

THE MIRACLE MAKER

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The history of post-1974 Greece is replete with miracle makers of various calibers and personal temperament. All of them emerged from the fantasies of the electorate, with always the proverbial little help from the media and the targets of media barons.

The lingering result of so many miracle makers is visible by the naked eye: Greece lies devastated on the edge of Tartarus.

The rise of Kyriakos Mitsotakis to the leadership of the New Democracy party carries all the hallmarks of yet another hatching of a miracle maker. His most prominent hope, we suspect, would be to avoid the fate of his predecessor miracle worker, Mr. Samaras, who disintegrated upon re-entry into Greece's atmosphere of political realities.

Following Mr. Mitsotakis's election, we have been treated to dithyrambs of the right wing Greek press, not to mention the rhapsodies emerging from abroad. Indeed, if you believe some of the foreign reports, Mr. Mitsotakis may be the best thing that happened to Greece since the invention of sliced white bread and the Golden Age of Athens.

Greece has reached a political, social, and economic nadir. Economically devastated, subject to the slavery of capital controls, depended on loans that have obliterated national sovereignty, invaded by hordes of Moslem "refugees" and others, and with "partners" who compete among themselves on how to diminish, insult, and manipulate her, Greece has no more room for miracle makers of **any** kind.

We do not question Mr. Mitsotakis's noble personal intentions. Yet, we are also painfully aware of the catastrophic history of Greece's "imperial" political clans and their established norms and manners of "princely succession." Mr. Mitsotakis is the youngest member of exactly such a clan with a history that we would describe as "tarnished" because we wish to avoid harsher language.

Many would argue that it is unfair to preemptively judge Mr. Mitsotakis by the less than admirable “attainments” of his relatives and his party’s more recent disastrous plays of which he was a key participant. To his Greek admirers’ Mr. Mitsotakis is “new blood” that promises wonders. To Greece’s European overlords, who have hogtied Greece via the “bailouts,” Mr. Mitsotakis is the convenient choice that could be easily coaxed to promote policies that secure a semblance of stability so that the perennial EU “wider interests” are not disturbed.

Mr. Mitsotakis is a yet another actor in a bankrupt and utterly corrupt political culture, which not even the crisis that erupted in 2010 could damage and overthrow. This system continues to triumph thanks to the votes of an exhausted populace fixated on the struggle to maintain the remnants of a consumerist “model” that has perished alongside the Greek economy and the ability to borrow as if there is no tomorrow.

Mr. Mitsotakis, we regret to say, is not a new beginning but, rather, the continuation of a long line of miracle makers, products of the semi-feudal modern Greek state (the term ‘modern’ used here with caution.)

We do not believe in miracles. Neither do we believe in the fatigued theories of Mr. Mitsotakis needing to address “centrist” voters simply because the “center” is as nebulous as the thinking of those who propose its purported existence.

If anything, the New Democracy party was and is a conservative party in the traditional sense. The recent attempts to shoehorn ND into “progressivism” has brought it very near where the rival socialist Pasok finds itself presently, i.e. in the trash bin of history.

Our new miracle worker Mr. Mitsotakis cannot escape his identity as a player born and raised in the traditions of the constantly recycling Greek political stage. Few, if any, in Greece (even among ND’s supporters) can get themselves to honestly believe that he is “his own man,” who has risen from the crowd thanks to his **strictly personal worth and achievements he reached unaided by clan and his many willing friends and “acquaintances.”**

We nevertheless wish him good luck in his new endeavors—which will be primarily focused on inventing a new bag of tricks to secure the maintenance of party “stability,” the acquisition of “allies,” and the obligation of keeping the plebeians happy with or without a Coliseum, in other words, the traditional duties of miracle makers.

The rest can wait, just like Greece. **Time will tell.**