



HELLENIC NATIONAL DEFENCE GENERAL STAFF  
CHIEF

Washington, October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017

*Dear Nick*

*I congratulate Nick Larigakis for his outstanding dedication and leadership for the past thirty years at the American Hellenic Institute and generally in the Greek American community.*

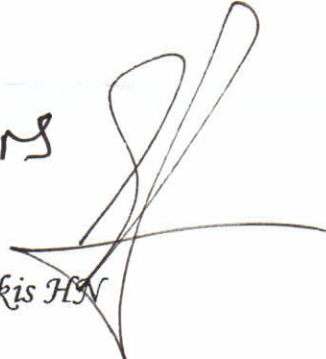
*Mr. Larigakis is a leading voice of Hellenism in United States. He promotes the relationship between the United States and Greece, and he regularly engages with policymakers in the administration and Congress through letters, testimony, and meetings advocating the importance of Greece as a geopolitical and strategic asset to NATO and as a staunch ally of the United States.*

*Mr. Larigakis keeps tight bonds with Greek political and military officials, by often visiting the country, including Souda Bay. He has been a strong voice in Washington as to the paramount importance of the Souda Bay military facilities. In this regard, he contributed in facilitating the white paper, "Souda Bay : NATO' s Military Gem in the Eastern Mediterranean" by Lexington Institute, which was presented in Capitol Hill.*

*He has been an active advocate of Hellenic issues, like the inclusion of Greece in OPIC's list of countries. In recent years, his efforts to collaborate with American Jewish organizations to promote a strong relationship between Israel, Cyprus, and Greece, on security, energy, economic and political issues, has been noteworthy.*

*His efforts include the education of the future generation of the leaders of Hellenism in United States. Through the annual AHIF College Student Foreign Policy Study Trip to Greece and Cyprus, that he envisioned and created, Mr. Larigakis has personally escorted numerous Greek and Cypriot American college students to inform and educate them through hands-on experience in issues affecting U.S. relations with Greece and Cyprus.*

*The unparalleled devotion to Hellenism of Mr Larigakis, his efforts to strengthen United States relations with Greece, and his overall achievements deserve our praise and congratulations.*

*Sincerely yours* 

*Admiral Evangelos Apostolakis HSN*