
Speakers



Elias Spirtounias
Executive Director
American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

Elias Spirtounias, after graduation from the School of Mathematics of the University of Athens, he completed his graduate studies at the School of Electrical Engineering (M.Sc. degree and Ph.D. studies) at Boston University. During his residence in the United States, he participated as a Research Engineer in several programs in co-operation with other organizations and companies such as NASA, MIT, UNH, working mainly in the fields of analog and digital electronics circuits design and applications. He returned to Greece in 1992 and after completing his military service in 1994, he held the position of Technical Director for the subsidiary of the Italian company CitecSpA., a company specialized in the design, production and application of voice and image processing systems. From 1997 until February 2009, he worked for the Foundation of the Hellenic World, a major Greek non-profit cultural organization starting as a Construction Supervisor and continuing as a Director of the Cultural Center 'Hellenic Cosmos'. During his tenure, he contributed significantly to the expansion, development and operation of the Center and its establishment as one of the most known cultural sites in Greece and abroad. From March 2009, Elias Spirtounias holds the position of Executive Director of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce.



Nikolaos Bakatselos
President
American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

Ο Νικόλαος Μπακατσέλος είναι ο Nikolaos Bakatselos is the President & CEO of "Pyramis Metallourgia A.E." and "Pyramis Deutschland GmbH". He was Member of the Board of Directors, and Deputy Managing Director, of "Northern Greece Publishing S.A.". He has held the position of Managing Director of "Imperium AEEX", and Member of the Board of Directors of "Egnatia Bank Securities S.A.". He was a Member of the Board of Directors of Attica Bank from February 2014 until June 2016. Nikolaos Bakatselos was a Member of the Steering Committee of the "International Hellenic University" from 2006 until January 2014 and Member of the Board and President of the Northern Greece Committee of EEDE. He is Member of the Committee Support CERTH, Trustee of Anatolia College, Member of the Board and Member of the Steering Committee of SVE and Honorary Consul of Belgium for Northern Greece. After being a Member of the Board of Directors of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce for several years, in June 2010 he was elected Vice President of AMCHAM and President of the Northern Greece Committee and since June 2019 he is the President of AMCHAM. In October 2019 he

was elected as President of HEDNO by the General Assembly of HEDNO. Nikolaos Bakatselos holds a B.A. in Sociology from University of Reading and a MSc in Shipping, Trade and Finance from City University Business School.



George Pitsilis
Governor
Independent Authority for Public Revenue

George Pitsilis, Governor of the Independent Authority for Public Revenue, is an Attorney at Law, researcher and experienced professional. He has graduated from the Athens School of Law (LL.B.), where he also obtained an LL.M. in Public Law. He has obtained a DEA in Tax Law from the University Pantheon-Sorbonne (Paris I). Following his tax studies, George Pitsilis has gained particularly significant know – how and practical experience in Domestic and International Tax Law. Since 2008, he is a Member of the BoD of the Greek Society of Tax Law and Public Finance Studies. He is, also, member of the editing committee of Greek legal reviews, author of several articles and commentaries in Greek and international legal reviews.



Charlie Simpson
Partner
KPMG Global Strategy Group

Charlie is a Partner in KPMG's Global Strategy Group and Head of Mobility 2030, which is helping clients across the transport ecosystem understand and plan for strategic changes driven by new technology, financial, regulatory and consumer trends, particularly in the areas of Mobility as a Service, vehicle electrification, connectivity and autonomy. These trends will fundamentally change the transportation industry over the next decade, as well as the energy, financial services, communications, infrastructure and public sectors. Charlie also supports clients in all of the above sectors commercialising innovation, as either a source of breakthrough, disruptive growth, or as a significant threat to existing business models. Charlie has over 15 years' experience of helping major international clients understand and enter UK markets in transport, industrial, energy, automotive, B2B services and consumer sectors. He has significant international experience leading major initiatives at all stages of the market and customer lifecycle. These have included market entry strategy, new product and service launch, customer experience, M&A, customer and market strategy redesign, sales organisation and channel optimisation.



Panagiotis Stampoulidis
General Secretary of Trade and Consumer Protection
Ministry of Development and Investments

Panagiotis Stampoulidis hold an MBA in Human Resources Management, University of Wales, U.K. and a Diploma in Animal Production, Technological Educational Institutional of Western Macedonia, Greece. He has a Certificate of Business Sustainability, University of Cambridge, U.K., a Level 4 Award in HACCP Management for Food Manufacturing, RSPH (Royal Society for Public Health) and an Intermediate Certificate in Applied HACCP Principles, RSPH (Royal Society for Public Health). He is currently the General Secretary of Trade and Consumer Protection. Previously, he was Chief Project Manager for Garnet SA, Group Director Business Development for Megas Yeeros Group, Managing Director for C.M.F.O S.A. (Central Markets & Fishery Organization S.A.), Greece, Scientific consultant in more than a hundred (100) companies in the food industry and an Internal Audit Manager, responsible to ensure health & safety procedures for KOMPATSIARIS BROS. He participated in the project for the restructuring of the fishery sector in the Sultanate of Oman and as a member of the G700, he was awarded with a distinction by the European Parliament in 2008.



Commander Evangelos Boulakakis
Drugs and Contraband Enforcement Directorate
Hellenic Coast Guard Headquarters

He was born in Palaio Faliro on 1974. He graduated from Department of Public Administration of Panteion University and he entered to the Academy of Coast Guard Cadets on 1998. He graduated successfully on 1999 with the rank of Ensign of Hellenic Coast Guard. He has served at Port Authorities of Lefkas and Karystos as harbor master, at Port Authority of Leros as deputy harbor master, at Port Authority of Chalkis as head officer of Port Police Sector, at Port Said as maritime attaché, and at the Directorates of HCG Personnel and Sea Transportation of Hellenic Coast Guard Headquarters. From the July of 2017 he serves at the Drugs and Contraband Enforcement Directorate of Hellenic Coast Guard Headquarters as head of Contraband and Fiscal Crime Enforcement Department. He speaks English. He is married and has three children.



Aggeliki Matsouka
Head
Division Strategy for Custom Controls and Offences

Aggeliki Matsouka is Head of Division Strategy for Custom Controls and Offences from November 2016, she was Head of Section B' "Law enforcement for drugs, goods under restriction and means of control" (ex-Prosecution of Drugs and weapons) of the Division of Customs Control and offences (ex. 33rd Division of Custom Law Enforcement) (from 2004-2015). From 1991 until 2004 she was in the 33rd Division of Custom Law Enforcement-Section B': Prosecution of Drugs and weapons and she was also in the 3rd Division of Personnel and the 6th Customs of Piraeus. She has a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Public Administration, Athens University, a master's degree in studies in Strategic and Political of National Security, National Security School of Hellenic Police and a master's degree in International and European Studies, Direction International Relations and strategic studies, Panteion University. She speaks English and French and she has been National expert delegate from 1991-2004 in committee of drug precursors, National expert delegate in Customs Cooperation working Party during the Greek Presidency, Leader of project group planning the ACTION PLAN for priorities of CCWP against organized crime, Delegate to meetings of WCO, Europol, Project Manager to Container Security Task Force of SELEC, Trainer in educational courses for custom officers and Responsible on behalf of customs for Schengen evaluation.



Iakovos Kargarotos
Vice-President
Papastratos

Iakovos Kargarotos has been the Vice President of Papastratos, a subsidiary of Philip Morris International, since January 2012. After spending 10 years in two FMCG companies, he started his career in the commercial department of Papastratos in 2000 as a Regional Manager. Over the next 10 years he was responsible for Key positions, with that of the Country Manager for Cyprus and Malta being the highlight. In 2010, he was assigned the position of Manager of Financial Affairs, then promoted to Corporate Affairs Director and Vice President of the company. Iakovos Kargarotos has a Bachelor in chemistry, a postgraduate diploma in Oenology and also holds a diploma on Business Administration from INSEAD.



Yannis Mastrocostas
IPR Committee Chair
American-Hellenic Chamber of
Commerce

Yannis Mastrocostas having worked in FMCG and pharmaceutical companies in Greece, UK and N. Ireland, joined Papastratos in 2005. He has worked in different roles in Operations. In 2016, he was assigned the role of Manager Illicit Trade Strategies & Prevention. In 2017 - 2019, he assumed the role of EU Regional Manager Illicit Trade Prevention External Affairs at the Operations Center of Philip Morris International in Switzerland. Yannis Mastrocostas is the Chairman of the Intellectual Property Rights Committee of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce. Yannis Mastrocostas holds a bachelor's in chemical engineering and a master's in food science as well as an Executive Master in Business Administrations from the Athens University of Economics.



Apostolos Vesypoulos
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Finance

Apostolos F. Vesypoulos was born in Veria on May 29, 1966. In the 2006 local elections, he was elected Prefect of Imathias Prefecture. In the Prefecture of Imathias, he served as First Deputy Mayor in 2007-2008 with responsibilities in the Rural Development, Finance, Trade and Consumer Departments, while in the 2010 municipal elections he was elected Municipal Councilor in the Municipality of Veria. In the 2012 elections, he was elected Member of Parliament with the New Democracy Party in the Imathia constituency. In the January 2015 elections he was first elected to the Member of Parliament's crosses while he was head of the ballot in the September 2015 elections. Since 2015 he has been the Head of the New Democracy Tax Policy Division. Following the changes made by the President of the New Democracy, Mr. Vesypoulos had been appointed Vice-Treasurer, with responsibility for tax policy. He is an economist, graduated from the Department of Business and Organizational Management of the Greek Open University and the School of Management and Economics of ATE Larissa. He has completed his postgraduate studies in Accounting and Finance at the University of Macedonia. He holds a master's degree in Public Law and Political Science, Law School, Democritus University of Thrace (tax law). He is a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Law of Democritus University of Thrace, Department of Public Law and Political Science (tax law). He worked for several years in the private sector, and after an ASEP competition, he was appointed to the Treasury and worked as a tax registrar at the DUA of Veria. In the Greek Parliament he participated in the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs, the Committee on State Accountability and Balance Sheet and on the oversight of the implementation of the State Budget and the Subcommittee on "Debt and impairment" while he was Chairman and Secretary of the Standing Committee Parliamentary Affairs, secretary of the

Committee on State Accountability and Balance Sheet and oversight of the implementation of the State Budget and member of the Special Standing Committee on Research and Technology case law. He speaks English. He is married to Professor Katerina Katsavou and father of two children.