systems, transportation systems, privatize those. In other words basically become a slave to us, to corporations: to the IMF, and in your case, to the EU. And basically, the organisations like the World Bank, the IMF, the EU are tools of big corporations, what I call the "corporatocracy".

When a crisis occurs, the actions that are taken depend on the ideas that are lying around. That, I believe, is our basic function: to develop alternatives to existing policies, to keep them alive and available until the politically impossible becomes the politically inevitable.

MILTON FRIEDMAN. Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences, 1976, "Capitalism and Freedom"

ANTONIS PAPANTONIOY

Former Greek Navy Admiral

From the beginning of this Occupation, we had been seeing this special police force called MAT, circulating fully equipped on a daily basis to terrorise citizens.

ELENA

In the beginning, when the measures were first applied, there was a huge increase in social unrest.

GIANNIS ATHANASIADIS, EPAM (UNITED POPULAR FRONT)

in this square, we were here and fight with police: they hit us very badly, they send people in hospital, they give many gasses, many hittings...

MAN

We kept hearing “Troika” etc. and we did not know, it suddenly struck us like a bolt from the blue, and destroyed us. We Greeks were surprised.

LOUIS ELLI

Member of “Kallithea Solidarity”, Kallithea, Attica

I 'd say all families were grievously affected, everything turned upside down for everyone.

UNEMPLOYED PERSON

I know homes with two children, with three children, and don't have to eat a thing, you know? Can't pay the light, can't pay the water, they don't have. . . I know many, many!

LOUIS ELLI

Member of “Kallithea Solidarity”, Kallithea, Attica

We could not afford private lessons for our children. Elderly insured people could not afford their medicine, so people were dying. We do not have doctors.

NARRATOR

9 November 2011

George Papandreou resigns. Greece is already on its knees, and must ease its debt: Matthieu Pigasse is following the negotiations on behalf of the Greek government. He is the European Vice-President of the American Investment Bank Lazard. He was commissioned by Premier Lukas Papadimos, former Central Banker. The new head of the government was not elected by the people but appointed by the Maximos Mansion. He is the right person to drag the country into the second memorandum: more austerity, liberalisations and privatisations. Chaos and fear are wisely administered; and they serve to impose poverty.

ANTONIS PAPANTONIOY

Former Greek Navy Admiral

The violence they used was boundless.

OLGA SANTA

There was never a demonstration, which started peacefully, without the use of gas and beatings. They then let their own people join in and that was it.

LEONIDAS VATIKIOTIS

Economist, Member of the Truth Committee on the Greek Public Debt

Greece was under a dictatorship until 1974, and there are state apparatuses, such as the police or the Greek army, which are not so friendly towards democracy and are still fascist cells.

OLGA SANTA

The Police State era before Syriza, I would say, was like a new junta.

GEORGIOS KASSIMATIS

Constitutionalist

The power currently exercised in Greece, due to its loan agreements and the memorandum, is unconstitutional; it is a putsch-like, de facto power.

Flashback

21 April 1967

2:00 am

NARRATOR

In major western countries, impulse from below and in parties, trade unions and movements has inaugurated an era of substantial rights. In Lab Greece this cannot happen. LOK takes control of the Ministry of Defence: it's a coup d'état.

BRADY KIESLING

Former US Diplomat

You have a centre-left party with an old, increasingly frail leader, Georgios Papandreou whose son Andreas wants to be the next prime minister of Greece and he's maneuvering in that direction, shifting his party to the left.

GIORGOS FOTIADIS

Greek Patriot

They believed that it would be unacceptable on their part to allow the existence of an independent democratic government, which would probably turn to the Soviet Union.

BRADY KIESLING

Former US Diplomat

There is the State Department which is more liberal, the CIA which is very complicated and the military which tends to be much more conservative and anti-communist, and a lot of US military officers believed the propaganda of the Colonels, that there was a communist threat to Greece.

GIORGOS FOTIADIS

Greek Patriot

The Americans saw into the risk of losing total control of the country, something they didn't want. In addition to other minor facts, this led them to carry out the coup d'état.

NARRATOR

The military junta of Georgios Papadopoulos rules for seven long years of denied freedom, violence and terror. This allows a drastic redistribution of income: from those at the bottom to those at the top from wages to profits. The share of wages was 80%. Thanks to the military dictatorship it fell to 62.1%.

GIORGOS FOTIADIS

Greek Patriot

Fear was the dominant feeling during the dictatorship. Many aspects of the current situation are truly reminiscent of the dictatorship. We are now experiencing another kind of occupation, a financial occupation, in which monopolies and globalisationists want to virtually enslave people.

Flashforward

BARACK OBAMA, US PRESIDENT

MAY 19, 2012, CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND

G8 Summit

We agreed upon the importance of a strong and cohesive Eurozone and affirmed our interest in Greece staying in the Eurozone while respecting its commitments.

NARRATOR

In Germany, not everyone agrees: both the big media and the Bavarian party CSU, Angela Merkel's ally in the government, want Greece out of the euro.

BARACK OBAMA, US PRESIDENT

The capacity to meet its challenges and America is not only confident in the role to meet its challenges, but we're supportive of their efforts.

VASILIS PRIMIKIRIS

SYRIZA, Member of the National Secretariat of the Central Committee

Do you know where our debts are going? Not to production, the development of this country. 70% to cover old debts and 30% for the so-called interest settlement, to the bankers.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

Even someone who has passed by a school of economics knows that when you borrow to repay debts, it means bankruptcy.

GEORGIOS KASSIMATIS

Constitutionalist

Owing to the loan, Greece also freezes the totality of its state assets. This has never happened before. It doesn't impose a fiscal adjustment, but an economic adjustment covering the country's entire economic policy, so that whatever Greece does must be approved by Brussels. Greece waives its sovereignty rights guaranteed under International Law.

VASILIS PRIMIKIRIS

SYRIZA, Member of the National Secretariat of the Central Committee

These policies aim to impact on the cost of labour and labour relations, the welfare state, public health and public education, and to promote policies that benefit only the interests of the monopolistic oligarchy of Greece and Europe, and especially those of the financial system of our creditors.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

The deep economic structures of the Greek economy are changing and a more profitable economic system is being created, in which the labour force is more disciplined; there is a steady two-digit unemployment rate, now over 25%, which guarantees what some would call an "industrial reserve army".

UNEMPLOYED PERSON

Every day I ask "please, would you like me to do something for you?"; I'm very hungry, you know? And I'll take anything. . . 5 euros, 3 euros, 10 euros, anything... I can clean the road, anything, the toilettes, anything. . . I have no problems. . . but I don't have work. That's the problem.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

It is a continuous undermining of the bargaining power of workers, who are afraid of the widespread unemployment and are therefore discouraged from demanding better wages and living standards.

MARIANNA

it's very difficult to stay in job, because they tell to me: "If you want to stay, take three euros and don't talk! If you don't stay, go home". It's very difficult.

I take in the first job for nine hours 25 euros and, in the second job, I'm taking 20 or 25.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

During the first three years of austerity, wage reduction in Greece was sharper than it was in the first three years of the Junta.

MARIANNA, WAITRESS - NIGHT

Why do you have a second job?

This is my second job and I'm doing this because I don't take a lot of money in my first job.

How many hours do you work in one day?

Nine in my first and five or six in night... Fifteen hours in a day.

How many days a week?

Seven days a week. Every day I'm working.

NASIR - IMMIGRANT

You see, every economic collapsed here: shops, businesses, properties is already gone, collapsed: many shops have closed, people are jobless, the government cut the jobs and salaries.

PENSIONER

I am a pensioner, they cut my pension by 52.6 per cent.

SENIOR CITIZEN/2

They have since annihilated small and large-scale industry and we depend on foreign production. We are in a pitiful and sad situation.

HARALAMBOS TSIANIKAS

Business owner

We opened in the middle of the crisis, as there was nothing else we could do. We received car accident damages and invested it. We're struggling to survive as everyone is.

RONI - IMMIGRANT

Some people of course help, some help, other people are not helping.. They go with "Chrisi Avgi" Golden Dawn, because they think that we are the cause of all the problems, you know? We have no money, we are surviving.

HOMELESS

I have been homeless for the past three years and I sleep outside Saint Irene's church, in Eolou Street. I found shelter there. The priest takes care of me, I'm not being turned away, they love me and they take care of me. I take heart medication; I have undergone a heart surgery.

THE CONSTITUTION OF GREECE

Article 21,4

The acquisition of a home by the homeless or those inadequately sheltered shall constitute an object
of special State care

NARRATOR

The months go by and so do the governments, while economic uncertainty paralyzes the people.

ELENA

I took part, and everyone reacted. Later however, in about 2013, the rebellion slowly started to fade away.

As the measures became stricter, the same measures were having a repressive effect on both the mood and social unrest, because people saw that nothing was changing and that they could no longer go on strike and lose more money. As measures became stricter, reaction grew stronger; the opposite happened because fear prevailed.

GIANNIS ATHANASIADIS

UNITED POPULAR FRONT

People give up, they go back to the homes, they're staying inside. They look at television that says always the same thing: we have ten tv channels and all these ten channels say the same thing in other ways.

OLGA SANTA

My biggest grievance is that I am at age when I should have been taking care of my parents, instead of them helping me. This is the worst humiliation. I am not to blame unfortunately and that among other things enrages me.

IOANNA MAVRIDOU

What makes me truly angry is what they say about Greeks, that they are lazy and only like to have fun. This is what their children did; mine were studying and working.

PENSIONER

I've been to Europe and i know how people live. Greeks were living a “normal” life, as in Europe.

THEMISTOCLES SIMVOULOPOULOS

Musician, former employee of the National TV

A fish rots from the head down, not from its body. The Greeks did not embezzle money; it was embezzled by big businessmen, TV channels, construction companies, shipowners and the financial system through bonds, given their value over the past decade, i.e the open market.

IOANNA MAVRIDOU

We were taking out loans for our children's studies, as there were no student loans.

LILA PAPADOPOULOU

Travel Guide

Greeks did not take out loans for a vacation, although some -fools I could say- did. I don't know. Some of them did, but it was not the rule.

THEMISTOCLES SIMVOULOPOULOS

Musician, former employee of the National TV

The economy was not functioning properly. Thus, with the help of TV channels, the Greek people were also blamed for the huge economic problem.

LUCIANO BARRA CARACCIOLO

Legal expert

It is a practice that has been used and is still being by the IMF. It attacks weak countries to subject them to the rules of free trade. They are told that they are structurally and culturally incapable of managing their affairs and that they need an external force, a connection to induce them to do the right thing.

GIORGOS TRAGAS

Journalist

The worst thing the media did was convince people that this situation was Greece's salvation, while millions of Greeks were being thrown into the mincer.

THEMISTOCLES SIMVOULOPOULOS

Musician, former employee of the National TV

Upon their arrival, the Troika was introduced to Greece as "our friends and partners", creditors, who are here to help us, to lend us money.

GIORGOS KOLLIAS

Self-employed professional

Through fear, intimidation and misinformation, and primarily with the use of various techniques, which only created more confusion among the people.

NARRATOR

"If you want the best for your children, don't leave them anything" is a saying coined under the rubble of austerity. 75.8% of Greeks own their home. Private wealth, now at risk.

OLGA SANTA

I'm afraid of losing my house because when I was working, I had taken out loans not for the house but for my children's studies. When I stopped working, I had no money to pay them off.

NARRATOR

Throughout the country, middle-class real estate is being put up for auction. These citizens want to impede this. They are aware that the Constitution is on their side:

THE CONSTITUTION OF GREECE

Article 17

Property is under the protection of the State. No one may be deprived of his property, except in the public interest.

CHRISTINA POLICHRONOPOULOU

EPAM, United People's Front

We are here at the Small Claims Court of Lavrio, where an auction is taking place for two main residences belonging to two women, who had taken out a loan from Eurobank. These ladies are victims of the crisis.

They took out their loan at a time when they could afford to pay it off on terms in effect before 2009, and they were suddenly left without a business, and the bank is auctioning off their homes. They didn't embezzle the money. During a crisis, you cannot expect borrowers to be punctual in their payments when the bank has already been recapitalized, and we only owe money to the banks and the IMF.

THEMISTOCLES SIMVOULOPOULOS

Musician, former employee of the National TV

The truth is that we know that the money our foreign partners and creditors lent Greece was, in essence, intended for the salvation of their own banks from collapse.

LIANA MAILI, DOCTOR NGO "MEDICINS DU MONDE"

The health system in Greece, in the last years of crisis is almost collapsed. The centres of health care, first health care are closed; many parts of the hospital are closed, many doctors are out of these structures, the hospitals have no medicines to give to people, they have no tools.

LEONIDAS PAPADOPOULOS

Doctor

Many of our fellow citizens are uninsured, chronically, and literally live and die on the streets. This must stop.

LIANA MAILI, DOCTOR NGO "MEDICINS DU MONDE"

They have no vaccines for the children, they have no medicines for themselves, so they come to these organizations like *Doctors of the World*.

THANASIS GOUNARIS

Principal of the 165th Elementary School, Athens

Children at our school fainted because they had nothing to eat neither at home nor here.

GERASIMOS PRODROMITIS

Professor of Social Psychology, Panteion University of Athens

I once heard our Dean say: "Should we spend the money we have on books for the library or food for the students?".

THANASIS GOUNARIS

Principal of the 165th Elementary School, Athens

Both his parents lost their jobs. This child came to school on an empty stomach for two days. This does not happen only at our school, but we thought that society should know what is really going on.

GERASIMOS PRODROMITIS

Professor of Social Psychology, Panteion University of Athens

We have many cases in which young people cannot go to the university they have been admitted to, as their parents cannot afford to pay.

THANASIS GOUNARIS

Principal of the 165th Elementary School, Athens

The richer families continue sending their children to private schools, while families with an average income as wages in Greece have dropped drastically are sending their children back to public schools.

GERASIMOS PRODROMITIS

Professor of Social Psychology, Panteion University of Athens

All this implementation of the neoliberal shock doctrine that Greek society has experienced, is being endured by universities through various attempts of reforms.

THANASIS GOUNARIS

Principal of the 165th Elementary School, Athens

Right ow, the school coffer has €8 for the running of this entire compound. For a long time now, we have been obliged to buy things on credit or owe money to our suppliers and utility companies.

GERASIMOS PRODROMITIS

Professor of Social Psychology, Panteion University of Athens

Knowledge is transformed into a product, which must be sold and be profitable; this is contrary to the true meaning of a public university, which has to do with the harvesting and the imparting of knowledge.

THE CONSTITUTION OF GREECE

Article 16,2.

Education constitutes a basic mission for the State and shall aim at the moral, intellectual, professional and physical training of Greeks, the development of national and religious consciousness and at their formation as free and responsible citizens.

LIANA MAILI, DOCTOR NGO "MEDICINS DU MONDE"

With fees of 300 euros live from an average member of the family, lives all the family which is 5 people live with 300 euros. How can they live? They cannot.

ANTONIS PAPANTONIOY

Former Greek Navy Admiral

Deaths due to various causes, a lack of health care, a lack of food, and suicides in Greece, which currently exceed 6,000 under the new Occupation. I don't call them suicides but homicides.

LIANA MAILI, DOCTOR NGO "MEDICINS DU MONDE"

Poor people who have become very poor and middle class people, many, many of them, middle class people who are poor or very poor.

ITALIAN WOMAN, Athens

It has always been a part of society; the other part still owns villas, swimming pools and yachts.

MAN

We have a plutocracy in Greece.

THANASIS GOUNARIS

Principal of the 165th Elementary School, Athens

The extremely rich, I believe, are getting richer and the average middle-class family is getting much poorer.

MAN

I'm one of the poor, maybe I'm middle class, and that makes you cry. It's a fact. There is no love or emotion, there is no friend or family; everything has disappeared like the doves.

KALLI DRAMITINOU

When you see in a country that the number of universities is decreasing and their system is changing, that schools and hospitals are closing, that you have to pay to visit a doctor because the money from your salary or pension for healthcare has gone towards the PSI or to the European Central Banks, or wherever the former leaders decided. So, when a state doesn't provide education, culture or a healthcare, it cannot be called a well-governed state.

LIANA MAILI, DOCTOR NGO "MEDICINS DU MONDE"

We think: what am I doing, I'm the state? No, what am I doing? Why do I do this? At this moment, the answer is "because I am a doctor". Other people need me and I need them...

A state, a country with democracy, it is not right to leave the citizens to lose their dignity, because if you do not have the basic health care of the state, you lose your dignity, if you do not have food, you lose your dignity and this is not right, this is against every human right.

THE CONSTITUTION OF GREECE, Article 21,3

The State shall care for the health of citizens and shall adopt special measures for the protection of youth, old age, disability and for the relief of the needy.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

The memorandum theoreticians in Greece use the concept of "stateness", so we are in a situation of "stateness", that means "lack of state".

NARRATOR

Reforms in exchange for money: MEMORANDUM.

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

Investment Strategist

The "Loan Agreement" between Greece and its creditors, the European Union and the International Monetary Fund, it has not been ratified by the Greek Parliament, it was just signed by the Greek Minister of Finance and the President of Republic, so this is just an indicative clause that's country look at its Constitution.

GEORGIOS KASSIMATIS

Constitutionalist

Parliament voted on the 2012 Agreement, but as a draft, according to law. This too is invalid. This is not the ratification of an agreement; it is the recognition of a draft and nothing more. Therefore, none of the loan agreements and their terms are valid.

NARRATOR

When someone falls into poverty, someone else gets rich: money doesn't vanish into thin air, it goes into someone's pocket.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

Who has benefited from this? Besides the Americans and Germans with their quid pro quos, the Eurozone's bank cartel has benefited.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

Not all sectors of the Greek economy are falling apart. Exports and export sectors are growing. The larger capital can benefit from this new economic environment, in which employment protection is eliminated, salaries are much lower than during the pre-crisis era, and so the economy is more profitable for private capital.

JOHN PERKINS. FORMER AGENT NSA, USA

Austerity, austerity, austerity: that only works for the rich people, it does not work for the normal, for the average person of the middle class.

MONI OVADIA

Author

If I choose to live a modest life, I'm a free man. If I'm forced to live a modest life, I'm a slave.

IOANNA MAVRIDOU

They are experimenting on us, but they won't get away with it.

RANIA ANTONOPOLUS, ECONOMIST

This government will fall because they keep insisting on the same policies and a new more enlightened and progressive government will take over.

25 January 2015: Syriza, the left- wing party headed by Alexis Tsipras, won the snap election by 36.34 % of the votes.

ALEXIS TSIPRAS

Leader of Syriza

Citizens of Athens, today the Greek people made history. Hope made history. Greece is leaving behind the austerity of destruction, fear and authoritarianism. Greece is leaving behind five years of humiliation and pain, and is moving forward.

NARRATOR

The new government disarms the police. The tension evaporates and expectations grow. It is the dawn of a new Greece.

STREET VENDOR

We trust him, we have pinned our hopes on Tsipras, and we believe that they are honest, and care about the people rather than their pockets and the banks.

BOY

I think it's time for change, and it seems that Greece is heading in that direction.

WAITER

I believe things will get better.

MAN

We hear good things about Tsipras and we believe him because we have no alternative.

STREET VENDOR

People's mood has changed; they're hoping for something better.

MAN

He's good for the middle class.

NARRATOR

Yanis Varoufakis, is an economist and is elected for the first time to Parliament, he is now the new finance minister. As soon as he is settled, he engages the investment bank Lazard's advice: the debt must be renegotiated.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

Mr. Soros ensured him a very good career at the University of Texas and at a US multinational corporation, where he implemented the "game theory", for the creation of games, for the specific company.

NARRATOR

Varoufakis is also a member of the INET think tank. According to the German financial magazine Wirtschafts-Woche, it is INET, founded by multimillionaire George Soros, that in 2013 co-finances the American academic tour of the leaders of Syriza.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

Soros's record is clear. The so-called "springs", Arab, Kyrgyz, Ukrainian etc. are not only the result of spontaneous uprisings. Spontaneous uprisings in history always fail. They are outbursts of anger, which are not managed or guided, and when they end well it is because behind them there is a very vigilant scientific organisation.

NARRATOR

George Soros opens a healthcare centre in Thessaloniki and funds 190 institutions, including orphanages, kindergartens, schools and retirement homes. Through his Open Society alongside with Novartis, Pfizer, Vodafone, Volkswagen, Ford and Microsoft, he also sponsors and supports the clinic where the paediatrician Liana Mailli volunteers. Even the shipowner Niarchos puts in his share. Besides that, every morning he sends 400 breakfasts to the elementary school, run by Thanasis Gounaris, where the children, had previously been fainting from hunger. The good heart of the billionaires replaces the state, left without money. Trickle-down: is the unlimited wealth of those increasingly at the top, which drop by drop, reaches those decreasingly at the bottom.

ALEXIS TSIPRAS

Leader of Syriza

And if someone has won today, it's the Greeks who toil and labour.

HOMELESS

I would like him to find me something to do, something I am capable of doing, to keep myself occupied, to work, to earn a salary, regardless of the sum, so that I can work and live with dignity.

RANIA ANTONOPOULOS

Deputy Minister of Labour

"Why do we have poverty?"; and the answer is very clear: you have poverty if you have people that work and they earn very little or, because they don't have a job and they don't earn anything"

UNEMPLOYED

"I hope, I hope to change something, little by little, to go to work. This is it: the work"

KALLI DRAMITINOU

We don't want soup kitchens. We want work, not employment for a tip. We want to feel strong again, stand on our own feet, and have the right to work, regardless of our age.

RANIA ANTONOPOULOS

Deputy Minister of Labour

It is the responsibility of the State to guarantee that when the majority of the people rely on jobs in order to have an income; that what you guarantee it's the job, not the income, it's the job

ALEXIS TSIPRAS

Leader of Syriza

The Greek people's verdict, your verdict today, indisputably nullifies the memorandums of austerity and destruction. The Greek's people verdict means the Troika is history for our common European framework.

PENSIONER 2

In Greece, we have a government, and it should be governing us, not the Troika. No Troika in Greece ever again.

PASSER

If something new begins with our new government, Europe will change and unite. Europe will become one huge Greece without poor, homeless and hungry people.

Flashback

University of Zurich

19 September 1946

WINSTON CHURCHILL

We must recreate the European family in a regional structure, called it maybe the United States of Europe. Much work, ladies and gentlemen, has been done upon this task by the exertions of the Pan-European Union, which owes so much to Count Coudenhove-Kalergi and which commanded the services of the famous French patriot and statesman Aristide Briand

NARRATOR

Along the path that Sir Winston Churchill traced, the European construction - hope for a future of peace, freedom and prosperity- is back on track.

By 1922, Austrian Count Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi founds the first big movement for the "European Union": Pan - Europe. Soon, Kalergi realises that for the creation of the "United States of Europe", he will need the USA.

Even his latest idea is brilliant, to bind political conditions on resources for the reconstruction of Europe's countries destroyed by the war. Washington appreciates it: the aid and loans of the Marshall Plan will only be approved if settled: "the formation of a single large market within which quantitative restriction on the movements of goods, monetary barriers to the flow of payments and, eventually, all tariffs are permanently swept away".

Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi's man in the Senate, is James William Fulbright from Arkansas, who participates in the court, in January 1949 : "Since we preside and support a large part of Germany, don't we have the right to propose a solution to Germany's future problems, accordance with Europe's requirements?"

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

In the mind of those who conceived the EU, there has been no doubt that in the long-term Germany would impose itself as the dominant power, as it's the most populated and largest country. However, in turn, it has always been under the authority of a superior external power.

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

INVESTMENT STRATEGIST

It was always through Germany that the most interesting experiments took place within European politics

WINSTON CHURCHILL

University of Zurich, 19 September 1946

The first step in the recreation of the European family must be a partnership between France and Germany

NARRATOR

French banker and diplomat Jean Monnet develops a plan to merge the heavy industry of France and Germany. Yet, France itself will never be able to counterbalance Germany, which will always have to be restrained and harnessed: to the West.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

In the early 1920s, the Paneuropean Union was created as a continental union without the United Kingdom, which had its Empire. From Suez crisis, until the early 1970s, the British Empire goes through an irreversible crisis and is dismantled. At this point there's interest in the accession of the UK into the EEC.

NARRATOR

Great Britain is reluctant to give up its sovereignty that would be contrary to the national interest: the pound, the Commonwealth, the privileged relationship with Washington. According to Winston Churchill: "Great Britain belongs to Europe, but not in Europe".

Yet, in 1961, Conservative P.M Harold MacMillan applies for accession to the common market.

The major parties, Tory, Labour and Liberal, are secretly associated with Action Committee for the United States of Europe, of Jean Monnet, funded by the CIA and the US State Department.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

While Charles de Gaulle, a staunch nationalist, governs France, he opposes the accession of the UK to Europe, considering it a Trojan horse of the Atlantic powers.

NARRATOR

For Charles De Gaulle, there can be no other Europe than that of the nation states: from the Alps to the Urals. An emerging Franco-German alliance is gaining strength. In 1969, De Gaulle loses the referendum and resigns. Green light: In 1973, Great Britain joins the EEC.

This joins the Anglo-American globalist elite that foresees the salvation of the planet under a world government, founded on regional federalism.

According to Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi, the idea of nation will have to be something intimately private, as religion is. Only the State will remain: the European State.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

If we examine, and there is no mystery, the declassified documents from the archives of the CIA and the State Department, it emerges clearly that the greatest supporters of the project – at the time it was not called the EU but the European Coal and Steel Community, then the EC and the EU in the end – but let's talk about the founders, Monnet, Schuman, Spinelli etc.; it's clear that it was the Americans who strongly supported, encouraged, forced and, according to some researchers, gave the orders.

NARRATOR

Orders and funding come from ACUE, headed by General William J. Donovan, former head of the secret services; his deputy is Allen Dulles, future director of the CIA. With them are Paul Hoffman and Charles Merville Spofford of the North Atlantic Council, the supreme organ of NATO.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

The Americans thought that the process of European unification, could be at the time, the ideal counterbalance to the Soviet Union.

NARRATOR

ACUE directs the European Movement, which includes Winston Churchill, Paul Henry Spaak, Konrad Adenauer, Alcide De Gasperi, Joseph Retinger, Francois Mitterrand, Harold MacMillan and of course Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi.

BRADY KIESLING

Former US Diplomat

The United States, to its credit, from the beginning, saw the European Union as a very powerful, very useful force not just for the America's interests, but of the world.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

The UE is the child of the US.

NARRATOR

The role of the United States is managed like a secret operation. *A note dated 11 June 1965 advises EEC Vice-President Robert Marjolijn to pursue monetary union in secret, until the "adoption of such proposals would become virtually inescapable".*

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

INVESTMENT STRATEGIST

This European currency was not even conceived or created by European economists, it was created by American economists in Columbia University, New York.

NARRATOR

Remember the inventor of trickle-down economics? Well, he is the architect of the Euro: Robert Mundell. With the Treaty of Maastricht, even in Europe, the limitless wealth of those at the top drop by drop, will reach the poor of the future.

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

INVESTMENT STRATEGIST

That currency had to be stronger than the US dollar because, in such a case, the US economy would have a certain degree of competitive edge of currency competitive advantage in terms of exports.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

According to Friedman, the euro is the project of a small and undemocratic elite which intends using it to reach a political union.

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

INVESTMENT STRATEGIST

The Bundesbank itself was modelled after the Federal Reserve in the US because the Federal Reserve was the only bank back then that had the experience of being in the position to manage different States through a unified monetary policy, and this is indicative, if you might, of the fact that the model of the European Union is to create the United States of Europe.

NARRATOR

German power, now re-united, again rules the continent.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

Germany is the strongest economy and dictates the rules; but it is also submissive, it was forcibly placed in a geopolitical framework that perhaps it wouldn't have chosen by itself.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

In my opinion, the goal of the transnational elite which have the real power, is to create the United States of Europe.

NARRATOR

The United States of Europe, building a huge transatlantic market. According to political scientist Zbigniew Brzezinski: "Europe is America's essential geopolitical bridgehead on the Eurasian continent." what British diplomat John Halford Mackinder calls "Heartland", the Heart of the Earth. Whoever controls Eurasia controls the world.

As many as 350 American military sites are scattered throughout the old continent. "NATO" also means 180 nuclear warheads in Europe.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

At present, no European country has 100% control over its armed forces, because the armed forces and armament expenditure are included in an international context, a strategy, linked to the Atlantic Pact. If we wish to examine it from the viewpoint of purity of sovereignty, this restricts it considerably.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

The "Atlantic Power" in the Continent is based on two pillars: NATO for the military and the EU for politics and economics.

NARRATOR

"People only accept change when they are faced with necessity, and only recognize necessity when a crisis is upon them." "Europe would be built through crises, and that it would be the sum of their solutions" writes Jean Monnet in his Memoirs.

WINSTON CHURCHILL

University of Zurich, 19 September 1946

"Therefore I say to you, let Europe rise!"

NARRATOR

Democracy, from the ancient Greek "demos", people "krátos", power: it is the "government of the people". Plato and Aristotle also thought of a mixed government as an antidote to dangerous authoritarian regimes,

where power, that is wealth, is concentrated in the hands of the few. Thus poverty is spread over the rest of society.

Democracy, “government of the people”, means separation of powers. For Baron Montesquieu, this guarantees freedom: “a right of doing whatever the laws permit”. Today, our constitutions are based on this. In Democracy, the people elect their own representatives in Parliament, they hold the right of legislative initiative: they write the laws that the government passes and that the courts apply in the name of the people.

AND IN THE EUROPEAN UNION?

The people elect their own representatives, but Parliament, together with the Council of the European Union, adopts and adapts the legislative proposals of the European Commission. It is therefore the Commission that holds the right of legislative initiative.

A legislative act of the European Union may only be adopted on the basis of a Commission proposal. The European Commission is also the executive power of the European Union: it has the power to enforce laws, and is politically independent. Its 28 members are not elected directly by the people, but are appointed on the basis of proposals of the Member States, from which they do not accept any kind of instruction or indication. The Commission authorises the budgets of the States before they can be voted in the national Parliaments.

The Commission negotiates international agreements on behalf of the European Union.

The Commission, together with the Court of Justice, ensures that Community law is correctly applied in all Member States. The Commission is therefore a super body composed of persons who do not directly represent the European people; an institution with legislative, executive and enforcement powers.

The European Court of Justice, composed of judges and lawyers appointed by the governments of the Member States, holds judicial power: it is the body that ensures observance of the concept of “Primacy” the supremacy of European law over national law.

Without bothering Plato, Aristotle and Montesquieu again. . . let's think:

IS THE EUROPEAN UNION A DEMOCRACY?

IS IT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE?

Flashback

JUNE 1975

After the collapse of the dictatorship, democracy is brought back to life where it all began in ancient times. Its heart beats in the Constitution, built on individual freedoms and social rights.

GEORGIOS KASSIMATIS

Constitutionalist

Power emanates from the people, or from the people's organisations and the representatives who are elected in accordance with the Constitution, and this power must be exercised to the benefit of the people.

NARRATOR

Konstantinos Karamanlis, already prime minister after the war, is again prime minister and immediately strives for Greece to join the EEC.

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

INVESTMENT STRATEGIST

Greece has always been a fundamental part of US geopolitical interest because since World War II the Truman doctrine, the Marshall Plan, the Military junta, the American factor, the American influence in the Greek state, has always been major.

NARRATOR

The European baptism of Greece coincides with the first socialist government in the country. In the first decade of democracy and the Constitution, the share of wages reaches 73% of GDP.

LEONIDAS VATIKIOTIS

Economist, Member of the Truth Committee on the Greek Public Debt

Public spending is increasing, and Greek society is beginning to resemble western European countries because for the first time we have a decent welfare state.

PANAGIOTIS IOAKIMIDIS

Professor of European Integration, University of Athens

The Greek people, especially the most disadvantaged, the low-wage workers, have benefited from this debt. but generally, the economy has been burdened with a huge debt.

LEONIDAS VATIKIOTIS

Economist, Member of the Truth Committee on the Greek Public Debt

The paradox is that Greek public debt is not due to the accumulated fiscal deficits of the state. The Greek debt is primarily due to the very high interest rates at which the economy borrowed throughout the '80s, and this was a global phenomenon, not exclusively Greek.

NARRATOR

In the 12 years since joining the EEC, Greek public debt soars from 25% to 91% of GDP. Between 1981 and 1997, 22.483,8 billion drachmae went to interest. The state frees the market.

For whose benefit?

The country is rapidly deindustrialised: enterprises and public banks are privatised, fiscal and wage austerity policies are implemented. In 1994, capital movement is completely liberalised, while the Central Bank becomes officially independent. 13.75% of the real economy is transformed into a financial economy.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

The other indirect aspect that probably profoundly impacted the Greek economy is the loss of its monetary sovereignty, which we noticed during the crisis.

NARRATOR

The crisis is the fault of the Greeks, who "lived above their means?" False!

From 1995 to 2009, average social spending and public services were lower than in major European countries. "Entry into the Eurozone led to a drastic increase in private debt, exposing large European private banks and Greek banks. This led to the banking crisis of 2009, which triggered the public debt crisis".

LEONIDAS VATIKIOTIS

Economist, Member of the Truth Committee on the Greek Public Debt

There has never been another Parliament in Europe that has reached such a radical, profound, well substantiated and useful conclusion, which demonstrates not only why the Greek debt cannot, but why it should not be paid.

FLASHBACK

Rome, 22 February 2011

MARIO MONTI

Italian Prime Minister since November 16th, 2011

We should not be surprised that Europe needs crises, and indeed serious crises, to move forward.

Europe's steps forward are by definition a transfer of parts of national sovereignty at European level.

It is evident that political power, but also the citizens' sense of belonging to a national community, may be prepared to make these concessions only when the political and psychological cost of not doing so exceeds the cost of doing so, because there is a visible and proclaimed crisis under way.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

The euro crisis brought us the IMF, and who was the main coordinator of this process? It was Angela Merkel, who in 2011-12 exerted pressure so that the IMF, along with Brussels and Frankfurt, would manage the euro crisis. Therefore, we had the IMF, headquartered in Washington, managing European affairs as per Washington rules.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

Stratfor is a geopolitical intelligence platform and has always been considered a lung through which there is much osmosis with the CIA, sensitive to the interests of the US secret service.

4 February 2015

GEORGE FRIEDMAN

Stratfor Founder

The primary interest of the United States, of which for centuries we have fought wars the First and Second World and cold War has been the relationship between Germany and Russia, because united they are the only force that could threaten us and to make sure that does not happen.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

At the height of the crisis in 2011/2012, Germany and France are saying "NO". The national identity is still strong, and the United States of Europe have not been founded.

GEORGE FRIEDMAN

Stratfor Founder

If they lose the free trade zone, they need to build something different. This is the problem of Germany always: enormously economically powerful, geopolitically very fragile and never quite knowing how to recognize it too. The issue to which we don't have the answer is: what will Germany do? Think about the German issue, because now it is emerging again. This is the next issue we have to address.

FLASHFORWARD

NARRATOR

4 February 2015

Frankfurt

While Yanis Varoufakis is received by the President of the ECB, Mario Draghi, the German weekly DIE ZEIT publishes an interview with the Greek minister: "We will never ask for financial assistance from Moscow."

At the same time, Defence Minister Panos Kammenos is in Brussels to meet the Secretary General of the Atlantic Alliance, Jens Stoltenberg, and reassures him: "Greece will continue to be a member of Europe and NATO, that's for sure".

MARIANNA

Syriza is something new for us and we hope things get better, but I don't know, it's something new for us and we're afraid now but I think maybe Syriza do something for us

NARRATOR

Syriza's programme promises to eliminate job insecurity, nationalise privatised companies, and provide free and universal public healthcare.

How?

RANIA ANTONOPOULOS

Economist

November 25th 2013,

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY - NEW YORK

Greece does not have a currency of its own, it cannot issue currency. You're a part of the Euro, and that means for example that you cannot determine your interest rates. You can't print money, you can't issue bonds yourself, you have to have permission. And if permission is not given, you cannot act.

So signing the Maastricht Treaty, as you will recall, also takes away your ability to have expansionary fiscal policies. So during a recession, instead of the government being rightfully able to spend more in order to make up for the shrinking that takes place in the private sector, you cannot do that either.

So you don't have fiscal policy, you do not have monetary policy, you do not have exchange rate policy. So what do you have? You do not have any policy instrument.

NARRATOR

How does the Euro system work?

This is revealed by the monetary sovereignty pyramid.

The Euro is the first stateless currency in the world. The institution that holds the monopoly of issue is the ECB, which is independent of any government: its objective is not full employment, but price stability: the control of inflation. Like any other Central Bank, it creates currency from scratch, at no cost. Yet the ECB cannot directly finance the nineteen states, only the markets. Thanks to the markets, the State uses the Euro: at the interest rate these banks establish. Now, money becomes the real economy and reaches our pockets where it stops briefly and then climbs the pyramid of power as tax. It happens to the best of families, when they are indebted to banks in order to live.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

We have seen that behind the markets are banks and behind the banks' actions, there are the Central Banks. It is hard to imagine such a financial crisis without the intervention of the Central Bank.

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

INVESTMENT STRATEGIST

The European Central Bank owns the currency, because the currency is privately owned: that meant that each and every euro had a 0.25% interest, which of course meant that even the very conception of using money, increases debt

JOSEPH STIGLITZ

Nobel Prize for Economics 2001

Countries were borrowing in a foreign currency: the Euro created the potential of sovereign debt crisis in Europe.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

Therefore, the Central Bank is willing to sustain to any extent, any European country's public debt providing that the country agrees to follow the guidelines that the Central Bank itself indicates. *This support is given only after a memorandum has been signed.*

JOSEPH STIGLITZ

Nobel Prize for Economics 2001

Let me assure you, the United States will always pay its debt. How do I know that? If you borrow money from the United States, you get a piece of paper, a bond, and what does that paper say? We promise to pay, say, \$1,000. How do I know the United States will always pay that? Because they just print those dollars. But Greece cannot deliver those pieces of paper; when it borrowed in drachma, it could deliver those pieces of paper called drachma. But now it promises to pay in euros, and it does not control the printing of the euros: this is done from Frankfurt.

GIULIO SAPELLI

Economist

In the future there will be blood and tears because ordoliberalism has led us to deflation.

FILIPPO ABBATE

MMT Italy

There is a decrease in prices, in sales, an increase in stocks, a decrease in production, an increase in people, in the number of people, who work less and less or lose their jobs.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

Inflation and deflation are two different things: inflation is industry and employment; deflation is finance and unemployment.

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

INVESTMENT STRATEGIST

The very fact that the euro is a hard currency that was literally created for financial speculation. Banks throughout the decade of Euro have managed to increase their assets by five times and reach a level that right now equals to about ten times their assets or ten times the Eurozone GDP.

RANIA ANTONOPOULOS

Deputy Minister of Labour

The financial system must be at the service of production, and production must be at the service of living standards of people.. This is the direction that we are in

FILIPPO ABBATE

MMT Italy

The euro cannot be devaluated because it has the same value in France, Italy, Germany. If you cannot devalue your currency, thereby becoming more competitive and selling more, and thus not being forced to lay off staff, you have to devalue your business; that doesn't mean that you devalue something that has no intrinsic value, like currency, you devalue a person's or a family's life.

THE CONSTITUTION OF GREECE

Article 22 1. Work constitutes a right and shall enjoy the protection of the State, which shall care for the creation of conditions of employment for all citizens and shall pursue the moral and material advancement of the rural and urban working population.

NARRATOR

Rania Antonopoulos is an economist. In the context of her academic work, she initiated a job guarantee programme for Greece. She was elected with Syriza and is the Alternate Minister for Labour.

Minister, Greece is part of the Eurozone. Is it possible to implement Article 22 of the Greek Constitution?

RANIA ANTONOPOULOS

Deputy Minister of Labour

The government has been elected with a mandate that was given by the people: the people clearly do not want, do not give us the right to propose or enact the exit from the eurozone.

MAN/B

A reversion to the drachma would be suicidal for an average, intelligent Greek.

UNEMPLOYED

"That would be catastrophic".

-) Why is that?

Because Turkey, Libya, Jordan: these countries have war, you know? War

WOMAN/2

Very few Greeks want to return to the drachma

THEMISTOCLES SIMVOULOPOULOS

Musician, former employee of the National TV

TV channels, with their propaganda approach, prohibit any discussion on anything but the euro. Nothing else.

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

INVESTMENT STRATEGIST

So the media have played a point role in this, and occurs of course with the part of the parliamentary political parties: all of them supporting the European currency.

BUTCHER

Did you vote for Syriza?

Yes I did because I believe in change.

Do you know how the euro works?

No one has told us how it works, you must find out by yourself.

MILITARY OFFICER

Do you know how the euro works?

Yes, pretty well.

Who informed you?

At work.

Which is?

Military Officer

Did you vote for Syriza?

Yes

Has Syriza informed you about the euro?

No.

Have the TV channels informed you about the euro?

I don't watch TV.

SENIOR CITIZEN

Did you vote for Syriza?

Yes.

Has Syriza informed you about the euro?

Not exactly.

YOUNG MAN

Has Syriza informed you about the euro?

Political parties in Greece don't inform us, and Syriza even less so, as it is now negotiating, and we don't know what's happening.

ROULA CHRISIMOU, SYRIZA PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT

Has Syriza conducted an information campaign on how the euro system works?

No, it hasn't conducted any information campaign on the euro at all.

YOUNG MAN/2

Have the tv channels informed you on how the euro works?

Nobody has ever informed us about the euro, therefore we all became victims, OK?

ANTONIS RAGOUSIS

INVESTMENT STRATEGIST

This is the reason why most of them might say “I want to stay with the Euro” because they don't know how it works

A good decision is based on knowledge

Socrates

SENIOR CITIZEN

With 50 drachmas you would buy a bottle of water. You now pay 50 cents, that is, three times the price. This is how I understood how the euro works.

ROULA CHRISIMOU, SYRIZA PARLIAMENTARY ASSISTANT

3 March 2015

The solution would be a referendum before the end of the four-month period. Inform the people, and with the referendum the people will decide to leave the euro, so....

RANIA ANTONOPOULOS

Deputy Minister of Labour

We have the commitment of staying within the Euro

SENIOR CITIZEN/2

The crisis came about as follows: we have a peoples' bank, the ECB from which countries do not borrow directly at 0.5%; Deutsche Bank and Goldman Sachs borrow and lend to us at 4% and 5%. They are the biggest loan sharks of the century.

TIMELAPSE

27 June 2015

NARRATOR

Here we go again. The money's gone. And having more will cost a lot. After the ultimatum of the international creditors, Alexis Tsipras is sticking literally to Syriza's electoral programme: it will be the people who decide.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

When the Greeks are called upon by the Tsipras government to vote in a referendum on the austerity measures and the memoranda containing them, the ECB will begin to reduce guaranteed liquidity through ELA - emergency liquidity assistance - so as to increase the pressure on the Greek financial system and thus on the Greek economy and society.

ELENA

Due to the capital controls that were imposed, there was great fear in society.

HARRIS KOKOSSIS, LAWYER

There were police at the banks and we weren't used to. Police squads were everywhere.

VASILIS PRIMIKIRIS

SYRIZA, Member of the National Secretariat of the Central Committee

Europe and your fellow citizen Draghi could have solved the problem of Greece's €360 billion debt in two days.

GIULIO SAPELLI

Economist

He has no scientific authority besides being endorsed by the US. If someone reads Tim Geithner's book on stress tests, he narrates in 20 pages how Draghi was imposed on Merkel, because the Americans wanted a Goldman Sachs executive in the Central Bank.

ALEXIS TSIPRAS

Prime Minister

Citizens of Athens, Greeks, we celebrate and sing to overcome fear. It's a struggle for hope. From this very place, according to mythology, Zeus kidnapped Europe and from this very place, now the austerity technocrats, want to seize it again. Well, we will tell them "NO!" next Sunday.

GIORGOS PAPADOPOULOS

Most people believed that perhaps there could be a change in Greece. Something that could change our lives.

DIMITRIS KAZAKIS

Economist

3 MARCH 2015

This was Syriza's mission since the beginning: to prepare the loan agreement, the new memorandum, which they hope to sign in July or August, when Greeks are on vacation and do not follow politics, and thus

pass the worst memorandum of the past five years, one that the Samaras and Venizelos government would never have passed. That's how they came to power, or let's face it, how they were brought to power.

5 JULY 2015

NARRATOR

61.31% vote NO. The Greek people have won. Hope has won.

8 JULY 2015

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

ALEXIS TSIPRAS

Prime Minister

European history is one of conflicts. This is why we are talking about a united Europe. We are calling for an agreement with our partners that will be a signal for a definitive exit from the crisis. My country has been turned into an austerity lab, over the past five years.

ELENA

Within the bourgeoisie there are conflicts and different interests: towards Russia or Europe, with the drachma or the euro.

GEORGIOS KASSIMATIS

Constitutionalist

It is a geopolitical matter.

VASILIS PRIMIKIRIS

SYRIZA, Member of the National Secretariat of the Central Committee

Undoubtedly a geopolitical change.

8 JULY 2015

NARRATOR

In Germany, members of Angela Merkel's party want Athens to leave, and the CSU is also asking Greece to leave the euro: the end of the single currency is just a step away.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical Analyst and writer

By now, Germany's intent to disengage itself from Europe is evident.

NARRATOR

10 JULY 2015

During the lengthy negotiations, Finance Minister Schäuble, in a ministerial note, proposes that Greece leave the euro for five years.

GEORGE FRIEDMAN

Stratfor Founder

04.02.2015

The issue to which we don't have the answer is: what will Germany do?

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical Analyst and writer

Schäuble and large segments of the CDU agree on Greece's exit from the euro. However, Merkel stated: "If the euro fails, Europe fails." And she is the one, who wants keep Athens at all cost. Along with London and Washington.

PANAGIOTIS IOAKIMIDIS

Professor of European Integration, University of Athens

President Obama personally spoke to both Angela Merkel and the Greek PM to express the opinion that, from the US point of view, Greece must remain in the Eurozone for geopolitical reasons.

NARRATOR

Negotiating together with Tsipras and Tsakalotos, is Glenn Kim, former Lehman Brothers executive enlisted by Varoufakis: Representing the Greek people, there is also a banker. After 17 hours, there's white smoke: Agreement.

HARRIS KOKOSSIS

Lawyer

The people who enthused over the referendum didn't react at all when the result was reversed.

BRADY KIESLING

Former US Diplomat

The Greek referendum I think that prime minister Tsipras genuinely hoped that he would lose it

ELENA

Syriza managed to pass the worst memorandum ever and elude the people's reaction.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

The Greek people's will, expressed in such a radical, unambiguous and uniform way, without a single region voting "yes", with "no" votes at 60%, was literally repressed in a day, and this is something only totalitarian states would do. They had never dared to do anything of the sort; with a state as small as Greece they did, and it is very serious.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical Analyst and writer

The Greeks, people with little sovereignty, could have exited but with a truly revolutionary government, which Syriza is not.

These are political groups, well-prepared and financed to manage moments of crisis, catalysing discontent, and directing it where those in power want.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

You create fear, despair, etc. The people are rebelling and saying "enough, we want to be independent".

There is a vote, which it is usually never accepted, it's too risky, and after that a repression that crushes any form of hope for the future and has a powerful inhibitory social effect.

ELENA

A referendum, a huge hope has been betrayed in the end, and this has devitalized the people's reaction and the entire movement. The people are now used to living in a state of annulment.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

All this is contained in a single definition: "social engineering". And it's very dangerous. Because people are being manipulated without realizing it.

NARRATOR

From now on, "The Greek government needs to consult and agree with the Institutions on all draft legislation in relevant areas with adequate time BEFORE submitting it for public consultation or to Parliament."

"The Institutions": the Troika has changed its name, but it has more power than ever.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

-) If Greece had not joined the euro, but maintained its monetary sovereignty, would the Troika have arrived?

I would definitely say no.

TIMELAPSE

NARRATOR

20 SEPTEMBER 2015

After barely eight months, the people are called on to vote again: half do not vote, the other half have no alternative. Tsipras wins again.

ANTONIS PAPANTONIOU

Former Greek Navy Admiral

Greece is under occupation because an external power decides about life here in Greece, gives orders, and the government here, which we call a government but isn't, are agents who follow orders they are given.

NARRATOR

The restaurant where we met Mariana, the 24-year-old waitress who worked 15 hours a day, 7 days a week, for just over a thousand euros a month, went bankrupt.

It is as if the propulsive thrust of the great collective emotion has evaporated. At this meeting of the parties and movements that shouted "OXI" in the referendum three months ago, there are not so many. The boundary between disappointment and resignation is blurred.

FLASHBACK

If Themistocles and Eurybiades had not defeated the Persian Empire by leading the Greeks to victory at the battle of Salamis, right here off the port, the destiny of the Western world and culture might have changed forever. It was 20 September 480 BC.

FLASHFORWARD

2 OCTOBER 2010

GEORGE PAPANDREOU

Prime Minister

It is with great pleasure today that we welcome the PM of China here in Piraeus. The port of Piraeus becomes the hub for the transit and distribution of Chinese products throughout the region of the EU, the Mediterranean, Africa, and the Black Sea.

FLASHFORWARD

NARRATOR

After more than 2,500 years, a new empire has conquered without weapons or bloody clashes what Themistocles fortified.

Once, armies used to fight passionately. Today, technocrats are taking over. "Privatize": from deprive.

In Democracy, it means taking what belongs to the people away from them. Not only the economy but also history, identity and memory. Collective wealth is going: to the lowest bidder.

DIMITRIS ANTONOPOULOS

City Council Member, Keratsini

On paper, the port is worth €2 billion, it could be €4 billion, but it will sell for around €400-460 million.

There are people who are willing to pay €500 million over two years. They won't accept. Because Europe arranged for it to be sold, the Chinese will take it. Unfortunately.

FLASHBACK

6 July 2015

HUA CHUNYING

Spokesperson for China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Chinese government is willing to help Greece remain in the eurozone, because it is glad to see a prosperous and happy Europe with a very strong currency.

FLASHFORWARD

LEONIDAS PAPADOPOULOS

"I WON'T PAY" Movement

No country that adopts the euro can decide on its social and economic policy. National independence has been completely lost: the euro is the means of imposing the memoranda, with which they have essentially succeeded in enslaving the people and selling off public wealth to the few.

LEONIDAS VATIKIOTIS

Economist

It's a general sell-off: water, railways, airports, ports, energy, public buildings, roads. Everything is being sold

to the private sector at extremely low prices.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Author and Geopolitical Analyst

Through the euro and Brussels, the IMF, which normally helps African and South American countries, was introduced into Europe with the clear intent to colonise.

LEONIDAS VATIKIOTIS

Economist

The IMF and the EU did not come to Greece to deal with the financial crisis. They came to try an original European experiment, aimed at latin-americanizing the European continent. With the programme that was implemented, the objective in Greece was to get the people of Europe accustomed to the idea of forgetting public hospitals, public universities and public transport, and to gradually get used to paying for all this: nothing public, everything private.

MAN/3

Why does the UK have the pound and has never adopted the euro, why?

ELENA

Syriza showed a more liberal profile with the cohabitation agreement for homosexuals, but for all the other questions maintained the same policy, if not stricter. It is a social-democratic government that follows a neoliberal economic model.

LUCIANO BARRA CARACCIOLO

Legal Expert

What is right is no longer written in the Constitutions, but in the minds of mainstream economists, or rather ideologues.

MONI OVADIA

Author

The truth is that the hyperliberalism of these gangsters disguised as economists, I repeat their names, because they should be punished with "condemnation of memory": Milton Friedman, Robert Lucas. . These people have destroyed the middle class, thus betrayed the main prerequisite of the market economy: a strong and solid middle class that creates aggregate demand, wealth and social dynamism.

When this becomes Virtue, whoever accumulates and becomes rich is redeemed, and by contrast whoever remains poor is guilty and deserves damnation. If this is the ideology that Max Weber described, we cannot have access to a world that has Politics at its centre because Politics puts the interests and well-being of citizens at the centre.

VASILIS PRIMIKIRIS

SYRIZA, Member of the National Secretariat of the Central Committee

It has nothing to do with the Europe we had in mind.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

The process of European integration is neither abstract nor "The dream of Ventotene", but is the removal of customs barriers, free capital movement, thus the downward competition of tax systems and the processes of centralization of capital in Europe, the redistribution of income from wages to profits. This is the Europe of the EU and the Eurozone, of its monetary expression.

NIKOS RAFTOPOULOS

Greek Patriot

Today Greece is the first guinea pig in this experiment. on the occupation of European nations and peoples.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

What happened in Greece has been seen in Italy, Spain, Portugal and Ireland, and to a certain degree also in France.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

The economic policies adopted to date are leading, to different degrees, at different stages of development, to the establishment of a neo-oligarchic society, in which power is increasingly concentrated in the hands of a few large companies and extraordinarily rich persons.

WOMAN/2

The middle class has been eliminated. There are a lot of poor and a lot of rich people in Greece.

THANASIS GOUNARIS

Principal of the 165th Elementary School, Athens

Most children have never known a better situation.

STUDENT

I am about to graduate with an economics degree. There will be no work or employment in Greece. We are unemployed when we graduate, we are unemployed-to-be. That is why emigration has increased.

NARRATOR

Painful departures and new arrivals. All free to move: out of need. Hoping for a better life.

Modernity or exploitation? Multibillionaire George Soros is a very generous and welcoming man: "Europe needs one million refugees a year". He is the main sponsor of an NGO very active in welcoming migrants saved from drowning. According to the IMF, refugees will grow the European economy; the important thing is that they be allowed to start working as soon as possible. It's the free market of human beings.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

These migrations have a strong economic value, it is clear, as the ministers say: they serve to reduce the cost of labour and to fill the increasing demographic gaps, due to the fact that young people no longer have work, or income to have a home and a family.

NARRATOR

The founding father, Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi, imagined the future citizens of the United States of Europe as follows: "The race of the future, Negroid-Eurasian, similar in appearance to that of ancient Egypt, will replace the multiplicity of peoples with a multiplicity of personalities."

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

The nation-state, compact from a linguistic and cultural point of view, is seen as a brake on supranational organisations. Thus it is highly possible that in the mind of those who direct these migrations that there is also the will to weaken the nation-states, so as to facilitate their absorption into the supranational organisations.

LAURA BOLDRINI

President of the Chamber of Deputies of Italy (2013-2018)

In the global era everything moves. Capital, goods, news, humans move, and not only for tourism. And migrants today are the human element, the forefront of this globalization. And they show us a way of life that will soon be common to all of us. They are the forefront of a way of life that soon will be a way of life for the most of us.

GEORGIOS KASSIMATIS

Constitutionalist

Neoliberalism strengthens economic power, so it constitutes the freedom of power and not the freedom of man.

JOHN PERKINS

Former NSA Agent

We have to remember that today we have a global empire, and it's not the American empire, it's not a national empire. It doesn't help the American people very much. It's a corporate empire, and the big corporations rule. They control the politics of the United States. To a large degree they control a great deal of the policies of countries like China, and around the world.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

Eurasia is the game on which the geostrategic future depends: the Americans are convinced that by controlling Eurasia, they can isolate China, their greater competitor, And especially Russia itself: that's where the game is played.

BARACK OBAMA, US PRESIDENT

LONDON – 22.04.2016

"Yes, the Prime Minister and I have discussed the upcoming referendum: here on whether or not the UK should remain part of the European Union. Americans want Britain's influence to grow including within Europe. And the UK is at its best when it's helping to lead a strong Europe"

*23 JUNE 2016 - REFERENDUM RESULTS:
UK REMAIN IN THE EU 48.1% - UK LEAVE THE EU 51.9%*

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

For the first time people, who cannot be crushed like the Greeks, say “enough”. They say, “I don't care, I want to be independent”. And those people were considered a fundamental axis, along with the United States, of this new globalized world.

28 JUNE 2016, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

NIGEL FARAGE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM INDEPENDENCE PARTY (UKIP)

We want our country back. We want our fishing waters back. We want our borders back. We want to be an independent, self-governing, normal nation and that is what we have done and that is what must happen.

NARRATOR

Not all the powerful have the same concrete interests as Wall Street, the City of London and Frankfurt.

Maybe they'd like to see different global balances as well. Whatever the case, alternating powers does not mean an alternative.

A real alternative - political and popular - cannot come from above.

GIANNIS ATHANASIADIS

UNITED POPULAR FRONT (EPAM)

We want to have our country out of Europe, out of the eurozone: to have a national currency so we're going to use it to the reconstruction of our country, to make our country independent, out of the Eurozone orders.

GEORGIOS KASSIMATIS

Constitutionalist

The legal term for power, the sovereignty of the state, is “sovereignty”, “la souveraineté” in French. The sovereignty of the state renders it independent and sovereign, and this is assured by international law.

NARRATOR

Politics: from the Greek “politiké”, it is the art of governing the state and the administration of public life. The kind of society we live in is just a choice we make, or allow to be made.

MONI OVADIA

Author

The interests and well-being of the citizens, in politics, always, inexorably and unavoidably begin – and this model is antagonistic to the neoliberal one - from the last.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

Globalisation is a force that must be disciplined in a democratic way, because if left unrestrained, it seriously damages the society.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

The best economic tradition has taught us that the State has the fundamental role of giving impetus to the financial sector.

VASILIS PRIMIKIRIS

SYRIZA, Member of the National Secretariat of the Central Committee

Debt is not an absolute evil.

FILIPPO ABBATE

MMT Italy

The public debt of the State, in accounting terms, is nothing more than the financial wealth of the Private Sector.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

In my opinion, all evils are resolved by re-establishing labour market rules, i.e. better protection for workers: this would create more dignified living conditions, and the State should preserve a level of production close to full employment.

MONI OVADIA

Author

The biggest investment the State should make is in public education.

MANFREDI DE LEO

Department of Economics University Rome III

The implementation of the industrial policy requires limitations on the circulation of goods because without these limits, a national industry can't develop and become strong.

KALLI DRAMITINOU

Olga, Dimitris, Kostas, Maria, Katerina, Sofia, Ioanna... I've met so many people that one life is not enough: they've given me the strength to stand on my feet and to be able to say that I want to free my homeland.

NARRATOR

In the night, Apostolos Santas and Manolis Glezos will climb the Acropolis and tear down the Nazi flag. Thus begins the heroic popular Resistance that will free the nation.

MANOLIS GLEZOS

Partisan

The first swastika that has to be lowered is people's indifference. We must struggle to make them active citizens.

The chief penalty is to be governed by someone worse if a man will not himself hold office and rule.

Plato

NARRATOR

Idiot, from the Greek "Idiôtès": the private man, the one who has an interest only in himself.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

Today, we live in an era where individualism and hedonism are the main elements. Therefore, people think about about doing things for themselves and their own pleasure, putting first their own pleasure above any form of social responsibility.

MONI OVADIA

Author

There is the "Meaning" industry, which shapes the meaning of our lives: consumption and money.

BOY

We became greedy. I believe the ideology of capitalism is to blame, as it incited us to earn more money, and we have forgotten the human the social aspect of life.

MONI OVADIA

Author

The " Meaning of Life" no longer has to do with human beings, with communities, but with financial potentates.

VASSILIS GAVALAS

Journalist

Modern societies want standardised people,all equal, safeguarding the interests of those who are different, i.e. 1% of the Greek or world's population, or financial capital, which, in this phase of capitalism, is governing.

MONI OVADIA

Author

They do not only define the government and the economy, but also define the "Meaning" itself.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

When you are a human that becomes a body with a weakening social identity within your own community, territory, culture and nation, you are a person who feels very independent and strong but you are in fact

extremely conditionable and fragile thus easily manipulated.

MONI OVADIA

Author

The Greeks are still a population.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

Man is a social animal and needs social ties. He needs to learn, to know his own roots and his identity, it is innate.

MONI OVADIA

Author

They are, because they are doing a wonderful thing, teaching children in schools traditional songs and dances belonging to a tradition that has formed over the centuries and millennia. We see them dancing a Zeibekiko, or a Hasapiko, or a Tsamiko, we see a five-year-old dancing, with gel in his hair and paninaro boots like his grandfather. The clothes have changed, but the profound meaning hasn't.

γνώθι σαυτόν

'Know Yourself'

RONI

If you don't understand yourself, what education is that? What are you doing with this? You are like a robot, created to work for the factory, work for the people, become a slave

MONI OVADIA

Author

What should be left to the children is the ability to move in the world, that is, critical consciousness, knowledge, and study.

FEDERICO DEZZANI

Geopolitical analyst and writer

The study of man, humanity and history is fundamental. Understanding the past in order to interpret the present and take action in the future.

GEORGIOS KASSIMATIS

Constitutionalist

The new generations must become more politicised. They must think more as citizens, of their state, human rights and democracy.

HARRIS KOKOSSIS

LAWYER

We must learn to progress collectively and not just individually.

NASIR

The most of people in this country and also the foreigners. When they are together, there is more power, more energy, and more change will come.

ELENA

I will fight as I do now. Politically and generally. I don't know if I can change something, but I'll keep fighting to this end.

JOHN PERKINS

FORMER AGENT NSA

You have to recreate the middle class; give back work; give back disposable income to the average citizen of Greece. Fight for it, make it happen, fight for your rights: respect your history as warriors and leaders of democracy, and show it to the world.

GEORGIOS KASSIMATIS

Constitutionalist

If they believe in the principles of democracy and human rights, future generations will be able not only to survive, but also progress and bring about a new and better system than a bourgeois democracy.

NICOLETTA FATSEA

Interpreter and Translator

A society with a state that provides its citizens with hospitals, schools suitable for children, the required care for the elderly, well-paid employees, full employment. A transparent society, where people have dignity, work, and rights, as well as duties.

Our form of government is called a democracy, for the administration is in the hands of the many and not of the few.

Thucydides

THE CONSTITUTION OF GREECE

Art.120.4

Observance of the constitution is entrusted to the patriotism of the Greeks who shall have the right and the duty to resist by all possible means against anyone who attempts the violent abolition of the Constitution.

NARRATOR

Greek history, yet universal. Up here, overlooking the roofs of Greece, as beautiful and damned as ever, the cradle of thought, culture and democracy, we have the mirror of Western civilization.

Fear-free knowledge and hope build awareness, to forge together a different future of human dimensions.

MARIO DRAGHI

*President of the European Central Bank
2011- 2019*

Journalist: I would like to have your comments on the uncertainty created by the recent Italian elections, where most voters voted for parties that reject the fiscal discipline that you advocate.

Mario Draghi, President of the ECB - I think that's democracy and it's very dear to all of us. All in all, right now markets were less impressed than the politicians, also you have to consider that much of the fiscal adjustment Italy went through, will continue going on with the automatic pilot.

MARCELLO FOA

Journalist

Today we're living in an era of austerity: more taxes, no growth policy and continuous implied coercion: either you obey, or your public debt goes sky-high, you go bankrupt and it's over.

This is no longer Democracy, sovereignty, financial freedom.

It's constriction, non-declared dominion. This is the main core against which, sometimes unknowingly, some European nations are rebelling. But in the end you have to choose, and this is really the focal point.

—

Europe, the continent north of Crete, has turned to a giant market, populated by millions and millions of human resources, once called People

Over 95% of the resources intended to "save" Greece ended up in the hands of national and international banks.

Governments led by Alexis Tsipras, put into effect over 450 reforms, among them the restriction of the right to strike and the foundation of a superfund: the entire national assets will be for sale for the 99 years to come.

In exchange for a foreign debt, the country is committed to implement austerity policies until 2060.

Elections and governments come and go, the UE remains and is headed towards the United State of Europe.

LABORATORY GREECE

