

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 469

Supporting the scope and objectives of Greece's Presidency of the Council
of the European Union.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 29, 2014

Mr. SIRES (for himself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. SARBANES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Supporting the scope and objectives of Greece's Presidency
of the Council of the European Union.

Whereas Greece holds the rotating Presidency of the Council
of the European Union during the first half of 2014;

Whereas the rotating European Union Presidency offers
member states the opportunity to showcase their vision
for the European Union, to advance the Union's ongoing
work agenda, influence European Union policy and legis-
lation, and broaden the understanding of the European
Union amongst the citizens of their country;

Whereas the European Union has established an area of freedom, security, and justice, extending stability and peace to the European continent and its neighbors;

Whereas the United States has supported the European integration process and has consistently supported the objective of European unity and the enlargement of the European Union as a vehicle for prosperity, peace, and democracy;

Whereas the Government of Greece has prioritized growth, job creation, European Union and Eurozone integration, as well as borders, mobility, migration, and integrated European Union Maritime Policy as the main areas of focus for the Greek Presidency of the Council of the European Union;

Whereas the United States and the European Union are each other's largest trading and investment partners, responsible for creating up to an estimated 14,000,000 jobs on both sides of the Atlantic, and as such major stakeholders in each other's economic recoveries;

Whereas the Greek Presidency aims at reinforcing efforts that should be focused on reforms aiming at safeguarding stability and revitalizing growth;

Whereas the Greek Presidency aims at promoting synergies in sectors that create jobs such as transport, shipping, tourism, innovation;

Whereas Greece is a strategic partner and ally of the United States in bringing political stability and economic development;

Whereas Greece continues to play an important role in the wider European region, including the Eastern Mediterranean;

Whereas Greece, as a traditional maritime country, acknowledges the great potential and opportunity that marine and maritime activities hold for the European Union economy as a whole, especially in the areas of security and energy;

Whereas it is in the national interest of the United States to support and enhance Europe's energy security;

Whereas the Governments of Greece and the United States are at the forefront of efforts to advance freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and respect for human rights; and

Whereas the Hellenic values and principles of Greek-Americans have contributed greatly to United States society, history, and politics: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the scope and objectives of
3 Greece's Presidency of the Council of the European
4 Union;

5 (2) encourages the continuation of United
6 States–European Union trade and investment nego-
7 tiations that will benefit both United States and Eu-
8 ropean workers alike;

9 (3) promotes increased transatlantic exchanges
10 and dialogue to further benefit from existing cultural
11 ties and research and development partnerships, in
12 the maritime area where a transatlantic research al-
13 liance could underpin the development of the strong
14 growth and jobs potential of shared ocean resources,
15 a so-called blue growth strategy;

1 (4) affirms the strong bonds and common val-
2 ues between the United States and Greece; and

3 (5) acknowledges the lasting contributions of
4 Greek-Americans to the United States.

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