

## PM: Greece not at risk of default



Prime Minister George Papandreou, speaking in an interview with the Austrian newspaper "Der Standard", underlined the abandonment of the mismanagement of the previous government and the economy's full restructuring as a duty and the need to invest in human capital and for the existence of a social state.

Papandreou stressed that Greece is no longer in danger of bankruptcy and called on Europe to invest for its growth and in order to obtain resources to enact monetary exchange taxes and to proceed with the issuing of Eurobonds. Referring to the need for boosting

competitiveness, the prime minister said that Greece has products for specialised markets, it can play an important role in tourism, agriculture and in the renewable energy sources sector.

Papandreou also said that "the government has done everything to prevent the threat of the danger of their losing their job, their pension and the euro with which the Greeks have been living over the past eight months, who are being shocked by rumours and fears."

The prime minister's interview is accompanied by his biography and a photo of himself and information on Greece's economic state.

## Young Greeks pose a challenge for government

'Generation 700,' Greeks in their 20s and 30s who are highly educated but face high unemployment, are criticized by their elders for lacking initiative.

They counter that the system has failed them.

The Greeks call it "Generation 700": a mass of highly educated twenty- and early thirtysomethings stuck in amiable insolvency, living with their parents, drifting from coffee shop to coffee shop with companions they can't afford to marry.

From their settled perches, the elders criticize and cluck. The young, they say, have either no initiative, a dearth of opportunities, or some combination of the two. They fear that young people will be unable to start their own families and they fret over the prospect of Greece's demographic undoing.

The catchall nickname for Greek young adults comes from the sum that had been, before sweeping austerity measures, a typical entry-level monthly salary — 700 euros, or about \$860.

## Hot week ahead

Greeks flocked to the beaches in droves over the weekend amid rising temperatures throughout the country. Temperatures are due to peak today (Wednesday) at near 40 C.

Temperatures are increasing throughout the country and are expected to near 40 degrees Celsius. Thousands of Athenians headed for beaches around the capital on the weekend, while people in other major urban centres also left their homes to go to the closest beaches.

Temperatures will remain high today, reaching 37 degrees in Athens and 36 in the northern city of Thessaloniki. Temperatures are expected to decrease gradually as of Thursday.



(Photo by ANA-MPA/O. Panagiotou)

## Face to face with the past:

### Reconstructed 430 BC Athenian girl's face

"Myrtis: Face to face with the past", a photography exhibition of the groundbreaking reconstruction of the face of a young Athenian girl that lived some 2,500 years ago, is currently on display at Athens' 'Eleftherios Venizelos' International Airport (AIA), through the end of December.

The airport exhibition succeeds the first presentation of the reconstruction of the young Athenian's face at the New Acropolis Museum and at the Goulandris Museum of Natural History.

In 1994-95, during the excavation works for the Athens Metro construction, a mass grave with 150 bodies was discovered in the Keramikos area, where the ancient cemetery of Athens was located.

The remains were found to be dating from around 430-426 B.C., the time of the Athens plague. It was then decided to carry DNA tests on the skeletal material aiming to identify the pathogenic factor of the deadly epidemic, which was found to have been typhoid fever. Among the bones, a skull of an 11-year-old girl was discovered; the young Athenian was named "Myrtis" by the archaeologists.

The excellent condition of the skull inspired a scientific team of orthodontists headed by Assistant Professor at the University of Athens, Manolis Papagrigorakis, to reconstruct the girl's face.

After 2,500 years, Myrtis has been "reborn". This exhibition brings out the great significance of the use of technology, and of interdisciplinary collaboration in many different fields of research, such as archaeology, medicine, anthropology, and forensic science. Greek and European scientists, technicians and artists, shared their knowledge and expertise, to get as close as possible to the real face of Myrtis.

The exhibition consists of 3 sections: the first section presents the excavation at Keramikos, the second displays medical research in Greece for the identification of the pathogenic factor that caused the plague of Athens, applying the methodology of French Professors of the University of Marseille, and the third section portrays the reconstruction of the face of Myrtis.

The exhibition will travel to other destinations, such as the Archaeological Museum of Volos, the Cultural Institution of the Piraeus Group, as well as to the U.S.A. where it will be displayed at the University of Missouri.

The exhibition will be on display through end-December at the airport's Arrivals Level, open to all airport visitors on a 24-hour basis.