Nick Larigakis President & CEO of American Hellenic Institute

The American Hellenic Institute has played a critical role in strengthening relations between Greece, Cyprus, and the United States. AHI's professional staff works actively to promote the geostrategic importance of the Eastern Mediterranean to U.S. policy makers and to highlight the exceptional role that Greece plays in the region to ensure peace and stability.

More specifically, the Hellenic National Defence General Staff has enjoyed an extremely close relationship with the AHI, and its President Nick Larigakis, in particular. AHI has been instrumental in promoting the ever-critical defense partnership between the United States and Greece, which is critical to our two countries.

Our historical and traditional ties between Greece and the United States are further strengthened through the every year visits of the AHI's young students' delegations to Greece and HNDGS, where they have the opportunity to be informed in general on National Defence Policy issues and the Security situation in our region.

As Chief of the HNDGS for the last four years, I want to thank AHI and its President Nick Larigakis for his excellent cooperation, and continuous efforts to promote and upgrade Greece and U.S. relations.

Finally, I want to congratulate AHI for its 50 year anniversary, which is an immense achievement.

My best wishes to AHI's success in the next 50 years!

General Konstantinos Floros Chief of Hellenic National Defense General Staff

Mr