## WARDEN MESSAGE UPDATE

## U.S. Embassy Athens, Greece

## December 17, 2008

While the intensity of civil disturbances in Greece has diminished somewhat, demonstrators continue to periodically block streets, confront police, and engage in vandalism. Athens' Syntagma square is the most common venue for protests in the capital and should be avoided. U.S. Embassy personnel have also been advised to avoid Athen's Syntagma square until further notice.

American citizens are urged to avoid demonstrations, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstration or large crowd. American citizens should stay current with media coverage of local events and be aware of their surroundings at all times, maintaining security awareness.

For up-to-date information, please visit <a href="http://athens.usembassy.gov/">http://athens.usembassy.gov/</a> or <a href="http://thessaloniki.usconsulate.gov/">http://thessaloniki.usconsulate.gov/</a>. In case of an emergency when the Embassy or Consulate General is closed, an American in Greece can call (210) 729-4444 or (210) 729-4301, and ask to speak to a consular officer.

American citizens in Greece should also monitor the local news, and for the latest security information, Americans living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet web site at <a href="http://www.travel.state.gov">http://www.travel.state.gov</a>, where the current Worldwide Cautions, Travel Alerts, and Travel Warnings can be found. American citizens may also obtain up-to-date information on security conditions overseas by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States or Canada, and 1-202-501-4444 from overseas. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). American citizens living or traveling abroad are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's travel registration web site at <a href="https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/">https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/</a>.

Military and civilian members of the US Department of Defense, including dependents and contractors, are advised to refer to the DoD Foreign Clearance Guide for official travel in Greece.

For up-to-date information on current security conditions, Americans may also contact the U.S. Embassy in Athens or Consulate General in Thessaloniki at the numbers below. Please pass this information on to other Americans.

U.S. Embassy in Athens 91 Queen Sophias Avenue Tel. 210-721-2951 U.S. Consulate in Thessaloniki 43 Tsimiski Street Tel. 2310-242905