

2012년 6월 20일 키워드 스피킹 방송 / 주제: 그리스 총선과 유로존 위기

summary

This past Sunday, the European Union and international investors **held their breath** as Greece announced the results of their election. Now, many in the global financial market are **sighing with relief** as the Greek public voted in majority of the pro-**austerity** New Democracy party. The outcome is a relief to those heavily invested in the stock market and many international economies as the New Democracy party is in favor of a **bailout** from the European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund. With a declining Greek economy and overwhelming debt, the country has been struggling with **austerity measures** including **government cutbacks**, higher taxes, and public sector layoffs. However, **exiting** from the Euro currency could have catastrophic effects on the already burdening Eurozone debt crisis.

Stock markets around the world are **rallying** in positive response to the Greek election results as it may mark the start of a slow recovery of Europe's economic downturn. The Korean Finance Ministry has stated that the **worst of the Eurozone debt crisis is over**, but some are **still skeptical** that the newly elected government can properly restructure the **debt-ridden** nation. Under the Greek constitution, the New Democracy party must be able to **form a coalition government** in the next few days or risk losing power. Nonetheless, Korea should take note the problems of an **overextended** economy and ensure it doesn't **repeat the mistakes of the past**.

Key Words

1. 나라빚 sovereign debt; national debt
2. 긴축재정 austerity; tightening measures; tightening one's belts; government cutback
3. 유로존을 탈퇴하다 exit the Euro; break away from the Euro; leave the Euro
4. 한숨 돌리다 sigh a breath of relief; sigh with relief; be relieved
5. 숨죽이고 지켜보다 hold one's breath; wait in anticipation; cross one's fingers; have one's fingers crossed
6. 최악의 상황은 모면했다 the worst is over
7. 최악의 시나리오는 피했다 the worst case scenario hasn't been realized
8. 아직 기뻐하기는 이르다 too early to jump up in joy
9. 위기가 다른 나라로 번지다 spill over to other countries; (crisis) become contagious
10. 구제금융은 원하면서 고통은 감내하려 하지 않는다 want a bailout but don't want to suffer for it; want to have a cake and eat it too; don't want to make the necessary sacrifices for their economy

More Key Words

1. 구제금융 bailout
2. 연립 정부를 수립하다 form a coalition government
3. 채무에 허덕이는 debt-ridden
4. 채무에 의존하여 과도하게 규모를 키우다 overextend oneself
5. 과거의 잘못을 반복하다 repeat the mistakes in the past
6. stereotypical image (실제와 다를 수도 있는) 전형적인 이미지
7. 국민성과 경제위기를 연결하다 link characteristics of the Greek people with the economic crisis
8. (그리스 국민들이) 자초한 일이다 put themselves in their own situation; got themselves in this mess