

**THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT AND**  
**OF THE PRESS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AMORGOS**  
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Ladies and gentlemen,

We find ourselves in front of a new age with the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We are called to adjust our daily life in the new reality, and there are problems that make us wonder if *today* is better than *yesterday* and if *tomorrow* is better than *today*.

Greece is a member of the European Union and the local self-government is called to play the most important role in front of all the new horizons that are opened and today more than ever needs a Press that is responsible and true.

It is known that a society needs the information for the same reason a human needs the eyes. To see where to go.

It is accepted that a politician can't move without information and that the local authorities as well. But the newspapers and the journalist must feel a respect for the reader, a respect that will be expressed by informing him as soon as possible and without prejudice, without trying to influence him with personal judgments. It must be pointed out that if for the civilian the information and the reaching of the sources is a right, for the journalist it is a right and a duty.

The privileges that are given by several laws to the journalist don't intend to protect him but the calling.

It is a fact that the plethora of information might lead to the same result as the dearth. Many times the news are "served" in plethora, without preparation, are devoured in a haste, and thus the reader can't assimilate or absorb them.

There are doubts expressed as to if all the information should be published. There is the right of the People to be informed but there is also the right of the Governmental obligation to govern radically, which sometimes means to govern secretly.

The local Self-government has the duty to inform the civilians through the local Media, for its actions and for the means it uses and they have as a goal to help the place develop, as well as for the difficulties that has to face while trying to achieve Development, which could occur due to the Athens-central State. The truth of the informing must be done exclusively for the benefit of the place and not for any party's interest.

It is not allowed to silence the Press, to try to bribe or corrupt it- which is easily done, due to the bad financial state of many newspapers. The Governments are responsible for this, with the policy that's applied on the Provincial Press.

A newspaper or any other Media that's sold to a government can afterwards be easily blackmailed. But this phenomenon is rare in the Provincial Press, that's struggling honestly and stands at its height and follows the ethics of the Provincial journalism, serves the civilian and the local Self-government with journalistic responsibility.

The attempts that are done by the local factors for the development of the island which are the most responsible to apply these programs for development, must be projected again and again from the local Media.

The History, the civilization, the tourism, the Athletics, the important work that is brought off by the Cultural carriers of every province of Greece, can and does reach the five continents, given that the provincial press reaches our expatriates with the local newspapers –most of which are printed thanks to a lot of effort but always with a lot of love for the place.

The new technologies of the printed and electronic press, which can be used by any journalist of the Province, is the qualification that is provided today for the preparation of Tomorrow in the contemporary European Journalism and E.S.E.T. preparing its members is bringing into effect the program "LEONARDO DA VINCI", in cooperation with the International Federation of Journalist (Belgium), the Open University of Brussels (Belgium), ERT (Greece), RIK (Cyprus), and the federation of Journalists of Granada (Spain), can and offers them this knowledge.

The European programs for Development for your Island, dear colleagues, that apply for the Agriculture, the Fishery, the Stock Farming, the Agricultural Tourism, the possible investments must be published again and again without expecting reward from the State. It is your duty to love your place, to offer it the chance of knowledge for its development. Don't expect for paybacks, write for the history of your Island, for its beauties, for the alternative forms of tourism that it offers, for its human potential. The local authorities, I believe that will do what they can to support the local Media.

You just do your duty, and remember that it is not far the time that the Governments will comprehend that the Greek provinces is the lever for development, a development that's based on the History of our country, its Civilization, its beauties, its blue sea, the green of its mountains, the pure products of mother- nature, on the incorruptible world of the province and of the frontier Greece, its beautiful Islands that God gave bounteously to our lovely Greece.

Succour the work of the Local self-government of your Island and be sure that the place which you respect love and project will be the one that will be benefited among you.

Thank You.