

## Speakers



**Ioanna Lytrivi**  
**CEO**  
**National Organisation for the Certification of Qualifications & Vocational Guidance – EOPPEP**

Ms Ioanna Lytrivi is the CEO of the National Organization for Certification of Qualifications & Vocational Guidance in Greece. She has served as a scientific advisor to Ministers of Administrative Reform and e- Governance and to Member of the Hellenic Parliament. She has also served as a Vocation and Education Training Specialist and Administrative Director in a Public Centre of Adult Education. She is a philologist (linguist) and PhD candidate in the field of Educational Policy. She speaks English and German.



**Ania Mendrek**  
**Director**  
**MAXIMUS Global Group**

Ania Mendrek has worked in the welfare-to-work and Active Labour Market Policies market for over 15yrs, from overseeing the delivery of programmes to solution design, stakeholder management and supply chain management to leading business development. Prior to joining MAXIMUS, she oversaw the delivery of award-winning European Social Fund funded projects, focusing on supporting the hard-to-help job seekers. Always keen to share best practice without boundaries, Ania also provided advice to governments across Europe on commissioning pilot projects around tackling long-term unemployment and youth unemployment as well as working with vulnerable populations such as people with complex barriers and people with disabilities. With a decade of operational, 'hands-on' experience delivering successful projects across the UK and Europe, Ania moved on to business development with a remit to design winning solutions that are innovative, cost-effective and aligned with customer needs. She has extensive experience in tenders which included Welfare-to-Work, Justice, Skills and Health. Since joining MAXIMUS her role has involved new market entry, concept design, partnership strategy and stakeholder engagement. Ania has been involved with the International Labour Organisation, the European Commission and other organisations to provide practical considerations and deliver a Master Class on Public Private Partnership in employment services delivery.



**Konstantinos Pouliakas**  
**Expert, Department for Skills and Labour Market**  
**European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training – CEDEFOP**

Konstantinos Pouliakas is an Expert on Skills and Labour Markets at the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop). He leads Cedefop's projects on Digitalisation, AI and the Future of Work and Skill Mismatch and has recently coordinated its support program to improve skills anticipation in Greece and other EU countries. His milestones include the development of two waves of the European Skills and Jobs Survey. Before joining Cedefop he held posts at the Universities of Aberdeen and Cyprus and briefly worked for the Bank of Greece and HM Treasury. He is Honorary Lecturer at the University of Aberdeen Business School and IZA Research Fellow and has been visiting Professor at the University of Rome Tre and visiting research scholar at the IMF. He holds an M.Phil from the University of Oxford (St. Antony's College) and a D.Phil from the Scottish Graduate Program in Economics. He has published widely in peer-reviewed economics and education journals and authored influential policy contributions on skills.



**Harry Anthony Patrinos**  
**Practice Manager, Education**  
**World Bank Group**

Harry Anthony Patrinos is the Practice Manager for the Europe and Central Asia region of the World Bank's education global practice. He specializes in all areas of education, especially school-based management, demand-side financing and public-private partnerships. He managed education lending operations and analytical work programs in Argentina, Colombia and Mexico, as well as a regional research project on the socioeconomic status of Latin America's Indigenous Peoples. He is one of the main authors of the report, Lifelong Learning in the Global Knowledge Economy (World Bank, 2003). Mr. Patrinos has many publications in the academic and policy literature, with more than 40 journal articles. He has also worked in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and North America. He previously worked as an economist at the Economic Council of Canada. Mr. Patrinos received a doctorate from the University of Sussex