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Title: Seeking Solidarity

Other Titles: Europe's defence and Greece 1947-1996

Language: Greek

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ISBN: 978-618-85820-1-9

Subject: HUMANITIES AND ARTS, LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Keywords: European Defence / European Army / Greece / Western European Union / European Defence Community

Bibliographic Reference: Stergiou, A. (2021). Seeking Solidarity [Monograph]. Kallipos, Open Academic Editions. <http://dx.doi.org/10.57713/kallipos-11>

Abstract

Based on extensive primary sources from various countries, the book tries to analyse Greece's incorporation into Euro-American strategic planning and initiatives about the organisation of the European defence from the end of the 1940s until mid-1990s. More precisely, focuses on Greece's efforts to accede into military alliances and treaties forged and signed from 1947 onwards with a view of shaping the defence of Western Europe (Brussels Treaty, European Defence Community, NATO, Western European Union). These efforts were viewed askance or even opposed by the European States either out of fear of any Soviet reaction or because this move was inconsistent

with their own geostrategic planning for the Eastern Mediterranean region; or because they did want the extension of the transatlantic alliance so far and so close to the Warsaw Pact or, during the 1990s, because they did not want the alliance to become embroiled in the Greek-Turkish conflict. Greece's definitive inclusion into the Western European Union in 1995 was linked to such conditions that in fact annulled the expected benefits for Greece's defence (mainly against Turkey). Therefore, it was received by Athens lukewarm despite the fact that completed efforts undertaken over many decades which had consumed huge diplomatic and political capital.

