



CANADIAN HELLENIC CONGRESS
ΕΛΛΗΝΟΚΑΝΑΔΙΚΟ ΚΟΓΚΡΕΣΟ
CONGRÈS HELLÉNIQUE CANADIEN

9150 boul. de l'Acadie, Suite 109, Montréal (QC) H4N 2T2
chc@chcongress.ca – www.chcongress.ca

NATIONAL COUNCIL 2023-2025

OFFICERS:

Dr. Theodore Halatsis (QC)
President

Governmental and Public Affairs

George Manios (ON)
Executive Vice President

Pelagia Adamidis (QC)
Vice-President, Administration & Secretary

Stratis Drossiadis (QC)
Vice-President, Finance and Treasurer

Peter Papageorgiou (QC)
Vice-President, Fundraising

Dr. Costas Pappas (ON)
Vice-President, International Relations

Sandy Nicolopoulos (QC)
Vice-President, Cultural & Social Development

Zoi Illiopoulos (QC)
Vice-President, Communications & Social Media

John Moukas (QC)
Deputy Vice-President, Governmental and Public Affairs

Simon Leptokaridis (ON)
Vice-President, Macedonian Affairs

George Kalakos (ON)
Vice-President, Research and Development

Stavros Dalakouras (ON)
Vice-President, Ontario Region

Dimitrios Athanasiou (MB)
Vice-President, Western Canada Council

DIRECTORS:

Anastasios Baxevanidis (ON)
President—Hellenic Canadian Congress of Ontario

Nick Christoforidis (ON)

Dr. Anthony Foscolos (AB)

Nicholas Georgiades (QC)

Theodore Grammatikopoulos (AB)

Harry Liontas (MB)

President—Hellenic Canadian Congress of Manitoba

Dr. Constantine Passaris (NB)

Dr. Helen Savaki (GR)

John Vathis (QC)

Dr. John Vlachopoulos (ON)

February 12, 2024

Via electronic mail:
editor@natgeo.com;
history@natgeo.com

The Editor

National Geographic

Editorial Services – *Travel* | *World Heritage*

1145 17th Street NW

Washington, D.C. 20036

Subject: January 3, 2024 article by Julia Buckley: “These historic Greek sites shed fresh light on Alexander the Great’s lost kingdom”

Dear Sir,

It was with great eagerness and – we must admit – greater surprise that we read your enlightened article entitled “*These historic Greek sites shed fresh light on Alexander the Great’s lost kingdom*”, by Julia Buckley, until we reached your second paragraph, and then understood the rationale behind the reasons you decided to undertake this effort.

Everyone wants some glory from the plethora of Greek history however, because they probably cannot bear the brightness of the sixteen rays of the Vergina Sun, they always fall into the modern western culture trap of manipulating anything of Hellenic origin. Moreover, if we get into the origin of things, then it is going to be extremely difficult to ignore the origin of western civilization, language, geographical names across the world, the universe, the great thinkers, the Golden Age of Athens, the philosophers and so on...

National Geographic must be very proud of continuing the great work of Strabo and Pausanias, who were the first to travel the well-known world of that time and to cartography the earth. They were also the first-time scientific teachers of geography and history and you must feel the incredible burden on your shoulders. We urge you not to betray them but instead to read about them, to use their knowledge and to show them respect and appreciation. They did not have today's equipment,

.../2

The Canadian Hellenic Congress is a national democratic communal institution that represents, advances, advocates and promotes the interests and concerns of Canadians of Hellenic descent and Hellenism in general. The Congress is the national voice of Hellenes and their communities and/or organizations across Canada.



CANADIAN HELLENIC CONGRESS
ΕΛΛΗΝΟΚΑΝΑΔΙΚΟ ΚΟΓΚΡΕΣΟ
CONGRÈS HELLÉNIQUE CANADIEN

9150 boul. de l'Acadie, Suite 109, Montréal (QC) H4N 2T2

chc@chcongress.ca – www.chcongress.ca

2/

February 12, 2024

The Editor – National Geographic

Subject: January 3, 2024 article by Julia Buckley: “These historic Greek sites shed fresh light on Alexander the Great’s lost kingdom”

no flying vehicles, no digital measurements or drones and yet, they managed to create the very first maps, which you have surely seen and admired.

We urge you to educate us properly and righteously; to follow the Hellenic paradigm which states: “any human who does not know history and geography is illiterate”. Our illustrious progenitors considered illiterate any person who did not know history and geography. For this reason, you must always be very accurate and to the point, so as to inform your readers precisely and not vaguely.

Let us now get into the article: To begin with, Alexander’s kingdom was never lost! We actually know more about Alexander the Great than any other leader of the Western world. The mere fact that we managed to unearth the Palace where “Philip II of Macedon—Alexander’s father—was famously assassinated in 336 B.C. Alexander was hastily crowned in the palace afterward, and Philip was buried nearby”, does not mean that this palace was lost nor that we did not know of the existence of such a glorious monument. However, instead of staying the course and unveiling to the world the biggest monument – bigger than the Parthenon – in antiquity and the glorious days of the greatest general and civiliser, you attempt to delve into today’s politics and you mix and confuse the newly-created fake state of Vardaska with Macedonia and an amalgam of people (Roma-Serbo-Albano-Bulgarian speaking dialect), with the Hellenistic Campaign of Alexander the Great. With all due respect, you are way out of your objective.

Dear Sir, you and the article’s author should note that in 1912, when the second Balkan War occurred, the Greek army managed to beat the Ottomans, the Serbs and the Bulgarians, and to liberate the northern part of Greece. Geographically, the northern part of the Greek mainland is comprised of the provinces of Epirus, Macedonia and Thrace. Furthermore, in 1912, the area described in your article as “North Macedonia” did not exist by that name. Its actual name was Vardaska and it carried that name until 1945. It was then that Yugoslavian leader, Tito – instructed by Soviet Dictator Stalin – renamed the Vardaska province “Macedonia”. Stalin’s motive was to amputate the northern part of Greece and to create the “Great Macedonia” in order to gain access to the Aegean Sea. These ambitious motives of Churchill and Stalin threw Greece into a civil war with catastrophic consequences.

.../3

The Canadian Hellenic Congress is a national democratic communal institution that represents, advances, advocates and promotes the interests and concerns of Canadians of Hellenic descent and Hellenism in general. The Congress is the national voice of Hellenes and their communities and/or organizations across Canada.



CANADIAN HELLENIC CONGRESS
ΕΛΛΗΝΟΚΑΝΑΔΙΚΟ ΚΟΓΚΡΕΣΟ
CONGRÈS HELLÉNIQUE CANADIEN

9150 boul. de l'Acadie, Suite 109, Montréal (QC) H4N 2T2
chc@chcongress.ca – www.chcongress.ca

3/

February 12, 2024

The Editor – National Geographic

Subject: January 3, 2024 article by Julia Buckley: "These historic Greek sites shed fresh light on Alexander the Great's lost kingdom"

Macedonia, in the ancient Hellenic world, was a city-state, like Athens, Sparta, Corinth, Thebes, Mycenae, Argos and Ilia; all autonomous City-States.

In the ancient Olympic Games, where only Greeks were permitted to participate, Philip the II, his son Alexander and many more from the Macedonian Kingdom competed and won Olympic medals.

After this free lesson in history and geography, we urge you to retract, or to rephrase the second paragraph of your article; not because we ask you to do so, but because you must protect the integrity of the National Geographic, as well as, the truth and nothing but the truth.

You have a chance to atone yourself and to let history and geography teach and guide us righteously otherwise, the Vergina Sun and the halo of the Macedonian history will scorch all these attempts to alter and taint the Macedonian glory.

Sincerely,

Dr. Theodore Halatsis
President

Simon Leptokaridis
Vice-President – Macedonian Affairs

The Canadian Hellenic Congress is a national democratic communal institution that represents, advances, advocates and promotes the interests and concerns of Canadians of Hellenic descent and Hellenism in general. The Congress is the national voice of Hellenes and their communities and/or organizations across Canada.