



THE POLICY INSTITUTE

AN INSTITUTE ON ECONOMIC POLICY AND PUBLIC GOVERNANCE

I. INTRODUCTION

The Genesis of the Institute

The American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce has evolved into one of the most successful American Chambers in Europe. As it prepares to face the challenges of the coming years and decades in Greece, an era that will require massive reform, there is a need to structure the Chamber in a way that it can best respond to the changes, needs, and challenges of the Greek economy.

At the core of this national transformation is the need for serious and substantial reform of Greece's public administration and the underlying economic model of the country.

In light of such national reconstruction, the Chamber has the opportunity to position itself as a leader in supporting a new Greece.

As such, the Chamber must support an outward looking economy, especially towards the United States, foster U.S.-Greece trade and investment relations, and assist its members and the Greek and American business community through its robust and successful program of conferences, seminars, exhibitions, and other events to expand entrepreneurial activity.

At the same time, the Chamber must respond to the challenge of integrating and adapting Greece to its new economic reality, its new challenges in public administration, and economic policy, to the benefit of both the State and the business community.

The Chamber, as the State, must capitalize on its resources in the most productive and efficient manner.

It is to do this by not only promoting members' interests in Greece and the United States, as is the case today, but also by covering emerging membership needs of providing policy recommendation based on Amcham potential (Committee activities, conference conclusions, member experiences) combined to strong partnerships with research foundations (IOBE, universities).

As a new Amcham activity, this Policy Recommendation Division shall operate as The Institute on Economic Policy and Public Governance (The Policy Institute).

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II. ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

Patrimony

Greece, the birthplace of democracy, a fountainhead of science, philosophy, economics, ethics, law, and creativity, must again claim ownership of the most cherished and important values that gave birth to Western civilization. Facing an unprecedented social and economic crisis, the nation must rekindle and reassert the same values that have guided institutional and personal development for more than 2,500 years.

Mission

The Institute is dedicated to advancing excellence in public governance, public administration, and economic policy in Greece.

Vision

The Institute strives for meaningful change through fresh ideas and productive solutions related to the economic and social development of Greece.

The Institute is part of Vision 2020 of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, a Chamber vision to help transform Greece into a regional leader with economic power, political leadership, and effective social policies.

Likewise, the Institute is a natural and complementary continuation of the highly successful work done by that Chamber in collaboration with IOBE and the BCG.

Values

The core attributes of Greek society, in the public and private sector, must include responsibility, accountability, transparency, meritocracy, critical thought, cooperation, and honest dialogue.

Only then can policy initiatives—those that must serve citizens with humility, respect, and gratitude—expect to succeed with any measure of success. The Institute advocates reform in Greece that addresses the very foundations of government and civil society and actively promotes participatory democracy and competitive and healthy markets.

Core Activities

- **Research.** The Institute commissions and conducts research. Furthermore, backed by the well-established Committees of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, the Institute highlights critical issues, leading to better decisions, and firmly believes in tapping the smart solutions of technology as a social resource and driver of development.

- **Dissemination - Dialogue.** The Institute publishes a variety of reports, papers, books, and other media to serve as guides for policy makers, government officials, businesspeople, and academics. The Institute holds discussions, debates, presentations, seminars and workshops to encourage dialogue, stimulate debate, promote cooperation, and advance new solutions in a variety of areas.
- **Policy Recommendation.** Research findings and conclusions, together with the position papers prepared by the Committees of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, shall become part of a White Paper, issued annually or semiannually, or as needed, to serve as a comprehensive policy proposal to the political leadership of the country. Furthermore, in order to nurture strong leadership in Greece for economic growth and to secure an intellectual basis for Greece's development it is important to improve the competency of a wide-range of policy-makers, administrators and business managers. The Institute will develop capacity building programs with educational institutions.

Key Focus Areas

In conjunction with a focus on public governance, public administration, and economic policy, the Institute addresses on several key areas, in parallel with the Chamber's Committees:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Economic Policy • Taxation • Labor Law • Women in Business • Education, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation • Energy • Cultural Issues | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism • Regional Development • Intellectual Property Rights • Corporate Governance • Corporate Social Responsibility • Healthcare System Reform • Technology as a Social Resource and Driver of Development |
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In addition, the Institute is to cooperate with local, regional, EU and U.S. think-tanks, organizations and research institutes. IOBE and the Greek Management Association are two such examples.

Core Events

Hour of the Greek Economy Conference

The Institute will contribute to the organization of the flagship event of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, *The Hour of the Greek Economy Conference*, held annually in Athens end November, beginning December.

The Conference is the premiere event in Greece that brings together the public and private sector that focuses on current economic, commercial, trade, investment, political and policy issues in Greece.

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III. ABOUT THE STRUCTURE

In Brief:

The Institute shall operate under the direction of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. The Executive Director of the Chamber shall continue exercising his duties as per the Statute of the Chamber.

The term of office of the President of the new Committee shall be four (4) years.

The Policy Institute shall function under the leadership of a member of the Chamber whose profile is most suitable to achieve the objectives of the new Committee.

The Institute is non-partisan and independent of any political party or movement and is served by a President, Steering Committee, Board of Advisors, a College of Scholars, and a Strategic Policy Advisor, who are dedicated to the aims and goals of the Institute.

Supporters, Patrons, and Benefactors financially support the Institute.

The Institute is an integral part of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and its activities are part of the overall activities of the Chamber. The Institute shall use the human and technical resources of the Chamber and its financing shall be part of the financing of the Chamber. As with other Chamber initiatives, financing secured specifically for and/or by the Institute shall support Institute expenses.

President

To lead the Institute, direct policy, interact with policy makers and decision makers, and act as the public voice of the Institute.

Steering Committee

To coordinate the overall direction of the Institute and establish priorities, methodologies, and initiatives. The Institute President leads the Committee.

Board of Advisors

To prepare Board proposals to be examined by College of Scholars and incorporated into policy papers, discussions, events, and white papers. To provide input on Institute policy, programs, and activities and to advise on goals, objectives, and strategy.

The Board of Advisors shall comprise the Presidents of the Committees of the Chamber, CEOs and/or representatives of member companies of the Chamber, representatives of other institutional bodies in the fields of research and management, representatives of leading business associations, and international strategy advisors.

Members of the Board of Advisors

Amcham Committees

- Corporate Governance Committee
- Corporate Social Responsibility Committee
- Energy Committee
- Innovation - Education - Entrepreneurship Committee
- Insurance, Social Security & Labor Matters Committee
- IPR Committee
- Leadership Committee
- Medical Devices & Diagnostics Committee
- Pharmaceutical Committee
- Taxation Committee
- Tourism Committee
- WIB Committee

Institutions

- Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV)
- Athens Exchange (ATHEX)
- Federation of Industries of Northern Greece (FING)
- Greek International Business Association (SEVE)
- Association of Greek Tourism Enterprises (SETE)
- Foundation for Economic & Industrial & Research (IOBE)
- Hellenic Management Association (EEDE)
- Federation of Hellenic ICT Enterprises (SEPE)
- Hellenic Retail Business Association (SELPE)
- Association of Chief Executive Officers (EASE)
- Center of Volunteer Managers of Greece (KEMEL)

The Executive Director of the Chamber shall be present at all meetings of the Institute Advisory Board so he is able to coordinate the activities of the Institute with those of the Chamber.

College of Scholars

The College of Scholars is comprised of academics, PhD candidates, and high-level experts who provide research, counsel, and a deep understanding of Institute related issues.

Social Partners

Key members of the Greek community that provide valuable input/intelligence so that Institute proposals are holistic. Social Partners complement the Institute when it focuses on areas of their interest. Social Partners may participate in or instigate events that complement Institute objectives and are educational to Institute members or its audience.

- Axiotes
- European Business Ethics Network
- Filotis
- Hellenic Roots
- Kappa Initiative
- Kinisi Politon
- Poliergon
- Transparency International Greece

Bilateral Chambers

European bilateral chambers operating in Greece support Institute work.

Institutional Policy Advisor

To provide institutional, private sector counsel to the Institute and draws on its local, regional, and global expertise to advance the goals of the Institute.

Executive Officer

To coordinate the activities and events of the institute on a day-to-day basis and to interact with the Institute leaderships and stakeholders in developing and implementing activities and programs.

Strategic Communications Director

To develop and implement communication policy and programs and to direct publications of the Institute, in coordination with Institute leadership and communication advisors of the Chamber.