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US Sec’t of State Pompeo in Greece for high-level talks, meetings



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo arrived in the northern Greece city of Thessaloniki on Monday morning, where he later concluded talks with his Greek counterpart Nikos Dendias, a closely watched meeting that comes only days before an EU summit reviews relations with an increasingly bellicose Turkey.
According to reports, bilateral, regional and international issues were discussed, with emphasis on what’s billed as the Greece-US Strategic Dialogue, along with defense and energy cooperation, and developments in the wider east Mediterranean.

After the meeting, the US Secretary of State tweeted that “…always fantastic to see Greek Foreign Minister Nikos Dendias. Today in Thessaloniki, we discussed the enduring strength of the U.S.-Greece relationship, the western Balkans, and de-escalation of tensions in the Eastern Mediterranean.”

Shortly before leaving Washington on Sunday, Pompeo, who is the first US

Secretary of State to visit the northern Greece metropolis, stated that: “…Back on the road and heading to Europe to reinforce our strong bilateral relationships and the importance of sustained regional cooperation. First stop: Thessaloniki, Greece.”

During his visit to the city, the US Secretary of State also participated in a round table discussion on energy, and was present for the signing of bilateral agreement on scientific and technological cooperation.

In the evening, Pompeo will fly to the island of Crete, where he will be hosted in the summer home of Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis, before touring the Souda Naval Base on Tuesday.

> Always fantastic to see Greek Foreign Minister @nikosdendias. Today in Thessaloniki, we discussed the enduring strength of the U.S.-Greece relationship, the Western Balkans, and de-escalation of tensions in the Eastern Mediterranean. pic.twitter.com/lKVV3yJjxN
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> — Secretary Pompeo (@SecPompeo) September 28, 2020

> FM @NikosDendias welcomes @SecPompeo on his landmark 1st visit to #Thessaloniki underscoring strong ties &growing partnership b/w □□□□&□□□□ / Ο ΥΠΕΞ Ν.Δένδιας υποδέχεται τον Αμερικανό ΥΠΕΞ στην 1η του επίσκεψη στη Θεσσαλονίκη-ισχυροί δεσμοί& διαρκώς ενισχυόμενη εταιρική σχέση □□pi&□□□ter.com/vCCRnxGWrF
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> — Υπουργείο Εξωτερικών (@GreeceMFA) September 28, 2020