

Discourse of N. Lygeros
Strategic challenge of Genocide
Serres 19/05/2016

Let us begin : I will say a few things, there is no need to be many, they 're sufficient. I would like first of all to say that we are here for the day of genocide we are not here just to remember the past, it is so that we know what to do in the future. I would like to say this in order to continue on what the professor said. Don't bother with what Turkey says, we don't care.

What interests us is Humanity. The whole struggle taking place is not only for Turkey to do it. Because I would like to warn you, at some stage Turkey will do it, it will recognize it and we will have some of our own which will no longer do anything because they will think that we have finished. In reality the successes we had in 2006 with the European Parliament, in 2010 with Sweden, in 2015 with Armenia, in between with the United States of America and with the states of Australia these are irrelevant with what Turkey is doing. What is important is to slowly understand that we don't care if the perpetrator wants or not to recognize the genocide because we know he is the perpetrator and that the genocide of Pontians was used as an example by Raphael Lemkin to show to others what genocide means. So we know exactly what it is. Thus, what is important is to understand this: as long as we have events which we simply remember the past, Turkey will ignore us. What is important is if we are capable of becoming stones and return there where the stones were taken off. What is important is to understand that Pontus is occupied territories. What is important is to understand that there are many Pontians that live there and are waiting for the liberation. What is important when the Pontians speak about the 1453 is that this fight hasn't stopped. We shouldn't be confused. We will soon talk about the 200 years of liberation of the Nation, in reality it is the 200 years from the beginning of the liberation. This process has not been finished and it is that which Turkey fears. The data we have for Thrace, the data we have for Pontus are things that change. There are already Armenians that are preparing for the future. Don't fuss much about the Lausanne Treaty, nevertheless Turkey violates it, it is simply us not saying that it violates at least 18 articles of the Treaty. The Treaty of the future will not be the Lausanne Treaty it will be the Treaty of Sèvres. It may be difficult for you to think of it but when you see that Kurdistan will be formed, this you believe. Kurdistan will be formed with the boundaries that are in the Treaty of Sèvres. Something similar will be in Western Armenia. The issue is how Pontus will play with these two players. Therefore what is important is to understand that there are alliances forming in the region and if we don't realize it the circumstances will change and we will be left remembering what happened. What is important is to remember the future and if we are prepared for this. You heard the song about the eagle but you must understand that even if an eagle came here to tell us that we have to liberate Pontus it is not for sure that there would be falcons to follow him. The issue is then if we want it then we will change if we don't want it then Pontus will become a memory and in the end we will forget it. All who still say that, even now, that it is about unforgettable homelands, know this, it is the beginning of an oblivion. The unforgettable depends on you. For this to be you homeland even now depends on you. The fact that Greece never dies needs to include Hellenism too. Hellenism will not be limited in a space which is not yet that which it was. What we need to understand with genocide and what we are living through is that Turkey didn't change. If some of our people changed it is because they became servile and they accept these things. Here on May 19th we do not accept them and May 19th for us is a day of evaluation when every year we must see what we achieved relative to the previous year, to see each year what is different, what happened that

change the data. The recognition of genocide of Pontians by Armenia is a huge step, but do you know why it is a huge step? Because our own servile people backed off from preventing Armenia recognizing us. Armenia wanted for a long time to do it. What's important is to think this, we know what happened, we don't forget. But the issue is what are we doing? If you simply remember and don't forget it is not sufficient. What needs to change is that there is a vision. This vision is called liberation and it is not only memory, is it Memory of Future. This is what I wanted to tell you, not so that you learn it, because we don't give lessons, simply to know it, because it will happen and don't say that I didn't prepare you. Thank you. Be well.