Stoupa, September 2026

Dear Nikos,

With this letter, I would like to share some thoughts about the kind of material for writing you might draw from the century we live in today.

In Report to Greco, you refer to the strange Chinese saying-curse: "May you be cursed to be born in interesting times, full of erratic attempts, conflicts and adventures."

For you, the turbulent historical period in which you lived was not a misfortune, but an intellectual challenge and a duty to engage in spiritual work.

You lived through immense upheavals: two world wars, revolutions, displacement, civil war, as well as the dawn of the technological age.

All of these gave you ideas for your monumental body of work.

If you were with us today, you would find an equally interesting age!

Artificial intelligence: Human beings have created machines that produce words, images, music and ideas.

Climate change: Humanity's intervention in nature has brought us face to face with serious consequences.

Wars: Europe is once again living through a major war.

Migration and displacement: A subject that always touched you deeply.

In our time, your question "what does it mean to be human?" has become even more urgent.

We have far more information and immediate access to it, as well as astonishing technological capabilities, but have we learned any better why we live?

We have still not managed to illuminate the dark root of the human being in order to elevate it.

I think you would be particularly interested in the conflict between human beings and their own creations.

We may soon see artificial intelligence surpass its creator, the human being—and then what will remain uniquely human?

Perhaps then your question would be: "Now that human beings have acquired the power to change the world, do they know what kind of world they want to create?"

I imagine your powerful pen creating "THE NEW ZORBAS": a human being caught between nature and technology, freedom and algorithms, global communication and personal loneliness.

Katerina Exarchoulea Georgilea