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Thessaloniki: Grand military parade marking Greece’s OXI Day concludes



The grand military parade marking Greece’s national holiday of 28 October began on Wednesday, 28 October 2026, along Megalou Alexandrou Avenue on the Thessaloniki waterfront, in the presence of President of the Hellenic Republic Constantine Tassoulas.

The parade commemorated the historic “OXI” (No) of 28 October 1940, when Greece rejected an Italian ultimatum, marking the country’s entry into World War II.

Among the officials attending were Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. Kyriakos Mitsotakis, PASOK leader Mr. Nikos Androulakis, Greek Minister of National Defence Mr. Nikos Dendias, Cypriot Defence Minister Mr. Vasilis Palmas, and European Commissioner for Sustainable Transport and Tourism Mr. Apostolos Tzitzikostas.

His Beatitude Archbishop Ieronymos of Athens and All Greece and His Eminence Metropolitan Philotheos of Thessaloniki were also attending the celebrations, alongside senior military and security officials, government representatives, and local authorities.

This year’s parade featured a technological innovation, with a giant screen installed opposite the official viewing platform displaying live footage from two drones.

One drone was transmitting images from a patrol mission in the eastern Aegean Sea, while the other was providing aerial coverage of the military parade.

The annual celebrations in Thessaloniki were among Greece’s most prominent



War II.

















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