

Conference program updated March 12

DAY 1 - THURSDAY, MARCH 16

AUDITORIUM

09:00 – 09:30 **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

09:45 – 10:00 **OPENING | PLENARY**

- ✓ Nektarios Farmakis, Governor of Western Greece
- ✓ Konstantinos Peletidis, Mayor of Patras
- ✓ Theodoros Louloudis, Publisher, “PELOPONNISOS” Newspaper
- ✓ Platonas Marlafekas, President, Chamber of Achaia

10:00 – 10:05 **OPENING STATEMENT**

- ✓ Apostolos G. Tzitzikostas, First Vice-President, European Committee of the Regions (v)

10:05 – 10:30 **OPENING REMARKS | PLENARY**

Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister of Greece

10:30– 11:00 **OPENING DISCUSSION | PLENARY**

- ✓ Konstantinos Peletidis, Mayor of Patras
- ✓ Konstantinos Magnis, Editor in Chief, Peloponissos Newspaper

10:50 – 11.00 **NETWORKING BREAK | COFFEE**

11:00 – 13:00 **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

The Future of Regional Cohesion Policy

Cohesion Policy is a fundamental pillar of the EU that established the link between the EU, regions, and its citizens in line with EU principles of solidarity and subsidiarity. Tackling the economic and social disparities between regions is a stated goal of the European project since the Treaty of Rome. Territorial imbalances remain a major challenge for the European Union. They should therefore remain a top priority for the EU in order to enhance equal opportunities for all citizens and allowing all its regions to reach their potential.

Knowledge Partner: The Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)

Moderator

- ✓ Eleni Marianou, Secretary General, CPMR

Speakers

- ✓ Elisa Ferreira, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, European Commission (video message)
- ✓ Nektarios Farmakis, Governor of Western Greece
- ✓ Panayiotis Nikas, Governor of Peloponnese
- ✓ Benoît Nadler, Deputy Head, Directorate-General for Regional & Urban Policy, European Commission (v)
- ✓ Tomas Mörtzell, President of the CPMR Baltic Sea Commission, Region Västerbotten (Sweden) (v)
- ✓ Paolo Calvano, Regional Minister of EU affairs, Emilia Romagna (v)
- ✓ Dr. Polykarpos Adamidis, Professor of EU Law & Int. Relations, Hellenic Military Academy,
Legal Counsel to MEP Manolis Kefalogiannis

DAY 1 - THURSDAY, MARCH 16
AUDITORIUM

13:15 – 14:30

SESSION 1

The Role of Local Administration in Development and Resilience

Regional and local administration authorities play a significant role in the everyday lives of citizens and businesses since they absorb the greatest part of Business-to-Government and Citizen-to-Government transactions. The responsibilities of the Greek local and regional authorities are broad, from civil protection to building the environment and from environmental protection to social welfare. In the recent past, a series of reforms have been implemented. Despite these changes, there are still a number of financial and institutional constraints regarding a series of responsibilities. Given the digital transformation of Public Administration due to the pandemic, the need for interventions that provide solutions to the existing problems that local administration faces are prominent.

Powered by: Regional Policy Monitor (RPM) & Data Consultants

Presentation of the "Annual report on the stance and perception of Greek citizens on the local and regional governance authorities", a study conducted by Regional Policy Monitor in cooperation with Data Consultants.

Moderator

✓ Yiannis Christakos, Journalist, MEGA TV & General Manager, DNews

Speakers

- ✓ Stelios Petsas, Alternate Minister of Interior
- ✓ Nektarios Farmakis, Governor of the Region of Western Greece
- ✓ Athanasios Papadopoulos, President of PEDDE and Mayor of Kalavryta
- ✓ Dr. Spyros Spyridon, Manag. Director, Hellenic Agency for Local Development & Local Government
- ✓ George Galanos, Assistant Professor of International & European Studies, University of Piraeus

14:30 - 15:30

SESSION 2

The Future of Greece 2035

Technology, innovation and research are the main pillars supporting the country's transition from today to the future we envision. They are the driving forces behind the country's development and production model, citizens' relations with the state and institutions, and, ultimately, the country's international competitiveness. Based on the results of a comprehensive study conducted by the Special Secretariat of Foresight of the Presidency of the Government of the Hellenic Republic, the members of the panel will attempt to explain, from their perspectives, how these fundamental pillars will change various aspects of economic and social life in the near future. They will also shed light on the correlation between technology and strengthening citizens' trust in the state.

In association: Special Secretariat for Foresight, Presidency of the Government & Hellenic Development Bank of Investments S.A.

Moderator

✓ Myron Flouris, Associate Director, Business Development, EY

Speakers

- ✓ Dimitris Skalkos, Sec. General, Public Investments & NSRF, Ministry of Development & Investments
- ✓ Christos Bouras, Rector, University of Patras
- ✓ Yannis Mastrogeorgiou, Special Secretary for Foresight, Presidency of the Government
- ✓ Prof. Haris Lambropoulos, A. Professor, University of Patras; ACCI BoD Member & President, UHC Institute

15:30 - 16:00

LUNCH | NETWORKING

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AUDITORIUM

16:00 – 16:15 **DISCUSSION**

- ✓ Pavlos Marinakis, Secretary of Nea Dimokratia
- ✓ Lina Basta, News Director, IONIAN TV

16:15 – 17:25 **SESSION 3**

ESGs and SDGs Based Transition of the Economy

Non-financial parameters with financial value - How environmental and social responsibility, as well as cohesive corporate governance, can improve access to financing, regulatory compliance, and business growth in the era of stakeholders capitalism?

Knowledge Partner: SDSN Europe & Alliance of Excellence for Research & Innovation on Aegean

Moderator

- ✓ Prof. Phoebe Koundouri, AUEB, DTU, ATHENA RC, UN SDSN, President EAERE

Speakers

- ✓ Vassiliki Lazarakou, Chair, Hellenic Capital Market Commission, Member of Bureau, OECD
- ✓ Marianna Nathanail, Head of Office & Institutional Relations Officer for Greece & Cyprus, EIB
- ✓ Dimitris Sakipis, Director, ESG Leader, PwC Greece
- ✓ Sevim Aktas, Policy Officer, DG Climate Action, Unit C.3 – Land Economy & Carbon Removals

17:20 – 17:50 **DISCUSSION**

The changed security environment in Europe and what it means for Greece.

- ✓ Dr. Ernst Reichel, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Hellenic Republic
- ✓ Alexia Tasouli, Diplomatic Correspondent, OPEN TV

17:50 – 18:00 **SESSION 4**

Asymmetries of Regional Growth:

Financial Tools, Institutions & the Relationship between Public & Private sector

Regional development requires coordinated efforts by governments, banks, and private initiative. How can develop innovative funding tools to boost development across regions and critical industries?

Knowledge Partner: E-Kyklos

Moderator

- ✓ Petros Kavasallis, President, E-Kyklos & Professor, University of the Aegean

Speakers

- ✓ Yannis Caloghirou, Professor, Economics of Technology & Industrial Strategy, National Technical University of Athens
- ✓ Alekos Kritikos, Senior Policy Advisor, Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)
- ✓ Giota Gazi, fmr Mayor of Amfissa, Deputy Governor of Phocis

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AUDITORIUM

184:0 – 19:50

SESSION 5

Women Entrepreneurship: Celebrating Success & Overcoming Obstacles

Closing the gap of opportunities - Women are heavily under-represented in entrepreneurship. Based on OECD, women, especially young, have only 60% chances, compared to men, to start a venture. How technology helps us to overcome those systemic obstacles and foster the growth of inclusive entrepreneurship?

Moderator

✓ Stella Kasdagli, Co-Founder, Women On Top

Speakers

✓ Danae Bezantakou, CEO, Navigator Shipping Consultants

✓ Dr Maria Gianniou, Empowerment & Leadership Coach; Corporate Trainer, Lead From Within, Founder, Women Act, Co-founder

✓ Myladie Stoumbou, Regional Director, Innovation & ScaleUps, Central & Eastern Europe, Microsoft

✓ Ioulia Armagou, President, Juliette Armand

✓ Katerina Glava, Consulting, Partner, Deloitte

19:50 – 20:50

SESSION 6

CSR and Sports: How Community Sport Clubs may flourish and boost SDG success

How may CSR Policies boost society and local communities through sports clubs? What is the impact of Sport Clubs in achieving SDGs? Could ESG compliance be more effective through amateur sport clubs and events? Let's recognize synergies and explore innovative tools, initiatives, technics, and the role of Regional Authorities in creating effective synergies and fruitful joined forces. Let's discover new ways of sports clubs financing and see how this can be aligned with the companies' CSR policies and goals. Let's extract how companies may benefit by demonstrating their own commitment to CSR, while also contributing to the local community and promoting positive social and environmental impacts.

Moderator

✓ Konstantinos Lambropoulos, Journalist, PELOPONNISOS Newspaper

Speakers

✓ George Mavrotas - Secretary General of Sport

✓ Dimitris Nikolakopoulos, Deputy Governor, Region of Western Greece

✓ Vaggelis Liolios, President, EOK

✓ Alexandra Palli Giannakopoulos, Vice President CSR HELLAS, MOB Hellenic Olympic Committee

✓ Vasilis Tountopoulos, CEO, MPDO

21:00 - 22:30

NETWORKING | COCKTAIL RECEPTION

DAY 1 - THURSDAY, MARCH 16

ACHAIA

09:00 – 09:30 **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

11:00 – 12:00 **SESSION 7**

The Regional Dimension of Poverty in Greece

In a period of numerous financial changes (2017-2021) how balanced was growth among Greece's regions? Which disadvantages are monitored in specific regions of the country? A discussion based on a latest study conducted by the Regional Policy Monitor

Knowledge Partner: Regional Policy Monitor & Centre of Planning and Economic Research KEPE

Moderator

✓ John Papageorgiou, Journalist, Regional Policy Monitor Director

Speakers

- ✓ Panos Tsakoglou, Deputy Minister of Labor, Professor, AUEB
- ✓ Charalampos Bonanos, Deputy Head of Regional Unit of Achaia, Region of Western Greece
- ✓ Panagiotis Liargovas, Jean Monnet Professor at the University of the Peloponnese
- ✓ Alexandros Karakitsios, Economist, Hellenic Competition Committee, fmr Analyst, Ministry of Finance

12:00 - 13:10 **SESSION 8**

Restoring Citizens' Trust

Restoring citizens' trust is a complex and multifaceted challenge that requires long-term and sustained efforts. However, developing social capital can play an essential role in strengthening citizens' trust in their institutions. By fostering social cohesion, communication and collaboration, accountability, and civic engagement, social capital can help build a more inclusive and democratic society. But what is the situation in the country today? Which institutions are considered trustworthy in Greece? What are the consequences of a lack of trust in society and the economy? What can policymakers and strategists do to strengthen this essential factor of prosperity? What are some best practices?

Moderator

✓ Myron Flouris, Associate Director, Business Development, EY

Speakers

- ✓ Yannis Mastrogeorgiou, Special Secretary for Foresight, Presidency of the Government
- ✓ Thodoris Georgakopoulos, Editorial Director, diaNEOsis
- ✓ Ilias Papaioannou, Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, London Business School (✓)
- ✓ Anastasia Sideri, Communications Executive, Hon. Professor, Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow

DAY 1 - THURSDAY, MARCH 16

ACHAIA

13:10 - 14:10

SESSION 9

The Next Day of Regional Mass Media: The challenge of engaging youth in Mass Media

The active participation of youth in public space requires engagement with trusted media channels, improving the quality of our democracy. How regional media can address regional gaps and contribute to this effort?

Knowledge Partner: Secretariat for Communication & Information

Speakers

- ✓ Dr. Dimitris Galamatis, Secretary General for Communication and Information
- ✓ Theodoros Louloudis, Publisher, PELOPONNISOS Newspaper
- ✓ Nikos Panagiotou, As. Professor, Journalism & Mass Media Communications, University of Thessaloniki

14:10 - 14:25

DISCUSSION

The Role of Cooperative Banks in Local and Regional Economic Development

Cooperative banks support local and regional economies via flexible and affordable financing solutions, as well as critical investments. How can they maximize their footprint in regional development?

- ✓ Ioannis Vougioukas, CEO, Bank of Epirus
- ✓ Efi Barbatsi, Journalist, Alpha TV

14:25 - 15:30

SESSION 10

Local Governance and strategies to deal with energy costs

Knowledge Partner: REGIONAL UNION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF WESTERN GREECE

Moderator

- ✓ Sotiris Papandreou, Journalist, PELOPONISSOS Newspaper

Speakers

- ✓ Athanasios Papadopoulos, President of PEDDE and Mayor of Kalavryta
- ✓ Dimitris Kalogeropoulos, Mayor of Aigialias
- ✓ Andreas Filias, Deputy Head of Finance, Region of Western Greece
- ✓ Haris Doukas, Associate Professor, National Technical University of Athens
- ✓ Vasilis Kasiolas, Manager, Data Consultants
- ✓ Michalis A. Angelopoulos, President of the Scientific Council, Institute of Local Administration (KEDE)

15:30 - 16:00

LUNCH | NETWORKING

DAY 1 - THURSDAY, MARCH 16

ACHAIA

16:00 – 17:10

SESSION 11

Renovate Urban Spaces Using Smart Platforms

Sustainability needs optimisation - How sensors, algorithms, and decentralised intelligence can transform our cities into interconnected platforms of innovation, improving urban resilience, service to the citizens, and cities' finance?

Knowledge Partner: Vodafone

Moderator

✓ Efi Barbatsi, Journalist, Alpha TV

Speakers

- ✓ Dimitris Papastergiou, Mayor of Trikala (v)
- ✓ Dimitris Maravelias, Chair of the BoD, EETAA
- ✓ Theodoros Mparis, Major of Erymanthos
- ✓ Panagiotis Simandirakis, Mayor, Municipality of Chania (v)
- ✓ Athanasios Papadopoulos, President of PEDDE and Mayor of Kalavryta
- ✓ Vagelis Gorilas, Head of Public Sector, Vodafone
- ✓ Yannis Charalabidis, Professor of Digital Governance, University of Aegean (v)

17:10 – 18:10

SESSION 12

Sustainable Urban Development Strategies: The New Era

A sustainable urban development strategy is a tool that Greek cities can take advantage of, in order to develop new infrastructure that will ameliorate everyday life within their limits, as well as actively enhance their social economic and social cohesion. A series of obstacles and malfunctions has occurred during the implementation of these Strategies within the 2014-20 Programming Period. What kind of obstacles did occur and how did the municipalities and managing authorities cope with them? What lessons should be taken into consideration within the 2021-27 Programming Period?

Knowledge Partner: Data Consultants

Moderator

✓ Argyro Tsimpri MBA, Gen. Director, ACHAIA – DEVELOPMENT AGENCY S.A. - Coordinator CLLD/LEADER

Speakers

- ✓ Eugenia Fotoniata, Coordinator of the Economic & Social Analysis Circle EN (v)
- ✓ Glykeria Katifori, Executive Member, Unit A EYDEP/PDE
- Marina Koutsouri, Head of Coordination Unit, EYSEKT
- Dimitris Kalogeropoulos, Mayor, Municipality of Aigialeia

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18:10 - 19:10

SESSION 13

Russia-Ukraine War: The Day After

After 3 years of a global pandemic and almost a year of war in Europe, 75 years after the end of the previous one, the EU has to reorient its narrative and policy priorities, establishing a solid geopolitical identity and addressing geopolitical risks in its neighborhood. Which are the Key priorities of the EU as a Global Actor?

Knowledge Partner: Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)

Moderator

✓ Alexia Tasouli, Diplomatic Correspondent, OPEN TV

Speakers

- ✓ George Pagoulatos, Director General, ELIAMEP | Professor, Athens University of Economics & Business
- ✓ Nicoletta Pirozzi, Institutional Relations Mngr.; Head EU, Politics Institutions Programme, Istituto Affari (v)
- ✓ George Papadimitrakopoulos, Research Associate, Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy
- ✓ Dr. Elena Lazarou, Head, External Policies, European Parliament's Research Service
- ✓ David Sassoon, Chairman of Joseph Sassoon Investment Management LLC

19:10 - 21:00

SESSION 14

Future of Regions: Shaping the development profile of Greece

The role of regions in 2040 - How we shape the future of regional development towards Green, Digital, and Energy transformations? From mega infrastructure projects to renewable energy production and connectivity; tailored to regional needs, solutions are essential to multiply the impact of financing opportunities and shape their future(s) in an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient way.

Moderator

✓ Dimitris Triantafyllopoulos, Editor-in-Chief, PELOPONNISOS Newspaper

Speakers

- ✓ Nektarios Farmakis, Governor of the Region of Western Greece
- ✓ Fanis Spanos, Governor of Central Greece
- ✓ Panayiotis Nikas, Governor of Peloponnese
- ✓ Alexandros Kachrimanis, Governor of Epirus
- ✓ Theodoros Louloudis, Publisher, Peloponnisos Newspaper

21:00 - 22:30

NETWORKING | COCKTAIL RECEPTION

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DAY 2 - FRIDAY, MARCH 17

AUDITORIUM

08:30 – 09:00 **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

09:00 - 10:00 **SESSION 15**

The Potential of Partnership Agreement in the Greek Funding Ecosystem

Investing in cohesive futures - more than €21 billion of investments have been deployed by European Commission, in order to improve Greece's economic, social and territorial cohesion. How can competitive, innovative and export-oriented business models boost the Greek economy?

Moderator

✓ Dimitris Pefanis, Manager, CNN Greece

Speakers

- ✓ Ioannis Tsakiris, Deputy Minister of Development & Investments
- ✓ Nkos Mantzoufas, Governor, Greek Recovery and Resilience Agency
- ✓ Carsten Rasmussen, Head of Unit, Cyprus & Greece, DG REGIO, European Commission
- ✓ Platonas Marlafekas, President, Chamber of Achaia
- ✓ Iakovos Kargarotos, Vice Chairman, PAPASTRATOS SA, affiliate of Philip Morris International

10:20 - 11:20 **SESSION 16**

The Role of Recovery Fund in Regional Development and Interconnection

How can a Government boost and support strategic investments which change Greece in a challenging geopolitical environment with several crises ongoing?

Knowledge Partner: The Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) and Regional Policy Monitor

Moderator

✓ John Papageorgiou, Journalist, Regional Policy Monitor Director

Speakers

- ✓ Theodoros Skylakakis, Alternate Minister of Finance
- ✓ Alexis Charitsis, MP SYRIZA Party, fmr. Minister of Interior
- ✓ Eleni Marianou, Secretary General, CPMR
- ✓ Chris Allen, Greek Desk, European Commission
- ✓ Nikos Vettas, General Director, Foundation for Economic&Industrial Research | Professor, AUEB

DAY 2 - FRIDAY, MARCH 17

AUDITORIUM

11:20 - 12:20

SESSION 17

Regional Growth Integrated Contingency Plans

Coordination and Planning are key factors for the success of regional development efforts. How can achieve a whole society approach to regional development and coordinate all key social stakeholders?

Moderator

✓ Dimitris Pefanis, Manager, CNN Greece

Speakers

✓ George Karagiannis, Deputy Minister of Infrastructure at Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport

✓ Thanasis Kontogeorgis, Secretary General, Coordination-Presidency of the Government, Hellenic

Republic

✓ Dimitris Skalkos, Sec. General, Public Investments & NSRF, Ministry of Development & Investments

✓ Christina Alexopoulou, Member of Parliament Achaia - Civil Engineer

12:20 - 12:30

NETWORKING BREAK | COFFEE

12:30 – 13:40

SESSION 18

Cohesion Policy 5.0: The Road Ahead

Cohesion policy remains the main European policy tool for addressing territorial disparities and promoting a balanced and sustainable development for European regions. In a rapidly changing environment, which are the main issues, priorities and challenges for the post-2027 programming period? What role for Greece in this new era?»

Moderator

✓ John Papageorgiou, General Manager, Regional Policy Monitor

Speakers

✓ Dimitris Skalkos, Sec. General, Public Investments & NSRF, Ministry of Development & Investments

✓ George Yannoussis, f. General Secretary of Public Investments and NSRF,

Former Head of Department in DG REGIO, European Commission

✓ Panagiotis Korkolis, fmr General Secretary for Public Investment Budget & EU Structural Funds

✓ Alekos Kritikos, Senior Policy Advisor, Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)

✓ George Petrakos, Professor, Department of Planning & Regional Development, University of Thessaly

13:40 – 14:30

SESSION 19

The Future of Food and the Role of the Agricultural Sector in Food Resilience

Preventing food crises via sustainable and smart agriculture - How financing tools, innovation, and development of sustainable value chains' design can contribute to food resilience and sustainable development.

Moderator

✓ Gogo Katseli, Journalist, ERT and Eleftheros Typos

Speakers

✓ Giorgos Stylios, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Rural Development & Food

✓ Alessandra de Seneen, Secretary General, INSOR & Partner BAICR cultura della Relazione

✓ Christos Tsantilas, Senior Researcher, ELGO DEMETER & Scientific Associate, ENA

✓ Effie Lazaridou, Chief Executive Officer, New Agriculture New Generation

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✓ Nikolaos Paulonassios, President, Panhellenic Association of Young Farmers

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AUDITORIUM

14:30 – 15:30

SESSION 20*

The European Vision for resilient Rural Areas. Building bridges between rural territories and cities.

The long-term Vision for the EU's rural areas aims to improve rural quality of life, achieve balanced territorial development and stimulate economic growth. The policies of the European Union support integrated spatial development and in particular, integrated Community Led Local Development (CLLD/LEADER), as an important tool in reducing inequalities that have the characteristic of geographical dispersion, because they contribute targeting to solve local problems, through the use of appropriate development tools. The main characteristic of Local development strategies is the 'bottom-up' approach, thus creating the conditions for a close, continuous, and multi-level cooperation between many and powerful actors at local level, such as elected officials, local administration, business representatives and civil society. These policies basically aim at the joint management of natural resources, strengthening economic interconnections, creating networks at various levels, developing common infrastructures, and promoting innovative, smart and green policies.

Knowledge Partner: ACHAIA-DEVELOPMENT AGENCY S.A.

**Session implemented by ACHAIA-DEVELOPMENT AGENCY S.A., within CLLD/LEADER 2014-2020 Programme.*

Moderator

✓ Argyro Tsimpri MBA, Gen. Director, ACHAIA – DEVELOPMENT AGENCY S.A. - Coordinator CLLD/LEADER

Speakers

- ✓ Giorgos Stylios, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Rural Development & Food
- ✓ Fokion Zaimis, Deputy Governor of Entrepreneurship Research & Innovation Region of Western Greece
- ✓ Maria Partalidou, Associate Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- ✓ Athanasios Petropoulos, Representative, Geotechnical Chamber of Greece/Department of Peloponnisos & Western Greece

15:30 - 16:00

LUNCH | NETWORKING

16:00 – 16:30

DISCUSSION

Rebranding Greece

Greece

- ✓ Dimitris Avramopoulos, fmr European Commissioner, Migration & Home Affairs | Foreign Minister of Greece
- ✓ George Evgenidis, Anchor Star Channel/ Journalist Proto Thema

16:30 – 17:20

SESSION 21

The Green Transition as a Prerequisite of Sustainable Growth

Providing innovative financial solutions to niche and local needs - How Banks can develop innovative financial products covering both time-sensitive needs and long-term strategic development plans of SMEs, Infrastructure Projects, and digital transformation?

Moderator

✓ George Papakonstantinou, Journalist, ACTION 24 & liberal.gr

Speakers

- ✓ Prof. Konstantinos Aravossis, Secretary General for Forestry, Greek Ministry of Environment and Energy
- ✓ Lampros Dimitrogiannis, Deputy Regional Governor Western
- ✓ Ioli Christopoulou, Partner & Policy Director, The Green Tank
- ✓ Stathis Stathopoulos, Chairman BoD, Green Fund

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- ✓ Susanne M. Nielsen, Human Capital Development & Green Skills, European Training Foundation
- ✓ Aggelos Sotiropoulos, Scientific Associate ENA (✓)

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AUDITORIUM

17:20 – 17:50

PRESENTATION

Learning From the Failures of Digital Transformation

Speaker

- ✓ Glyn Evans, Vice President & Development Director, Majorcities
- ✓ Elias Palialexis, Journalist, Athens New Agency

17:50 – 18:50

SESSION 22

Local-sensitive Health System Reform: The Case of Greece

Rationalisation of the Health System in a local-sensitive way - How can reforms of the National Health System address regional inequalities and optimize the healthcare services provided to the citizens in the Post-Covid-era.

Moderator

- ✓ Marina Rizogianni, Journalist, PELOPONNISOS Newspaper

Speakers

- ✓ Mina Gaga, Alternate Minister of Health, Hellenic Republic
- ✓ Yiannis Karvelis, Administrator, 6th Health Region Peloponnese, Ionian Islands, Epirus & Wes. GR

18:50 - 19:00

NETWORKING BREAK | COFFEE

19:00 – 20:00

SESSION 23

Unlocking the hidden Value: A Circular Solid Waste Management Model

From Waste Management to Up-cycling - How innovative management solutions can transform the management of solid waste from energy and money-consuming into a value-adding circular process while protecting regional environmental ecosystems?

Moderator

- ✓ Elias Palialexis, Journalist, Athens New Agency

Speakers

- ✓ Manolis Grafakos, General Secretary for Waste Management Coordination
- ✓ Grigoris Alexopoulos, President, Regional Association of Solid Management Agencies of Achaia
- ✓ George Kremlis, Principal Advisor to the PM for Energy, Climate, Environment & Circular Economy
- ✓ Dr. Dionysia-Theodora Avgerinopoulou, Member, Hellenic Parliament
- ✓ Charalabos Charalabidis, Investments & Business Development Manager, TERNA ENERGY
- ✓ Dionysios Georgopoulos, President & CEO, MESOGEOS S.A.,

20:00

END OF DAY 2

DAY 2 - FRIDAY, MARCH 17

ACHAIA

08:30 – 08:45 **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

08:45 – 09:40 **SESSION 24**

Renewable Energy: Increasing Energy Security in a Sustainable way

Strategic investments towards climate resilience - How strategic investors can contribute to the green transition of the Greek economy art while developing local partnerships, generating, and diffusing value to local communities?

Knowledge Partner: Europe Direct Region of Western Greece

Moderator

✓ Konstantinos Sfetsioris, Senior Project Manager, Hellenic Association for Energy Economics (HAEE)

Speakers

- ✓ Alexandra Sdoukou, General Secretary for Energy and Minerals Resources
- ✓ Yannis Yiarentis, Chairman BoD & CEO, DAPPEP
- ✓ Georgios Rokas, Chairman & CEO, R Energy1
- ✓ Loukas Lazarakis, Head, Energy Intrakat
- ✓ Anastasios Tosios, Deputy Chief Exec. Director, Athens Water Supply and Sewerage Company (EYDAP)
- ✓ Prof. Dr. Kostas Andriosopoulos, Country Manager, Akuo Energy Greece
- ✓ Spyros J. Kiartzis, Manager New Technologies & Alternative Energy Sources, HELLENiQ ENERGY

09:40 – 10:10 **SESSION 25**

How new investments in hydrocarbons can ensure Europe's energy sufficiency

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has demonstrated that Europe's energy security must depend on the energy production of its member states. Is it now imperative to exploit hydrocarbons to balance the energy mix, ensuring at the same time energy sufficiency in Greece and Europe

Moderator

✓ Konstantinos Sfetsioris, Senior Project Manager, Hellenic Association for Energy Economics (HAEE)

Speakers

- ✓ Aristofanis Stefatos, CEO, Hellenic Hydrocarbon Resources Management
- ✓ Tassos Vlassopoulos, CEO, HELPE UPSTREAM S.A., HELLENiQ ENERGY.
- ✓ Ioannis Chomatas, Asset Development Division Director, DESFA

10:10 – 11:10 **SESSION 26**

Access to safe, effective and affordable medicines

Addressing emerging challenges in the pharmaceutical sector - How innovative policy solutions can address equal access to pharmaceutical therapies while generating space for investments in Greece and knowledge-transferring from Universities and Research Institutes?

Moderator

✓ Vasiliki Angouridi, Managing Director, News4Health

Speakers

- ✓ Athanasios Plevris, Minister of Health, Hellenic Republic
- ✓ Theodoros Skylakakis, Alternate Minister of Finance
- ✓ Olympios Papadimitriou, President, Hellenic Association of Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Theodoros Tryfon, VP, ELPEN Pharmaceutical | CO-CEO, ELPEN Group. Elpen Pharmaceutical Co Inc

DAY 2 - FRIDAY, MARCH 17

ACHAIA

11:10 – 12:20

SESSION 27

Upgrading the Greek Tourism Product in a Sustainable Way

Strategizing the future of hospitality in the Post-covid era - How sustainable investments can upgrade the Greek tourism product, leading to regional sustainable development?

Moderator

✓ Elias Palialexis, Journalist, Athens New Agency

Speakers

- ✓ Spilios Livanos, Head of the Delegation, NATO Parliamentary Assembly
- ✓ Andreas Filias, Deputy Head of Finance, Region of Western Greece
- ✓ Alexandros Angelopoulos, CEO, Aldemar
- ✓ Dr. Evangelos Bekiaris, Director, Hellenic Institute of Transport, Centre for Research and Technology Hellas
- ✓ Elsa Exarhou, CEO, Branding Greece
- ✓ Katerina Saridaki, Director, Capsule T Accelerator
- ✓ Aggeliki Mitropoulou, Team Coordinator for Tourism, ENA Institute

12:20 – 12:45

DISCUSSION

Cultural and Creative Industries as Key Drivers of the Economy and Regional Growth

- ✓ Lina Mendoni, Minister of Culture and Sports of Greece
- ✓ Aimilios Perdikaris, Chairman, General Manager, Athens Macedonian News Agency

12:45 – 13:55

SESSION 28

Interventions in higher education through the European Social Fund in Greece, new strategies & plans for the future

The Greek universities have suffered a series of budget cutoffs since the beginning of the Greek the economic crisis. On the other hand, a wide range of funding opportunities are available in terms of the new Programming Period. How can the Greek academia take advantage of the available funds? What areas do they need to focus on, in order to achieve added-value results? How can the available funding tools enhance knowledge and research transfer between Greek and foreign universities?

Opening Remarks

✓ Niki Kerameus, Minister of Education and Religious Affairs, Hellenic Republic **(video message)**

Moderator

✓ Tasos Theodosis, Journalist, IONIAN TV

Speakers

- ✓ Odysseas Zoras, Secretary of Education
- ✓ Niki Dandolou, Special Secretary for EU/ESF Programmes, Ministry of Development
- ✓ Christos Bouras, Rector, University of Patras
- ✓ Ioannis Kalavrouziotis, President, Hellenic Open University
- ✓ Athanasios Katsis, Professor, Rector, University of Peloponnese

Conference program updated March 12

DAY 2 - FRIDAY, MARCH 17

ACHAIA

- 13:55 – 14:10 **DISCUSSION**
- ✓ Michael Katrinis, Head of Parliamentary Group - "PASOK" - MP of Iliia District
 - ✓ Fotis Kalyvas, Journalist, GNOMI

- 14:10 – 15:00 **SESSION 29**
- "How's life in Greece? A discussion based on ENA's social survey"**
- ENA's social survey sheds light on living standards, well-being & quality of life in Greece in the aftermath of three consecutive crises (economic -2010, pandemic -2020, energy & inflation 2022) | Life satisfaction, income inequalities, housing costs & health conditions are considered through individuals' evaluation | Policy experts exchange views on the survey's results & discuss on respective policy proposals.

Knowledge Partner:: ENA Institute for Alternative Policies

Moderator

- ✓ Panagiotis Skevofylax, Managing Director, ENA Institute

Speakers

- ✓ Vasilis Delis, Policy Advisor to the Vice President, European Parliament
- ✓ Eirini Akrivi Ntai, Co-ordinator, Social Analysis Unit, ENA Institute
- ✓ Panos Korfiatis, Actuarial operations analyst at Zurich Ireland (✓)
- ✓ Vasilis Zacharopoulos, Health Expert

- 15:00 - 15:30 **LUNCH | NETWORKING**

- 15:30 – 16:30 **SESSION 30**
- New Roads in Regional Development**
- Connecting the dots of sustainable growth - How we can design and upgrade the traffic infrastructure of Greece, utilizing innovative financial products, in order to increase safety, minimize costs, and unlock development opportunities?

Moderator

- ✓ Vaggelis Giakoumis, Journalist, ALPHA TV

Speakers

- ✓ George Karagiannis, Deputy Minister of Infrastructure at Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport
- ✓ Christos Spirtzis, Minister of Infrastructure and Transport 2015 - 2019
- ✓ Panos Loukas, CEO, GEFYRA SA
- ✓ Athanasios Mavrommatis, Vice Governor, Region of Western Greece

- 16:30 – 16:40 **IN DISCUSSION**
- Nea Odos: Sustainability in Motorways**
- ✓ Rodianos Antonakopoulos, CEO, Nea Odos & Kentriki Odos
 - ✓ Vaggelis Giakoumis, Journalist, ALPHA TV

- 16:40 – 16:50 **IN DISCUSSION**
- Olympia Odos as a Concession Project: Positive mobility and challenges**
- ✓ Panayotis Papanikolas, Chairman & CEO, Olympia Odos
 - ✓ Elias Palialexis, Journalist, Athens New Agency

DAY 2 - FRIDAY, MARCH 17

ACHAIA

16:50 - 17:40

SESSION 31

Blue Gates: The Role of Ports in Prosperity

Towards a cohesive ports policy - How technology solutions can upgrade the contribution of Ports in regional development, minimizing times, costs, and energy footprint?

Moderator

✓ Effi Boni, Marketing & Communication Manager, NAFTEMPORIKI

Speakers

✓ Nektarios Demenopoulos, PR – IR Deputy Manager, PIRAEUS PORT AUTHORITY S.A., (✓)

✓ Dimitris Iatrides, Executive Director, Hellenic Ports Association

✓ Panagiotis Tsonis, CEO, Patras Port Authority

17:40 - 17:50

NETWORKING BREAK | COFFEE

18:00 - 19:00

SESSION 32

Digital challenges and opportunities in the cultural sector

In this panel we will discuss the prospects of technology in the cultural sector and how these can become a generator for growth, inclusion and development in a regional and national level.

Knowledge Partner: The Friends of Music Society

Moderator

✓ Alexandros Charkiolakis, Director, The Friends of Music Society

Speakers

✓ Leonidas Christopoulos, Gen. Secretary, Digital Governance & Procedures, Ministry Digital Governance

✓ Eleni Doundoulaki, Secretary General of Contemporary Culture

✓ Thalia Tsalkitzi, Culture Department Manager, Unisystems

✓ Agiatis Benardou, Director, Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities

DAY 2 - FRIDAY, MARCH 17

ACHAIA

19:00 - 20:00

SESSION 33

Blue Economy: Designing a Holistic Policy Approach on Mediterranean Mega-Region

The exploitation, preservation and regeneration of marine ecosystems is a critical policy priority for Greece, a leader in tourism, shipping, and other activities, which makes the Greek economy totally interdependent on the marine ecosystem, How can we address the climate crisis and adapt our policies and business practices towards a resilient Mediterranean?

Moderator

✓ Theodora Tsokou, Manager, Data Consultants

Speakers

- ✓ Nikolaos Komineas, Mayor of Astypalaia
- ✓ Angeliki Kosmopoulou, Executive Director, Athanasios C. Laskaridis Charitable Foundation
- ✓ Ioannis Psycharis, Professor Regional Science, Panteion University
- ✓ George Papatheodorou, Professor, University of Patras
- ✓ Georgios Pappas, President, Economic Chamber of Northwestern Peloponnese and Western Greece

20:00 - 20:50

SESSION 34

Spatial Planning and Local Development in the Prefecture of Ilia

An integrated and strategic approach to the spatial planning of Ilia is needed for its sustainable development within the next decade. How can balance agriculture, tourism, and quality of life via innovative regional planning solutions?

Moderator

✓ Petros Gkistis, Journalist, PELOPONNISSOS Newspaper

Speakers

- ✓ Euthimios Mpakogiannis, Secretary General of Spatial Planning and Urban Environment
- ✓ Vasilis Giannopoulos, Deputy Governor, Region of Western Greece
- ✓ Andreas Nikolakopoulos, Member, Hellenic Parliament
- ✓ Konstantinos Nikoloutsos, President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- ✓ Evi Vergopoulou, Secretary General, Chamber of Economy, Region of Western Greece

20:50

END OF DAY 2

Conference program updated March 12

DAY 3 - SATURDAY, MARCH 18

AUDITORIUM

08:30 – 09:00 **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION | COFFEE**

09:00 – 10:00 **SESSION 35**
European Union in the Region of Western Greece

Knowledge Partners: European Parliament's Liaison Office in Greece
Representation of the European Commission in Greece
Europe Direct Region of Western Greece
Regional Policy Monitor

Moderator

✓ John Papageorgiou, Journalist, Regional Policy Monitor Director

Introductory comments

✓ Constantinos Tsoutsoplides, Head of Liaison Office in Greece, European Parliament
✓ Eleni Paleologou, Deputy Head of the Representation of the European Commission in Greece

Speakers

✓ Nektarios Farmakis, Governor of Western Greece
✓ Patrick Paquet, Head of Unit Responsible for Greece and Cyprus, DG EMPL

10:00 – 11:50 **EU YOUTH HUB WORKSHOP**

Artificial Intelligence & Societal Digitalization: Great Expectations & Challenges to Social Justice

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and rapid technological progress are revolutionizing all aspects of modern society, generating opportunities and expectations of societal betterment but also raising significant challenges to social justice regarding the just transition to a digitalized world. How are our socio-economic and political interactions affected by such a transition? How can we accelerate the transition while entertaining at the same time the concerns of those population strata that fear of being left behind? These are critical issues that transcend borders and need to be tackled at the European, not to say global, level of policymaking. The panel will discuss the features and impact of digitalization on European society as well as the EU effort to regulate it.

Knowledge Partners: European Parliament's Liaison Office in Greece
Representation of the European Commission in Greece
Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)
Europe Direct Region of Western Greece
Regional Policy Monitor

Moderator

✓ Kostas Giannakidis, Journalist, Protagon.gr

Speakers

✓ Stelios Kymbouropoulos, Member, European Parliament
✓ Vassileios Velkos, Co-Founder, Code.Hub

DAY 3 - SATURDAY, MARCH 18

AUDITORIUM

11:50 – 12:45

SESSION 36

Artificial Intelligence and Democracy

Artificial intelligence (AI) is already radically transforming societal interactions, including political ones. The panel will explore the dynamic interplay between AI and democracy, considering the following topics. Can AI reshape democratic systems and to what direction? Can AI increase transparency in governmental decision-making and enhance the effectiveness, legitimacy and accountability of our political systems? What impact will AI have on civic engagement and political participation? How can democracies strike a balance between AI effectiveness and ethical concerns?

Knowledge Partner: Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP)
Europe Direct Region of Western Greece

Moderator

✓ Spyros Blavoukos, Associate Professor, International & European Economic Studies,
Athens University of Economics & Business

Speakers

✓ Yannis Caloghirou, Professor, Economics of Technology & Industrial Strategy,
National Technical University of Athens

✓ Nikolaos Avouris, Professor of Software technology & Human-Computer Interaction, University of Patras.

✓ Dimitris Dimitriadis, Chief Innovation Officer, The Future Cats

12:45 – 13:00

DISCUSSION

Education as a Factor for Growth

✓ Leonidas Koskos, President, Hellenic American University

✓ Elias PaliAlexis, Journalist, Athens New Agency

13:00 – 13:30

NETWORKING BREAK | LIGHT LUNCH

13:30 – 14:40

SESSION 37

Youth Empowerment and Employment

How the Greek Government can utilize EU funds and frameworks, supporting the upskilling and reskilling efforts of Greek Industry, in order to disrupt opportunities inequalities and skilling gaps, with a particular focus on youth human capital empowerment and unemployment reduction strategies.

Knowledge Partner: Special Secretariat for EU/ESF Programmes, Ministry of Development

Moderator

✓ Nikos Ypofantis, Journalist, Action 24

Speakers

✓ Patrick Paquet, Head of Unit Responsible for Greece and Cyprus, DG EMPL

✓ George Karachalios, Deputy Governor, Greek Public Employment Service (DYPA)

✓ Niki Dandolou, Special Secretary for EU/ESF Programmes, Ministry of Development

✓ Eleni Gioti, Secretary General for Employment Development, Ministry of Employment

✓ Savvas Papadopoulos, Project Manager, ELIAMEP; Co-coordinator, EU Youth Hub

✓ Marios Zafeiropoulos, PhD Candidate of Ancient Greek Literature and Philosophy, University of Patras

DAY 3 - SATURDAY, MARCH 18

AUDITORIUM

14:40 – 15:40

SESSION 38

Re-Skilling and Up-Skilling

Competitiveness of human capital - How can increase & sustain our human capital's competitiveness in mission-critical skill for the 4th Industrial Revolution and the future industry change?

Knowledge Partner: Europe Direct Region of Western Greece

Moderator

✓ George Taramas, Manager, Data Consultants

Speakers

- ✓ Dimitris Vergados, Director, Public & Media Communication, Hellenic Federation of Enterprises
- ✓ Dr Loukas Zacheilas, Cedefop, Head of Department for VET and Qualifications
- ✓ Nikitas Georgiadis, Sales Account Manager, CISCO
- ✓ Kostis Katsanevas, Founder, Careergate
- ✓ Argiris Tzikopoulos, CEO, Junior Achievement Greece

15:40 – 16:50

SESSION 39

Entrepreneurship Culture in Higher Education: are market sectors looking for that in the Universities?

Knowledge Partner: University of Peloponnese

Moderator

✓ Spiros Sirmakessis, Professor, University of the Peloponnese

Speakers

- ✓ Athanasios Katsis, Professor, Rector, University of Peloponnese
- ✓ Harry Arapantzis, Account Executive, Huawei Technologies
- ✓ Eleni Drakopoulou, Human Resources Director, Athenian Brewery (Heineken Group)
- ✓ Nikitas Georgiadis, Sales Account Manager, CISCO
- ✓ Stelios Mantas, Principal, Deloitte
- ✓ Konstantinos Takos, Director, Head of People & Change Consulting, PwC Greece

DAY 3 - SATURDAY, MARCH 18

AUDITORIUM

16:50 – 17:40

SESSION 40

Industry 4.0: A new era for Industrial Property Rights

Technologies of Industry 4.0 lead the digital transformation. Patents have a key role in creating innovative products & services that reach the market successfully. HIPO will present its strategy and achievements. The discussion will focus on Industry 4.0 and patents.

Knowledge partner: Industrial Systems Institute, Athena RC

Moderator

✓ Chrysostomos Stylios, Director, Industrial Systems Institute, Athena RC

Speakers

✓ Dimitris Chronis, President Hellenic Industrial Property Organization (HIPO)

✓ Panagiotis Kanelopoulos, General Director, Hellenic Industrial Property Organization

✓ Dr Lampros A. Pyrgiotis, Hellenic Industrial Property Organization (HIPO),

Member of the Administrative Council as Representative of the Technical Chamber of Greece

✓ Maria Xiga, Computer Technology Institute & Press “Diophantos”

✓ Kleomenis Mparlos, President of Association of enterprises of Peloponnese and Western Greece

17:40

END OF CONFERENCE

DAY 3 - SATURDAY, MARCH 18

ACHAIA HALL

08:30 – 09:00 **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION | COFFEE**

09:00 - 09:50 **SESSION 41**

Decentralization of Innovation and Technology Transfer to Regions

In the era of the knowledge economy and exponential innovation, which is the role of government, industry, and academia in the growth of an open-ended knowledge transfer and start-up ecosystem adapted to regional needs?

Moderator

✓ Giouli Iliopoulou, Editor-in-Chief, PATRIDA Newspaper

Speakers

- ✓ Aggelos Fragkakis Major of Chalki Municipality of Chalki (v)
- ✓ Charalambos Chrisomalidis, Member of the Advisory Board , ENA Institute
- ✓ Katerina Pramataris, Founding partner, Uni.Fund
- ✓ Spiros Sirmakessis, Professor, University of the Peloponnese

09:50 - 10:00 **DISCUSSION**

Planning for Post Disaster Recovery: Challenges and Strategies

✓ Elisabeth Preza, Professor, University of Thessaly

10:00 - 10:50 **SESSION 42**

Cybersecurity as development booster: Safeguarding your business-critical functions

Cybersecurity is one of the key strategic priorities for both the Recovery and Resilience Facility and other major funds. Cyber threats and attacks pose significant risks to business continuity. How can SMEs and Regional Government authorities safeguard their data and mission-critical systems efficiently?

Moderator

✓ Nikos Moullos, Research Associate, Hoover Institution, Stanford University

Speakers

- ✓ Thomas Dompridis, Head, General Directorate of Cyber Security, Ministry of Digital Government
- ✓ Marios Katsis, Member, Hellenic Parliament
- ✓ Panagiotis Papadopoulos, Deputy Governor Administration & e-Government, Region of Western Greece
- ✓ Dimitris Tsaksiras, CyberSecurity Solutions Consultant, Networking Solutions, Space Hellas

10:50 - 11:20 **DISCUSSION**

Greece Today

- ✓ Christos Chomenidis, Writer
- ✓ Konstantinos Magnis, Editor in Chief, Peloponnissos Newspaper

DAY 3 - SATURDAY, MARCH 18

ACHAIA HALL

11:20 - 12:10

SESSION 43

Regional Media 2030: A Decade of Challenges

Regional mass media have performed throughout their history a key and irreplaceable role in almost all areas of public life in the region of the country. The question is how can they prolong their dynamic presence to a prosperous future? How will they respond to the present and future challenges, the unfavorable economic environment, the technological restructural changes, the changes in the modus of keeping updated of readers-listeners-viewers? What changes should they dare in their business models, in their importance for their survival in true essence.

Moderator

✓ Tryfon Daras, Legal Adviser, Union of Regional News Television in Greece & Regional Press Association

Speakers

- ✓ Antonis Dimitriou, President, Union of Regional News Television in Greece
- ✓ Georgios Michalopoulos, President, Regional Press Association
- ✓ Antonis Grigoropoulos, President, Regional Broadcast Union of Greece
- ✓ Sotiris Triantafyllou, President, Panhellenic Federation of Journalist's Unions

12:10 - 13:10

SESSION 44

Environmental governance for integrated management and socio-economic prosperity

Governance encompasses a wider, more inclusive, and extensive set of perspectives on the study of institutional arrangements compared to the traditional governing or government. We focus on environmental policy practices related to concrete actions, for example, in agriculture, biodiversity and nature management, land-use management for human well-being. Setting targets and objectives of policies, selecting instruments based on a correct conceptualization of human behavior is full of potential pitfalls. These "disruptions" may be seen as types of governance failures or governance risks that pose risks to sustainably managing ecosystems and their services.

Knowledge Partner: University of Patras

Moderator

✓ Natasa Tragousti, Journalist, IONIAN TV

Speakers

- ✓ Panayotis Dimopoulos, Professor, Vice Rector, Research & Development, University of Patras
- ✓ Haris Doukas, Associate Professor, National Technical University of Athens
- ✓ Dr. George Papatheodorou, Professor, Department of Geology, University of Patras
- ✓ Theodota Nantsou, Head of Policy, WWF Greece

13:10 – 13:20

NETWORKING BREAK | LIGHT LUNCH

13:20 - 13:35

DISCUSSION

✓ Nektarios Demenopoulos, PR – IR Deputy Manager, PIRAEUS PORT AUTHORITY S.A.

13:35 - 13:50

DISCUSSION

Greek Diaspora

- ✓ Andreas Katsaniotis, Deputy Minister for Diaspora Greeks
- ✓ Michalis Vasilakis, Director, ERT Patras

DAY 3 - SATURDAY, MARCH 18

ACHAIA HALL

13:50 - 14:05

DISCUSSION

Building bridges: Energy infrastructure projects in the Mediterranean.

- ✓ George Kremlis, Principal Advisor to the PM for Energy, Climate, Environment & Circular Economy
- ✓ Basil Gavalas, Head of international relations, DIKTIO Network for Reform in Greece and Europe

14:05 - 15:15

SESSION 45

Tackling the challenges of Climate Crisis on Potable Water

Water leakage is acknowledged as one of the most important issues that drinking water supply systems are facing worldwide. Non-Revenue Water (NRW) (most of which is water leakage) is estimated to 346 million m³ per day and its cost/value is estimated to 39 billion USD per year. Climate Crisis makes the problem even bigger, as the Water amounts needed especially in Summer Months grow every year. Municipalities that face those problems, work alongside Large Companies and Universities, and develop Decision Control and Support systems for leakage detection and optimal management of water supply systems in an automated manner.

Knowledge Partner: Laboratory of Climatology and Atmospheric Environment (LACAE)

Moderator

- ✓ Angelos Chasiotis, Researcher - PhD Candidate on UoA for Climate Change Effects on Potable Water

Speakers

- ✓ Christos Stylianides, Minister for Climate Crisis and Civil Protection **(video message)**
- ✓ Spyros Milonas, Major of West Achaia, Municipality of West Achaia
- ✓ George Kremlis, Principal Advisor to the PM for Energy, Climate, Environment & Circular Economy
- ✓ Dr. Panagiotis Nastos, Professor & Director, Laboratory of Climatology and Atmospheric Environment, UoA
- ✓ Panagiotis Nikolopoulos, Technical Director, Municipal Water Supply, Aigialeia
- ✓ Ioannis Kachrimanis, General Director, Municipal Water Supply, Argos
- ✓ Elissavet Feloni, Geologist, Hydrologist, GIS Specialist

15:15- 15:50

SESSION 46

Innovation and Reforms in the Public Sector: A Future-Oriented Approach

Moderator

- ✓ Giorgos Mikelopoulos, Newspaper PATRIDA

Speakers

- ✓ Konstantinos Agraphidas, Head, Directorate General, Labour Relation, Health, Safety & Labour Integration
- ✓ Dimitris Panopoulos, Head Labour Market Policy Analysis, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
- ✓ Evi Dramaliofi, President National Centre of Public Administration & Local Governance **(v)**

DAY 3 - SATURDAY, MARCH 18

ACHAIA HALL

15:50 - 16:50

SESSION 47

New Regulation “Greek Agricultural Insurance Organisation” (ELGA)

The political Leadership of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food and the Administration of the Hellenic Agricultural Insurance Organization have agreed to ensure the financial robustness of the Organization, aiming at the creation of a strong Agricultural Insurance Agency whose finances allow the fulfillment of its obligations despite the heavy damages caused by the extreme weather phenomena. The extreme weather phenomena which are a consequence of the climate crisis cause severe damage to cultivations of plant and animal life, resulting in expenses for compensation for damages which are covered by the ELGA Regulation, to exceed by a long shot from the income from the special insurance levy. It is necessary to find new resources to ensure the financial stability of ELGA both at the level of the current Regulation and in the future with a new Regulation which will include compensations for new risks and new threats. Reformation of the administrative structure and operation is required by ELGA, aiming at reinforcing the effectiveness of the Organization. The digital transformation of the Organization will strengthen the relationship between producers and Organization and will significantly reduce the period between personalized assessments and payment of compensations.

Knowledge Partner: Entrepreneurship Research & Innovation Region of Western Greece

Moderator

✓ Fokion Zaimis, Deputy Governor of Entrepreneurship Research & Innovation Region of Western Greece

Speakers

- ✓ Christos Giannakakis, Vice President, National Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Greece, ETHEAS
- ✓ Andreas Lykoyrentzos, Chairman, Hellenic Agricultural Insurance Organization, ELGA
- ✓ Dimitris Vasiliadis, FHAS - Director, Financial Services Advisory, PwC
- ✓ Eleni Chatzi, Supervisor Center of Meteorological Applications, KEME ELGA

Conference program updated March 12

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES | PARALLEL PROGRAM

DAY 1 THURSDAY, MARCH 16 | 13.30 -15.00 *Closed event

POP2SEE SMART CLASS

organized by the *Regional Observatory for Social Inclusion of the Region of Western Greece - Mechanis of Social Policy.

- o Team presentation (how they started, what they did along the way and what they finally built)
- o Presentation of their Project: this very project competed in the World Robot Olympiad 2022
- o Demo with a visually impaired person
- o Next steps' presentation
- o Discussion

Pop2See Smart Class, a system of devices that helps in the integration of blind students into General Schools.

A robotics team from Greece that envisions a better world for all.

Their journey started back in July 2021, when they started researching about blind students and their daily school life.

By combining their research with robotics, they decided to develop a solution, called Pop2See Smart Class that will allow blind students to attend the General School Curriculum, with or without parallel support.

Pop2See Smart Class' vision is to offer them the right to choose, as lack of sight should not limit a person's mind or personal development.

Pop2See team won 1st place in the Greek qualifiers and, together with one more team, they represented Greece in the World Robot Olympiad 2022, in November in Dortmund, in Germany.

For more information: <https://www.pop2see.com/>

**The Observatory is the regional point of reference for the Region of Western Greece with the aim of improving the effectiveness of social integration actions and the fight against poverty, discrimination and social exclusion. The ultimate goal is the formulation and implementation of specific relief policies, but also the strengthening of social cohesion and solidarity.*

At the same time, it will contribute to supplying the National Mechanism for Social Integration with data and elements for the targeted implementation of pilot (in a spatial or thematic field) innovative interventions for social cohesion in the Region as well as in the planning and implementation of immediate intervention actions in cases of emergency.

For more information: <https://socialpolicy-pde.gr/>

DAY 2 FRIDAY, MARCH 17 | 17.00 -20.00 *Closed event

UNION OF HELLENIC CHAMBERS

DAY 3 SATURDAY, MARCH 18 | 12.00 -14.00 *Closed event

SEMINAR FOR THE JOURNALISTS OF THE REGION OF WESTERN GREECE

organized by the European Parliament's Liaison Office in Greece and the Representation of the European Commission in Greece

“Topics and tools of the EU reportage”

Introductory Remarks

✓ Constantinos Tsoutsoplides, Head of Liaison Office in Greece, European Parliament

✓ John Papageorgiou, Journalist, Regional Policy Monitor Director

✓ Anna Efstathiou, Press Officer, Liaison Office in Greece, European Parliament

✓ Ioannis Sakiotis, Team leader, Political reporting & media, Representation of the European Commission in Greece

THURSDAY, MARCH 16 - SATURDAY, MARCH 18 *Closed event

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES - EDU ACTS

**In cooperation with the University of Patras and the University of Peloponnese*

Convinced that youth is the most dynamic part of our society, the Regional Growth Conference enables dozens of young people to take part in the RGC experience by participating in the largest event on Regional Development.

For this year's annual conference, the RGC 2023, which will take place from March 16-18 in Patras at the Conference and Cultural Centre of the University of Patras, will collaborate with the University of Patras and the University of Peloponnese and will be offering free educational activities aimed at undergraduate and postgraduate students.

More specifically, every year the RGC, together with the University of Patras, organizes a three-day Workshop. The topic of this year's Workshop is "TBA", and it has been designed to offer an interdisciplinary approach to the above topic through lectures, presentations, group works and on-site visits to relative local businesses and organizations to offer to the students combined theoretical and empirical knowledge.

Furthermore, for its 4th consecutive year of cooperation with the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of the University of the Peloponnese, the RGC will be organizing a Spring School, which will take an in-depth look at "TBA".

Apart from participating in educational activities, at the RGC 2023 students have the opportunity to meet important personalities from Greece and abroad, and attend keynote speeches, sessions and interviews.

RGC 2023 continues to innovate, embracing new trends in science and collaborating with the country's universities. Over the three days of the Conference, the participating students will have the opportunity to deepen their knowledge on various scientific fields and draw on the know-how of the participating professors and researchers from the Universities of Patras and the Peloponnese.

Conference program updated March 12

SPRING WORKSHOP BY THE UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS

- DAY 1** **THURSDAY, MARCH 16**
- 10:00 – 10:45** **Smart agriculture and natural environment**
Panayotis Dimopoulos, Professor, Vice Rector for Research and Development, University of Patras
- 11:00 – 11:45** **Western Greece Soil Laboratory: An example of good practice in creating innovation, cooperation & regional development**
Pantelis Barouchas, Associate Professor, University of Patras
- 12:00 – 12:45** **Cutting edge technologies for intelligent greenhouse systems – Green energy applications**
Angeliki Kavga, Associate Professor, University of Patras
- 13:00 – 13:45** **Geoinformatics and smart agriculture: From theory to practice**
Nikos Koutsias, Professor, University of Patras – Anastasios Zotos, Assistant Professor, University of Patras
- DAY 2** **FRIDAY, MARCH 17**
- 10:00 – 10:40** **Food security and food sufficiency**
Nikolaos Andritsos, Assistant Professor, University of Patras
- 10:50 – 11:30** **Development of innovative active food packaging with controlled release of bioactive ingredients in food to increase shelf life**
Aris Giannakas, Assistant Professor, University of Patras
- 11:40 – 12:20** **Sustainable management of water and soil resources**
Vasilios Triantafyllidis, Assistant Professor, University of Patras
- 12:30 – 13:10** **Management systems in agri-food sector**
Evangelos Psomas, Assistant Professor, University of Patras
- 13:20 – 14:00** **Food Marketing & Sustainable Consumption**
Vasiliki Boukouvala Post-Doc Researcher, University of Patras & Theofanis Zacharatos, PhD Researcher, University of Patras
- DAY 3** **SATURDAY, MARCH 18**
- 10:00 – 10:45** **Fisheries exploitation, protection and management of coastal zones**
George Katselis, Professor, University of Patras
- 11:00 – 11:45** **Water capital and blue economy**
Kosmas Vidalis, Professor, University of Patras
- 12:00 – 12:45** **Sustainable practices in aquaculture**
George Hotos, Professor, University of Patras
- 13:00 – 13:45** **Fishery and fishing stocks**
Dimitrios Moutopoulos, Associate Professor, University of Patras

Conference program updated March 12

OASIS SPRING SCHOOL | EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES | PROGRAM

OPEN Science... science to be used everywhere

DAY 1 **THURSDAY, MARCH 16**

16:30 – 17:15 **Open Science: What is, where is, how to use it**
Spiros Sirmakessis, University of Peloponnese

During the session, the idea of Open Science will be presented. The elements of open science in different sectors of life, culture and entrepreneurship will be briefly presented and discussed

17:15 – 18:30 **“Open Science in Italy”-TBC**
University of Camerino

18:30 – 19:15 **“Open Science in Bulgaria”**
Smart specialization, Hubs of excellence and Entrepreneurship - how OS could accelerate the process
Kosyo Stoychev, University of Sofia

During the session the opportunities of Bulgaria in the field of Smart specialization, Hubs of excellence and Entrepreneurship will be presented. The presentation will focus on the OS as an acceleration driver of these policies and ideas.

DAY 2 **FRIDAY, MARCH 17**

16:30 – 18:00 **Smart integration of open source components**
Yiannis Gialelis

Efficient and synergetic integration of open source hardware components.

18:00 – 18:30 **Break**

18:30 – 19:15 **Data utilization paradigm**
Yiannis Gialelis

Techniques for collecting and handling data

19:15 – 20:00 **“Open Science in Albania”-TBC**
Artur Ribaj, Logos University

The presentation will focus on understanding and development of entrepreneurial universities and elements of OS.

DAY 3 **SATURDAY, MARCH 18**

16:30 – 17:15 **Augmented Reality in the era of Open Science**
Vassilis Papataxiarhis, Intellia ICT

Conference program updated March 12

A view on the concepts of Augmented Reality from an Open Science perspective

17:15 – 18:00 Augmented Reality: Open source tools, libraries and frameworks

Vassilis Papataxiarhis, Intellia ICT

A walkthrough on the open AR tools, libraries and frameworks

18:00 – 18:30 Break

18:30 – 20:00 Augmented Reality Workshop

Vassilis Papataxiarhis, Intellia ICT

Develop your first AR app from scratch