

**WORLD HELLENIC INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION  
ΠΑΓΚΟΣΜΙΑ ΔΙΑΚΟΙΝΟΒΟΥΛΕΥΤΙΚΗ ΕΝΩΣΗ  
ΤΟΥ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΣΜΟΥ**

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Γραφείο του Προέδρου - Office of the President, WHIU  
Prof. Demetrios Giannaros, State Representative

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March 10, 2004

Ms. Despina Dimitropoulos

President

Federation of Hellenic American Societies of New England

P.O. Box 525

Accord, MA 02018-0525

Dear President Dimitropoulos:

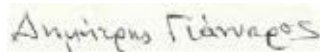
As President of the World Hellenic Inter-Parliamentary Union, I congratulate you and the member organizations of the Federation for the many years of outstanding work in commemorating Greek Independence with the Greek Independence Day Parade of Boston. Your membership's hard work has paid off with years of pleasure for everyone in the Greek community and all our Philhellene friends .

The Greek Independence Day Parade not only brings much pleasure but is a very important event in commemorating this auspicious date in Greek history. The four hundred-year fight for Greek independence from Ottoman rule was a monumental struggle that culminated in the emergence of modern day Greece. Not only was it a fight for independence but our very identity as Greeks, our religion, traditions and language were at stake. The parade reminds all of us of the immense contributions that Greece has given the world in philosophy, government, history, language, and the arts, just to name a few.

I also commend you for this year's theme "The Athens of America celebrates the Athens 2004 Olympics." It is important to remind everyone that Greece is the birthplace of the Olympics and to celebrate the return of the Olympic Games to the place of their birth, Greece .

Our organization, the World Hellenic Inter-Parliamentary Union, has as its membership all elected officials of Greek heritage from around the globe. An important part of our mission is to promote Hellenism and help foster an understanding of the Greek legacy to the world. And as such, we commend you for your significant contribution in doing the same.

Best wishes for a successful parade. Zito O Ellinismos!



Warm regards,

Rep. Demetrios Giannaros

President, World Hellenic Inter-Parliamentary Union