

# **SPEAKERS**

## **ELIAS SPIRTOUNIAS**



Executive Director, American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

After graduating from the School of Mathematics of the University of Athens, Elias Spirtounias completed his graduate studies at the School of Electrical Engineering (M.Sc. degree and pre-Ph.D. studies) at Boston University. During his residence in the United States, he participated as a Research Engineer in several research programs in co-operation with other organizations and companies such as NASA, MIT, UNH 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 Citec SpA., 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 private non-profit cultural organization, starting as a Construction Supervisor and continuing as a Managing Director of the brand new then Cultural Centre 'Hellenic Cosmos' an innovative, based on new technologies, theme park. During his tenure, he contributed significantly to the expansion, development and operation of the Centre and its establishment as one of the most known technologydriven cultural them park in Greece and abroad. From March 2009, Elias Spirtounias holds the position of Executive Director of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce. Along with his colleagues and in cooperation with the Board have managed, in the midst of the economic crisis, to increase significantly the number of activities, undertake important initiatives, retain in high level the memberships, foster the advocacy level, expand further the presence of the Chamber in US and contribute to the evolution of the Chamber into one of the leading dynamic and reliable business organization in Greece.



#### **NIKOLAOS BAKATSELOS**

President, American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Nikolaos Bakatselos is the President & CEO of "Pyramis Metallourgia A.E." and "Pyramis Deutschland GmbH". Mr. Nikolaos Bakatselos 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. Mr. 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 Board of Directors 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. Mr. 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.



## **KOSTAS ANDRIOSOPOULOS**

Professor of Finance and Energy Economics, ESCP Europe Business School Chairman, Energy Committee, American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

Professor Dr. Kostas Andriosopoulos is the Executive Director of the Research Centre for Energy Management at ESCP Business School where he holds the position of full Professor in Finance and Energy Economics. Kostas holds a PhD in Finance (Cass Business School, City University London), where he has been the recipient of the prestigious Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation's scholarship. He also holds an MBA and MSc in Finance (Northeastern University, Boston, USA), and a bachelor's degree in Production Engineering and Management (Technical University of Crete, Greece). Kostas is a member in various professional and academic associations: Chairman of the Energy Committee of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce; Founder and former Chairman of the Hellenic Association for Energy Economics (HAEE); Board member of the Global Gas Center - World Energy Council as a Gas and LNG markets expert. In September 2019 he was appointed Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic Public Gas Company (DEPA), a position he also held for the period 2014-2015. Since August 2018 he is Country Manager of Akuo Energy in Greece, a multinational company based in France that develops RES projects in more than 30 countries around the world. In addition, he has worked as an advisor to the Retail Banking Director and Managing Director for the British Bankers' Association (2007). His work has been published in international finance and commodity-related Journals, and

has participated as speaker in recognised conferences world-wide. He is the Associate Editor for the International Journal of Financial Engineering and Risk Management, Member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Energy Markets, he has edited special issues in recognised journals, acts as a reviewer for a number of academic journals, and has organised numerous international conferences.



#### DAMON WILSON

Executive Vice President, Atlantic Council

Damon Wilson is executive vice president of the Atlantic Council, serving as both a thought leader and manager with responsibility for strategy and strategic initiatives, program development and integration, and institutional development and organizational effectiveness. His work is committed to advancing a Europe whole, free, and at peace to include Europe's East, the Western Balkans, and the Black Sea region; to strengthening the NATO Alliance; and to fostering a transatlantic partnership capable of tackling global challenges and promoting its common values. His areas of expertise include NATO, transatlantic relations, Central and Eastern Europe, and national security issues. From 2007 to 2009, Wilson served as special assistant to the President and senior director for european affairs at the National Security Council. He played a leading role in developing and coordinating US government efforts to work with Europe on global challenges. He managed interagency policy on NATO, the European Union, Georgia, Ukraine, the Balkans, Eurasian energy security, and Turkey, and planned numerous presidential visits to Europe, including US-European Union and NATO summits. Previously, Wilson served at the US embassy in Baghdad as the executive secretary and chief of staff, where he helped manage one of the largest US embassies, implementing a reorganization plan that strengthened coordination, accountability, and effectiveness, and played a key role in overseeing the embassy's effort to design and implement a civilian surge throughout Irag. Prior to this posting, he worked at the National Security Council as the director for Central, Eastern, and Northern European affairs from 2004 to 2006. During this time, Wilson strengthened ties with the German Chancellery, coordinated interagency policy in support of reform in Ukraine, directed efforts to deepen engagement with America's allies in Central and Eastern Europe-including beginning the expansion of more secure visa-free travel-and promoted close consultations with coalition partners in Iraq and Afghanistan. From 2001 to 2004, Wilson served as deputy director of the Private Office of the NATO Secretary General, assisting Lord George Robertson in his drive to transform the Alliance by enlarging NATO membership, conducting operations beyond Europe particularly in Afghanistan, and adapting Allied capabilities to face modern threats. Wilson also supported the Secretary General's role in the successful effort to avert civil war in Macedonia. Prior to serving in Brussels, Wilson worked in the US Department of State's Office of European Security and Political Affairs, where he was responsible for cooperation with NATO Allies on missile defense, nuclear policy, and preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction. He also worked on the State Department's China desk and at the US embassy in Beijing as a presidential management fellow. Wilson began his service at the State Department by helping coordinate policy to adapt NATO to modern security challenges and planning for the Alliance's 50th anniversary summit in Washington during the Kosovo conflict. Wilson completed his master's degree at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School for Public and International Affairs, where he also taught an undergraduate policy workshop on implementing NATO expansion. As a graduate student in 1997, he worked in the African Affairs Directorate of the National Security Council concentrating on Central Africa. From 1995 to 1996, he served as the first hart leadership fellow, working in Rwanda as a project officer for Save the Children's Children and War Program. As a Benjamin N. Duke leadership scholar at Duke University, Wilson obtained his BA summa cum laude in political science. He also studied at the University of Grenoble, France, conducted independent research on democracy in Estonia, and worked for the Unaccompanied Children in Exile refugee program in Croatia and Turkey. Wilson speaks French and has been decorated by the Presidents of Bulgaria, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, and Poland for his efforts to advance transatlantic relations. He also serves as a senior adviser to the US-Ukraine Business Council; is a member of Commander, US European Command; serves on the international advisory board to the Slovak Atlantic Commission; is a member of the international board of the Institute for Development and Social Initiative (IDIS) in Moldova; and has lectured at George Washington University.



#### **CHRISTOPHER GUITH**

Senior Vice President, Policy, Global Energy Institute, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Christopher Guith is the senior vice president, policy at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Global Energy Institute. He leads the Institute's efforts to build support for meaningful energy and environmental action nationally and internationally through policy development, education, and advocacy. The Institute has attracted grassroots advocates across the nation supporting its efforts to capitalize on America's tremendous energy promise. The Institute also regularly contributes policy analysis and research, including the groundbreaking Index of Energy Security Risk and the International Index of Energy Security Risk, the first tools to quantify America's energy security on an annual basis, as

well as the comprehensive Energy Works for US platform, which provided policy recommendations to secure our nation's energy future. Guith offers expertise on an array of energy and environmental issues. He educates policymakers, businesses, energy stakeholders, coalitions, and the public about the importance of a diversified energy portfolio and how it can ensure an efficient, reliable, prosperous, and secure energy future. He also leverages his broad energy expertise as a spokesperson with local, state, and national media. Guith travels frequently to speak to stakeholder groups, raising awareness of the impact of policy decisions on America's energy future and encouraging groups to share their perspectives with policymakers. In addition, he consults with state and local chambers of commerce and business groups, advising them how to quantify the importance of safe, reliable American energy to their businesses, as well as how to amplify that message when communicating with energy decision makers. Prior to joining the Chamber in 2008, Guith served as deputy assistant secretary for nuclear energy at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), where he developed the administration's nuclear energy policies and coordinated the department's interactions with Congress, stakeholders, and the media. He was also deputy assistant secretary for congressional affairs at DOE and a chief representative of the administration during the drafting and debate of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Earlier in his career, Guith served as Rep. Bob Barr's (R-GA) legislative director and Rep. Tim Murphy's (R-PA) counsel and policy adviser. He was also legislative counsel for the Environment, Technology & Regulatory Affairs at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Guith is a graduate of Syracuse University-College of Law and the University of California-Santa Barbara.



## CRISTINA LOBILLO

Energy Policy Director, European Commission

Cristina Lobillo Borrero has a degree on Law and post-graduate courses on Economics, the European Union Law and management and leadership in the ULB (Université Libre de Bruxelles), the Spanish School of Diplomats, the European Commission and Harvard Business School. Since 2004 she is official in the European Commission where she has worked on Agriculture and Trade policies and from 2014 to 2019 she has been the Head of Cabinet to the ex-Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete. From December 2019 to June 2020, she has been Principal Adviser in DG AGRI and since 16 June, she is Director for Energy Policy in DG ENER in the European Commission. Before joining the Commission, Cristina worked in the Spanish Administration and in the Universities of Córdoba and Alcalá de Henares.



## BENJAMIN HADDAD

Director, Future Europe initiative, Atlantic Council

Benjamin Haddad is the director of the Future Europe Initiative at the Atlantic Council. He is an expert in European politics and transatlantic relations. Before moving to the Atlantic Council, he was a fellow at Hudson Institute in Washington DC. His work has notably advocated for transatlantic unity in the face of Russian aggression, greater European responsibility, and investment on strategic matters. His recent book "Paradise Lost: Europe in the World of Trump" makes the case for greater European unity in a world of new challenges and threats. He has been published in Foreign Affairs, The American Interest, Foreign Policy, the Wall Street Journal, Le Monde, Le Figaro, Politique Etrangère and is a frequent guest on France 24, BFM, CBC, CNN, Fox News, and NPR. In 2017, Haddad was the Washington DC representative of Emmanuel Macron's movement En Marche. A graduate of Sciences Po Paris, where he obtained an MA in international affairs and HEC, with an MA in financial economics, Haddad has lectured in international affairs at Sciences Po.



## **PAVLOS MYLONAS** CEO, National Bank of Greece

Pavlos Mylonas was appointed Chief Executive Officer of National Bank of Greece in July 2018. He joined NBG in 2000 and served, inter alia, as Deputy CEO, CRO and Head of Strategy. He worked on the staff of the OECD from 1995 to 2000, and at the International Monetary Fund from 1987 to 1995. In the years 1985-1987, he was visiting Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics in Boston University. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics-Economics (Magna cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa) from Brown University, as well as a Master of Arts and a Ph.D. in Economics from Princeton University.



Chief Executive Officer of Hellenic Petroleum since August 2019 and a member of its Board of Directors as a representative of POIH. Mr. A. Shiamishis holds an Economics degree from the University of Essex and is a fellow member (FCA) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW). He began his career in 1989 with KPMG in London, specializing in the banking sector and large multinational Groups before joining DIAGEO in 1993, to assume senior Greek and European positions in Finance and Business development. During 2000-2002 he worked as Chief Financial Officer and Chief Restructuring Officer in a high-tech ASE listed Group and in 2003 he joined PETROLA HELLAS as Chief Financial Officer. Following the completion of the legal merger and operational integration of PETROLA HELLAS with HELLENIC PETROLEUM, he assumed the position of the Group CFO in 2005 and became a member of the Group Executive Committee. In 2012 he assumed the responsibility for International subsidiaries and in 2014 he was appointed Deputy CEO of the Group. He is a member in various ICAEW specialized faculties, the Board of Corporate Governance of the AMHEC, the Economic Chamber of Greece, the Board of SEV (Hellenic Federation of Enterprises) and the Board of SEV BCSD (Business Counsel for Sustainable development).



## KOSTIS HATZIDAKIS Minister, Ministry of Environment & Energy

Kostas Hatzidakis is the Minister of Environment and Energy, member of the Greek Parliament and Vice President of the New Democracy Party. He was born in Rethymno, Crete, in 1965. He is a member of the Greek Parliament since 2007. He is a lawyer in Athens. President of the Youth Organization of New Democracy (1992-1994). Member of the European Parliament (1994-2007). Minister in the Ministries of Transport and Development ((2007-2009 and 2012-2014).



## FRANCIS R. FANNON

Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Energy Resources (ENR), U.S. Department of State

Francis R. Fannon serves as the Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Energy Resources (ENR) at the U.S Department of State. He oversees U.S. foreign policy in the critical intersection of energy and national security and promotes U.S. interests to ensure energy resources are used to increase economic opportunity, stability, and prosperity around the world. Assistant Secretary Fannon advises the Secretary on strategies to promote universal access to affordable and reliable energy resources and to strengthen energy security through policies that advance diverse, transparent, and secure global markets for all energy types. Prior to this role, Mr. Fannon was the managing director of BHP's Washington, DC Corporate Affairs office, where he developed a comprehensive U.S. strategy for the world's largest diversified resources company. Before BHP, Mr. Fannon was a senior director at Murphy Oil Corporation in Washington, DC. Mr. Fannon previously served as counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. In that capacity, he drafted, negotiated, and helped pass into law key provisions of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. He also served as counsel to Senators Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO) and Pete V. Domenici (R-NM). Mr. Fannon earned a J.D. from the University of Denver (DU) Sturm College of Law, a M.A. in International Affairs (Economics & Trade) from DU's Korbel School of International Studies, and a B.A. from Radford University.



## NICULAE HAVRILEŢ

Secretary of State, Coordinator of the Department for Energy, Ministry of Economy, Energy and Business Environment, Romania

Niculae Havrileţ graduated from the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania. After graduation, he started his professional career in the Romanian company Romgaz, working especially in the natural gas distribution activities. Between the years of 2000 – 2001 he served as President of the newly established State Domains Agency. During 2012-2017 he held the position of President of ANRE, the national regulatory authority in energy, and actively took part in the most important decisions regarding the transformation of the energy sector such as: stock exchange listing of the state-owned companies Transelectrica, Transgaz, Romgaz, Nuclearelectrica; the privatization of Electrica company on the stock markets in Bucharest and London; the liberalization of electricity and natural gas markets. As of 2017 up to 2019 he worked in the Ministry of Energy as a personal advisor to the Minister of Energy, and since December 2019, until present, he holds the position of Secretary of State in the Ministry of Economy, Energy and

Business Environment, as head of the Department of Energy.



#### **NASER NUREDINI**

Minister of Environment and Physical Planning, North Macedonia

Naser Nuredini was born in September 1979 in Tetovo, North Macedonia. He moved to Vienna as a child and was educated at the Vienna International School before completing his higher education in the United Kingdom. Naser built his career in finance in London and Vienna, first as an analyst and then as an investment manager for the central and eastern European markets. His core goal during this period was to drive good quality, clean and green investments in his home region, to use his cross-border experience to be a bridge between the west and the east. This awakened his passion for green economics – a modern approach to environmental management that creates jobs while looking after the health and long-term wellbeing of its residents.

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

April 2016-today: Nuredini GmbH, Vienna, Director, Advisor

September 2014-March 2016: Acquisitor Itd BVI and THAL Discretionary Fund BVI, Vienna-Monaco, Director of Asset Management and Strategic Investments

March 2013-June 2014: MKS Management, Vienna-Freiburg, Counsellor

July 2011-November 2012: ING Bank NV, London, Director of Investments in Listed Corporations in the Eastern European Market

July 2006-July 2011: UniCredit CAIB UK Ltd./UniCredit Bank AG, London, Vice President for Investment Management in Eastern Europe

He is married and father of one child.



## NATASA PILIDOU

Minister, Ministry of Energy Commerce, Industry & Tourism, Cyprus

Natasa Pilides was appointed Minister of Energy, Commerce and Industry on July 10th 2020. Previously, on March 1st 2018 she had been appointed as the first Shipping Deputy Minister of the Republic of Cyprus, heading the strategic development and promotion of Cyprus as a world class, integrated, maritime cluster. From April 2016 to March 2018, Ms Pilides was Director General of the Cyprus Investment Promotion Agency (Invest Cyprus), responsible for the design and implementation of Invest Cyprus' strategy in investment promotion, investor support and facilitation of reform. She has more than fifteen years of private sector experience, notably as Director and Regional Chief Operating Officer at Baker Tilly South East Europe, heading the departments of Finance, Marketing, HR, Administration, Operations and IT, for Cyprus, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria and Moldova. She also worked, for 9 years, at PwC in Cyprus, Milan and London, in audit and tax consulting of multinational companies active in the fields of banking and finance, shipping, insurance, energy, construction and FMCG. Ms Pilides has wide experience in delivering professional training and courses for ICAEW, ACCA and CIMA exams, in the areas of audit, tax, corporate law, ethics, financial accounting and reporting, at BPP London, a leading professional studies organisation. She graduated from Oxford University with a first-class honours degree, with distinction, in Modern Languages and Literature (French and Italian). She is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales (ICAEW) and a member of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Cyprus (ICPAC).



## **KATERINA SOKOU**

Nonresident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council Washington DC Correspondent, SKAI TV and Kathimerini

Katerina Sokou is the Washington DC correspondent for *SKAI TV* and Greek daily newspaper Kathimerini, where she is also a columnist, focusing on transatlantic relations, foreign policy and financial diplomacy (2013-). She has covered extensively the Greek financial crisis, interviewing economists and policy-makers and providing commentary and reporting for news media in the U.S. and Europe. As a visiting scholar at George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs (2017-2018), she researched the US role in the Greek debt crisis and its impact on bilateral relations, presenting her research in universities across the U.S. and Greece. She continues to work towards a book on the subject. Before that, she was a member of the editorial board and a contributor at the Washington-based European Institute (2016-2017). Katerina majored in History (BA with First Class Honors, University of Ioannina, Greece) and holds postgraduate degrees in International Studies (MA, University of Warwick, UK) and in Journalism from Columbia University, where she was a Knight-Bagehot Fellow in Economics and Business Journalism (2012-2013). She

was also a non-degree student at the American College of Greece, where she studied Economics, and an Erasmus scholar at King's College London, where she took classes in the Fall of Yugoslavia, Modern Greek History and audited a class on European Politics at the London School of Economics. She started her career as a financial reporter at *To* Vima Athens newspaper, covering Greece and the Eurozone since the introduction of the Euro, and was International Financial News editor at Kathimerini during the global financial crisis. At the course of her reporting, she corresponded from Brussels and Strasburg on EU policies, from China on Chinese investments in Europe, from Lithuania and Slovenia on EU enlargement, from Denmark on Europe's social model, from the U.K. on Brexit, from Egypt on EU's neighborhood initiatives and from Italy, Switzerland and Germany on European business. She speaks Greek, English, French and some German.



#### **GEOFFREY R. PYATT**

Ambassador of the United States of America to the Hellenic Republic

Geoffrey R. Pyatt, a career member of the Foreign Service, class of Career Minister, was sworn in as the U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic in September 2016. He served as U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine from 2013-2016, receiving the State Department's Robert Frasure Memorial Award in recognition of his commitment to peace and alleviation of human suffering in eastern Ukraine. Previously, Ambassador Pyatt was Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs from 2010-2013. He was Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Mission to the International Organizations in Vienna, Austria from 2007 to 2010. He also served at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi, India as Deputy Chief of Mission from 2006 to 2007 and as Political Counselor from 2002 to 2006. Ambassador Pyatt served as Economic Officer at the U.S. Consulate General in Hong Kong from 1999 to 2002 and as Principal Officer at the U.S. Consulate General in Lahore, Pakistan from 1997 to 1999. Since joining the Foreign Service in 1989, he has also served on the National Security Council staff, on the staff of Deputy Secretary Strobe Talbott and at posts in Honduras and India. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, he worked with The Inter-American Dialogue, a Washington-based think tank that brings together leading citizens of the Americas.



#### HERRO MUSTAFA

Ambassador of the United States of America to Bulgaria

Herro Mustafa, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria on September 26, 2019. Previously, she was the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Lisbon, Portugal, where she also served as Chargé d'Affaires for the first seven months of the Trump Administration. A career member of the Foreign Service, Ambassador Mustafa worked in the Office of the Vice President from 2009-2011, providing counsel on issues related to the Middle East and South and Central Asia. Earlier Washington assignments included Deputy Director of the Afghanistan Office; Advisor on the Middle East in the Office of the Under Secretary for Political Affairs; Director for Iran, Israeli-Palestinian Affairs, and Jordan at the National Security Council (NSC); and NSC Director for Iraq and Afghanistan. Her overseas diplomatic postings were as the Political Minister Counselor at Embassy New Delhi, India; the lead U.S. Civilian Coordinator in Mosul, Iraq; a Consular Officer in Beirut, Lebanon; and a Political Officer in Athens, Greece. Prior to joining the State Department, Ambassador Mustafa was an International Elections Supervisor with the OSCE in Bosnia. She is the recipient of notable awards from the State Department, including the Matilda W. Sinclaire Award for superior achievement in a foreign language. She speaks Portuguese, Arabic, Hindi, Russian, Greek, among other languages, and is studying Bulgarian. Ambassador Mustafa grew up in Minot, North Dakota and her family story is the subject of the documentary film American Herro. She has an undergraduate degree from Georgetown's School of Foreign Service and a Masters from Princeton University. She is married and has two children.



#### KATE MARY BYRNES

Ambassador of the United States of America to North Macedonia

A 26-year veteran of the U.S. diplomatic corps and a member of the Senior Foreign Service, Ms. Byrnes is the Ambassador to North Macedonia. She served as Deputy Chief of Mission to U.S. Embassy Athens September 2017 – May 2019. Her previous assignment was Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. at the U.S. Mission to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Vienna, Austria, where she had also served as the Deputy Chief of Mission since September 2014. Previously, Ms. Byrnes held positions at the Department of State Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs; the office of the Under Secretary of State for Public Affairs and Public Diplomacy; and the Senate Foreign

Relations Committee. She served as Public Affairs Advisor at the U.S. Mission to NATO in Brussels, Belgium, from 2007-2010. From 2010-2011, she was the Senior Civilian Representative supervising governance and development in eastern Afghanistan as part of the International Security Assistance Force. She has also represented U.S. interests overseas in Spain, Bolivia, Hungary and Turkey. Ms. Byrnes has received eight Superior Honor and Meritorious Honor Awards and an Expeditionary Service Award from the U.S. Department of State, and two Meritorious Civilian Service Awards from the U.S. Department of State as a Pearson Congressional Fellow from 2002-2003 and as an International Women's Forum Leadership Foundation Fellow for 2012-2013. A resident of Sarasota, Florida, Ms. Byrnes holds a Bachelor of Science (Foreign Service) in International Relations and a Master's degree in Policy Management, both from Georgetown University. She is married to CAPT Larry Scott Gage, USN (Ret).



#### **ANTHONY F. GODFREY**

Ambassador of the United States of America to Serbia

As U.S. Ambassador, Anthony F. Godfrey leads the U.S. Government's efforts to advance its partnership with Serbia, expand economic prosperity, and assist Serbia's efforts for European integration. It is in the strategic interest of the United States that Serbia develops as a modern, democratic, and prosperous European nation that is at peace with its neighbors and demonstrates full respect for the rule of law and rights of its citizens. Helping our Serbian partners to strengthen their democratic institutions, protect the rights of members of minority communities, combat corruption, and improve media freedom are key areas for Ambassador Godfrey and his team. Supporting Serbia's goal of EU membership and regional stability by promoting the normalization of relations between Pristina and Belgrade is a top priority for Ambassador Godfrey. Ambassador Godfrey, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister Counselor, arrived in Serbia on October 23. He served from 2015 to 2019 as Political Minister Counselor, and then Deputy Chief of Mission, at U.S. Embassy Moscow, Russia. He was Director of Iraq Affairs in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs at the Department of State 2013-2015, and Political Minister Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad 2012-2013. During almost 40 years of service in the U.S. Navy and the Foreign Service, Ambassador Godfrey has become expert in central and southern European affairs. Ambassador Godfrey was Director for Turkey and Eurasian Energy at the National Security Council, 2011-2012, and Political-Military Affairs Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, Turkey, 2008-2011. He was Deputy Chief of Mission at U.S. Embassy Yerevan, Armenia, 2004-2007, and Political Officer at U.S. Embassy Zagreb, Croatia, 2001-2004. He was International Affairs Officer in the Office of Russian Affairs, Bureau of European and Eurasian affairs, 1998-2000, and Deputy Head of Group, OSCE Assistance Group, in Chechnya, Grozny, Russia, 1996-1997. His U.S. Navy service, 1980-1992, included tours in Turkey and Japan, and he studied Russian at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California. His final military assignment was four years with the On-Site Inspection Agency, working to verify Soviet implementation of arms control agreements. Ambassador Godfrey earned a B.A. with Highest Honors at the University of California at Davis. His numerous awards include the 2018 James A. Baker III DCM of the Year Award. He speaks Russian, Serbo-Croatian and Turkish. Mr. Godfrey is married to the former Anne O'Toole, whom he met while posted in Dublin. They have three children, ages 27, 19, and 18.



## ALEXANDRA SDOUKOU

Secretary General for Energy & Mineral Resources, Ministry of Environment & Energy

Alexandra Sdoukou is a lawyer, permanent employee at the Management Organisation Unit of Development Programmes (MOU S.A.) under the Ministry of Economy and Development. Since 2004, she is working as legal advisor in the public administration in various positions at the Ministries of Economy, Development and Environment, Energy & Climate Change. She has been specialised as energy policymaker, working with all Energy Ministers from 2007 to 2015. From 2012 to 2015, she was Head of Cabinet at the Minister of Environment, Energy & Climate Change, competent to develop policy formulation, implementation and monitoring on a wide range of energy and environmental projects. From October 2017, she was Advisor to the President of Nea Dimokratia on energy and natural resources. Alexandra holds a Bachelor of Law degree from Democritus University of Thrace, a Master's Degree LLM in European Commercial Law from the University of Bristol U.K., and a M.Sc. in International & Economic studies from the Athens University of Economics & Business.



**GEORGE IOANNOU** CEO, Energy Exchange

Dr. George Ioannou is the Chief Executive Officer of the Energy Exchange Group. He is also Professor of Production & Operations Management at the Department of Management Science and Technology of the Athens University of Economics and Business (AUEB), and Director of the Management Science Laboratory. He was an Assistant Professor at the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering of Virginia Tech, directing the Manufacturing Systems Integration Lab, and Director of the International MBA Program of AUEB. Dr. Ioannou received his diploma in Mechanical Engineering from the National Technical University of Athens, and his M.Sc./DIC in Industrial Robotics and Manufacturing Automation from Imperial College, London, UK. He was a Graduate Research Assistant at the Institute for Systems Research of the University of Maryland at College Park, USA, where he received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. His research concentrates on the quantitative and analytical study of business systems, and merges operations research tools with modern information technology to address open problems faced by today's complex enterprises and supply chain networks. His work has been sponsored by several research organizations and private companies from the US, Europe and Greece, while his publications have appeared in various archival journals covering topics that range from facility and material handling systems design and operation, to Enterprise Resource Planning Systems. He has consulted for many companies and public organizations, and was responsible for executive and educational seminars in his areas of expertise, both in the US and Greece. He is the recipient of the Microsoft Excellence in Education Award and has been honored with many Teaching Excellence Awards for his MBA courses. He is a member of the Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE), where he chaired the Research and Development Committee, and served as a member of the Editorial Board of the international journal Production Planning & Control. He has been an Executive Member of the Board of Directors of Hellenic Railroads SA, and a member of the Innovation Council of the Ministry of Development. He was also the academic coordinator of the Energy Club of MBA International that organized seven conferences on energy-related topics between 2012 and 2018, and Head of the Evaluation Committee of **SYZEYEIS** II, a focal project of Information Society S.A.



## **KOSTIS SIFNAIOS** Project Director, Gastrade

Mr. Sifnaios graduated from the school of Mathematics and Applied Sciences of the University of Athens having completed a special program on studies, methods and applications of Linear Programming and Network Flows. He went on to work as a research and faculty assistant at Columbia University, New York, U.S. where he received a Master of Science (MSc) in Operational Research and Applied Business Administration. Mr. Sifnaios started his professional career at Mobil Oil Hellas in 1987 as a Strategic Planning analyst. He continued in a number of positions within Sales and Marketing reaching the post of Sales Manager for South & Western Greece. He was the transferred to Mobil Oil International in London and Madrid where he assumed posts in supply and trading. In 1997 he moved to BP International, based in Brussels to work on the European restructuring of the company. He returned in Greece as General Commercial Sales Manager for BP Greece (2000 - 2002) to then once more resume his international career within BP's European supply chain till 2007. As of June 2007, he works in Copelouzos Group initially as New Projects Manager and currently as Group Energy Director in the sector of Oil and Gas. He also manages the Alexandroupolis LNG Terminal Project. Mr. Sifnaios was born in Athens in 1960 and originates from the island of Lesvos.He speaks English, French and Spanish.



## Dr.-ING. GEORGE PECHLIVANOGLOU

Vice President, Eunice Energy Group (EEG) Chairman, Wind Energy Committee ASME

George Pechlivanoglou studied mechanical engineering (BSc) and completed the MSc in renewable energy technology at the University of Oldenburg, Germany. He completed a doctoral dissertation (PhD) in the field of wind turbine aeroservoelasticity at TU Berlin, Germany and post-doctoral work at the same institute. Has published more than 90 scientific papers and holds more than 13 national and international patents. George Pechlivanoglou has 15 years of industrial experience in the wind energy market and 10 years' experience as a wind energy expert designer and wind turbine technical inspector with international collaborations and global project portfolio. He held the position of the technical director of SMART BLADE GmbH for 8 years and has established several global collaborations with corporations like 3M, Vestas, Nordex etc. Mr. Pechlivanoglou is currently holding the position of Vice President for the EUNICE ENERGY GROUP (EEG) and holds a committee chair position at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).



## CALEB CHARLES McCARRY

Councelor to the CEO, International Development Finance Corporation (DFC)

Caleb McCarry serves as Counselor to the Chief Executive Officer leading diplomatic and interagency outreach. Previously, Mr. McCarry served as a Senior Professional Staff Member to Chairman Bob Corker (R-TN) on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He was responsible for the Western Hemisphere, Europe, and human rights policy, including democracy promotion. Mr. McCarry served in President George W. Bush's second administration as the senior State Department official responsible for encouraging and planning for a democratic transition in Cuba. During the 1980s and 1990s, Mr. McCarry led USAID-funded missions in Central America. Caleb's other experience includes serving on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and at Creative Associates International.