

## **HOLY MARY AND AN AUTO PILOT**

**Tassos Symeonides**  
(Academic Adviser, RIEAS)

**Copyright:** Research Institute for European and American Studies ([www.rieas.gr](http://www.rieas.gr))  
– Publication date: 24 August 2015

The Feast of the Dormition of our Most Holy Lady, The Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, the Mother of Jesus Christ, is one of the most important feasts in the Greek Orthodox Church. Celebrated on August 15 each year, it is an official holiday in Greece. The Greek Church and Greeks of faith regularly pray so that the Mother of Jesus -- *Panagia* in Greek -- may deliver miracles of individual and collective healing.

August 15 of this year coincided with yet another political crisis. Greece is in the clutches of her “partners,” with Germany leading, after yet another “bailout” amounting to EUR 86 billion. This latest, crippling load of loans, analysts almost universally agree, will pulverize what is left of the Greek economy. Indeed, as one editorialist bluntly announced, [the German looting of Greece is on.](#)

With his SYRIZA party badly split over the continuation of “bailouts,” Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras has resigned and another round of early elections is looming, most likely in late September. In a delicate breach of the Constitution, the Greek president, Prokopis Pavlopoulos, avoided to dissolve parliament and, as of this writing, is calling upon opposition parties to try and form a coalition government. The effort will almost certainly fail.

Leaving the politicians’ harrowing antics aside, Greece, as a country, is falling apart. The European blackmail that has effectively shut down the banking system is choking an already moribund economy. The country is being overwhelmed by waves of illegal Middle Eastern, Asian and African immigrants, unleashed with impunity upon the Greek Aegean islands by Turkey. State functions are fizzling out. The police, overwhelmed by the illegal immigration invasion, are paralyzed. The nation’s armed forces are nowhere to be seen. Corruption, hardly dented by five years of bone-crushing austerity, is running rampant, with human trafficking the latest opportunity for making hundreds of millions in untaxed profits. The brain drain is surging. Public hospitals have run out of everything. As for the private sector and the individual citizen, they both are breathing their last under yet another avalanche of EU-imposed taxation.

Greece, courtesy of her own chronic maladies and the gigantic, criminal failure of the European “experiment,” is all but on the verge of becoming a failed state.

Hope, they say, dies last. Currently, in Greece, hope, this very last refuge, is all but gone. Bound in the European Union-Eurozone straightjacket, without *any* avenue of escape, run by political mediocrities, and split, as always, along irreconcilable political lines, Hellas is riding dead in water (with swarms of illegals swimming alongside her).

At times like this, the Greek Nation traditionally turned to God and His mercy. Prayers to the *Panagia* to intervene and deliver a miracle appear the only option available. Between the Mother of Christ and an auto pilot, which should also miraculously appear, Greece could squeeze through, even if just barely.

**Contact the author: [tas72y@gmail.com](mailto:tas72y@gmail.com)**