

## ***The true challenge of the economic crisis***

***By Const. GE. ATHANASSOPOULOS,***

*Prof. at Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences,  
at University of Athens,  
Visiting Professor  
Ex Ch.L., U.L. Bruxelles,  
Ex Int.I.I.A.P., Paris*

***The forthcoming elections of June 7 2009 for the election of members of European Parliament have partially withdrawn Brussels' interest from matters of management of the current economic crisis, at central level.***

***The ongoing grave economic crisis beyond the huge questions, which raises regarding its reasons, it undoubtedly causes bitterness, fears and concerns everywhere in the world, given anyone's impossibility to control it effectively and efficiently.***

***Facts are already known in detail. Consequently it is not necessary any further presentation of them.***

***Times require relevant, innovative and radical solutions which should be in long distance from "small" political approaches.***

***In this connection, there are quite indicative the following:***

***The views expressed regarding the exit from the current situation vary so as to their range, as well as to their texture.***

***Thus, in a sense, the shrinkage of the State in its traditional dimension, the most active participation of citizens in decision making procedures would result in a new form of government of the Peoples (first at the national and hence at the international level), guided by more social sensitivity, in the light of the relative social changes.***

***According to other approaches it is required reversal of the downturn by increasing productive investment, job retention, at any cost and of course through "return on stage" of the public investment as a tool to achieve development.***

***At this stage, given the international economic crisis, the major question, in reference to «the tool» public investment in order to***

*confront the crisis is included to the dilemma, if public investments are now an imperative necessity or an “alternative» Policy option, either because of their merits, or because of the absence of other possibilities for intervention.*

*The data probably lead to the first provision of the necessity, given that public investment «include», from «the philosophical point of view», and «in practice» number of advantages, such as rapid decisions, ease at programming revisions, flexibility for the management of funds, (of course under complete transparency), and more.*

*It goes without saying that the unfortunate economic situation will not be confronted only with the public investment programs, either of large or of small scale.*

*Bold measures needed (new tax incentives, monetary policy measures, stricter rules on «aggressive» investment funds as result of bold political decisions. However, the indecision problems of those are unfortunately given on a universal level.*

*The banking crisis is not absorbed. Consequently banks worldwide do not contribute to the revival of the economy, and sometimes for their expected benefit.*

*It is being reminded in this case, that debate has already begun on the possibility of nationalization of banks, considered by Economists (eg Stiglitz) as a single solution.*

*However a view was stated, adressed also to the participants of the G20 to avoid phenomenons of economic protectionism.*

*Furthermore it is noted that banks use an entrepreneurial approach to funding emerging economic and industrial enter-prises.*

*Lack of confidence between all, States, international organizations, Banks etc, «is not replaced» by the plentiful statements from authorities, speaking only about “hope for improvement of their relations», or by proposals for drafting New Economic Charta.*

*But beyond all these and beyond expectations from the implementation of any measure, perhaps, the current situation, a situation of «creative destruction» from an other point of view, should inspire those who have the power «to reposition» the human to the centre of weight at varied world events. Governments, Organizations and Mechanisms should act for human’s benefits, regardless of power, intent, cost, place and time ...*