MUSLIM RADICALISM AND GREECE

Tassos Symeonides
(RIEAS Academic Advisor)

Copyright: Research Institute for European and American Studies (www.rieas.gr)
Publication date: 27 December 2015

The Paris massacre and the invasion of Muslim illegal immigration into Europe have driven the European Union to the edge of a disintegration crisis. Responses to this unprecedented confluence of events have been lukewarm, uncoordinated, and by all accounts, ineffective. The invasion is now only tempered by changing weather. As of this moment, there is no "common" policy for tackling the crisis simply because there is no consensus among EU members.

Greece is again in the eye of the storm because of her unfortunate geography and the inability of her successive governments to protect her borders. The presence of the SYRIZA party in government has transformed an extreme situation into a potentially incendiary impasse. Beginning with the prime minister, Mr. Tsipras, a litany of SYRIZA cabinet ministers have publicly announced that Greece has no intention of clamping down on the invasion and approaching for what it truly is: a national security threat. Instead, SYRIZA misses no opportunity to advertise that Greece is an open borders country—and, also, that Greece sees nothing wrong with accepting even more masses of wretched humanity unwanted across Europe.

Against this calamitous backdrop, there are justified concerns that human-killing Muslim radicalization will soon appear in Greece, too. Risks that Greece may be targeted by ISIS are assessed as low for a simple reason that no targeting at this time serves terrorist interests: ISIS, and any other radical Islamic criminal, has little reason to attack Greece directly because any such action could disrupt the flow of jihadists hiding among "refugees" and illegal economic migrants that are still pouring into the country to filter across borders and reach more affluent EU members. Ahmed Almuhamed, one of the Paris terrorist killers, arrived in France via the Greek "migrant express" masqueraded as a Syrian "refugee."

On the other hand, the possibility of domestic violence by Muslim illegals remains high because of Greece becoming a pool of stagnating "irregulars" who have been barred from continuing their trek north by FYR Macedonia. In glaring contrast to Greece, the FYROM government

secured its border shut, deployed both police and army forces, and forcefully pushed back those chanting "Open the border or die."

The SYRIZA government is now limited to recycling these thousands of potential rioters and looters into Athens, thus creating seething cells of angry, alien, young adults apparently prepared to cause as much mayhem as possible when, and not if, are given an opportunity.

As of this moment, there is no clear view of how the SYRIZA administration proposes to tackle the possibility of Muslim radicalism inside this ravaged country. Beefing up security around foreign embassies, and making bold statements on morning television talk shows, is hardly the complete hard-nosed strategy required in order to ***attempt*** controlling the situation.

Those supposedly in charge of offering internal security solutions include Mr. Tsipras, who has stated that there are "no sea borders" which, presumably can be defended; a former SYRIZA immigration minister who famously described illegal immigrants loitering menacingly in downtown Athens as "taking the sun;" a current SYRIZA immigration minister, who misses no opportunity to wax poetic about how Greece "must facilitate the migrants" and how "there is nothing we can do once a boat [with illegals] leaves the Turkish coast;" and, last but not least, a director of National Intelligence whose main credential for the job is his past involvement as adviser and spokesman with the late Andreas Papandreou, founder of the Pasok socialist party that became the hub of corruption that eventually collapsed Greece in 2010.

It is no wonder that even those unfamiliar with Greece question the capabilities of such a "leadership" group to rise to the challenge and offer viable options that could help the situation. In a gesture to mollify the EU, Mr. Tsipras finally accepted border security assistance from FRONTEX, a political trick that does not provide any real security guarantees to a country with a collapsed administration.

Irrespective of what the various hacks claim during their tirades on radio and television, Greece is an open country with grave implications for her internal security. Apparently, examples like Turkey's and Tunisia's, where Islamist terrorists have struck with disastrous effect, do not seem to concern the Greek "leadership" in any substantive way. For a country that has come to depend, almost exclusively, on tourism for a trickle of economic survival, pretending that the world is standing still, and that love and affection will deflect the worst, is a death wish waiting to happen.