

Closing Remarks by Dr Vassos Lyssarides
for the Conference organized by the Lyssarides Foundation.
“Contemporary Challenges in the Era of Globalization”
1.6.2010

I am not ready for final comments. We need time to study and digest what was discussed here to-day.

Yet I can offer the conclusion that the present globalization is one-dimensional and distorted and we do not yet witness a corrective course.

Yet we are optimistic. Every era is a step forward against shortcomings.

There was a reference to the foreseen shortage of resources. But we must take into consideration that technological developments increase the available resources.

Regarding the E.U. against the group of countries that adopt a pro-trans-Atlantic stand, the E.U. is bound to seek an independent road, especially as the world is becoming more and more multipolar. Europe cannot remain as a satellite of the U.S. policies.

The national rights are besieged. But if no solutions are offered the risk will be universal.

The predominance of the political over the economic is an urgent necessity.

It is true that governments are using terrorism to diminish human rights.

Globalization and geostrategic interests lead to victimization as in the case of Cyprus.

Crimes, especially genocides when unpunished reappear.

Hitler referred to the “forgotten” Armenian genocide.

Turkey is now implementing such methods against the Kurds and the Cypriots in a different form (ethnic cleansing).

E.E. should deal with regional problems that automatically involve them.

When European values are bypassed by democratic deficit increases.

Cyprus is a tasting point for the E.U.

We noticed that even judicial power succumbs to politico-economic motivations (The recent decisions of the European courts).

He made a second reference to the criminal behaviour of Israel regarding the activists and added that verbal condemnations are not enough. Measures should be adopted by the U.N. and the E.U.
