Hybrid 20th Annual Corporate Responsibility Conference

ENDURE. ADAPT. PERSEVERE. EMBRACE THE CHANGING FUTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY.

September 26, 2022 Grand Hyatt Athens Hotel



American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce



SPEAKERS BIOS





Nikos Andritsos, Journalist, SKAI TV & Radio

Nikos Andritsos has been working in radio and is a writer since 1996. He was born and raised in Brussels, collaborated with Greek media as a correspondent in the Belgian capital for European affairs before settling permanently in Athens, cooperating initially with ERT and from 2007 with SKAI radio and TV. He studied Political Sciences at the Free University of Brussels and the Journalism School of the Belgian Union of Editors.





Vasiliki Angouridi, Managing Editor, News4Health.gr

Vasiliki Angouridi is the Managing Editor for News4Health.gr. She has been working as a journalist in Greek media since 1999. Over the past 11 years she has been reporting on the demanding Health sector in Greece, a sector that came under the spotlight during the challenging period of the memorandum years. A believer in constant learning and acquiring new experiences, Vasiliki was always fascinated by the scientific advances of humanity. Therefore, the "attraction" to health and pharmaceutical research and innovation was inevitable. She has, also, a keen professional interest on the policies and strategies that support, advance and affect life-changing innovations, not only in Greece but on a European and global stage. Vasiliki has had the opportunity to talk with key policy-makers both on Greek and European level, scientists researching ways to improve on the human condition and global business leaders dedicated to promoting scientific developments that better peoples' lives.





Rania Assariotaki, Senior Manager for Sustainability, The American College of Greece

Rania Assariotaki joined The American College of Greece in 2008. She currently holds the position of Senior Manager for Sustainability, Office Public Affairs. She has previously occupied the position of the first Sustainability Manager at ACG. Before joining ACG, she served in the field of customer service. She holds an MSc in Marketing from ALBA at The American College of Greece. Since December 2020, serves as an ex-officio member of the Academic Advisory Board of the ACG Center of Excellence in Sustainability and since April 2022 as an affiliate member of the ACG Center of Excellence in Food, Tourism, and Leisure. Under her coordination, in 2020, ACG was awarded the STARS Gold rating by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. Since September 2020 she participates as a mentor for sustainability issues in the mentorship program of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). Starting January 2022, she serves as an elected member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Board of Directors. The purpose of the Board is to advise, govern, oversee policy and direction, and assist with the general promotion of AASHE. In February 2021, she was appointed by AASHE to serve as a member of the AASHE Advisory Council for her constant commitment and support to promoting sustainability best practices and culture on and off campus. The Advisory Council is an advisory body whose input often has a significant impact on staff and board decisions of AASHE. In February 2020 became a member of the Corporate Responsibility Committee of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce. In 2015 she was certified as a GRI G4 reporter and in July 2016 received her certification as a Sustainability (CSR) Practitioner approved by the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA). Also, she has received certifications in: Carbon Reduction Strategy, Sustainability Reporting, Social Impact Assessment & SROI. In August 2019, she was certified as a Sustainability Management professional, and in October 2021 in High Impact Leadership from the Institute for Sustainability Leadership, University of Cambridge.





Nikolaos Bakatselos, President, American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

Nikolaos Bakatselos is the Managing Director of Pyramis Metallourgia A.E. and Pyramis Deutschland GmbH. He was a 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. He was a 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 Director Several years, in June 2010 he was elected Vice President of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and President of the Northern Greece. From October 2019 until February 2022, 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.





Luciano Calestini, Representative, UNICEF Greece Country Office

Luciano Calestini spent his childhood in Italy, New Zealand, and Australia, where he completed his studies at the University of Sydney and RMIT University in Melbourne, from where he holds a Master of Social Science (International Development). Luciano has spent his entire career in development and humanitarian service, beginning in the late 1990s when he was deployed to southern Sudan for the famine response. Since then, he has served in East Timor during the post-referendum conflict in 1999, in Kosovo from 2000 following the NATO intervention, in western Afghanistan from 2002 subsequent to the NATO intervention the same year, in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo from 2004 responding to protracted population displacements, in Iraq from 2007 in response to humanitarian needs following the US-led intervention, in Lebanon from 2013 in response to the influx of Syrian refugees, in Tajikistan from 2017, and in Greece from 2020 to establish the new UNICEF Country Office. Luciano was also deployed for short-term missions to support the cholera response in Haiti in 2010 and the re-establishment of UNICEF's presence and program in Libya in 2011. He is married and has one daughter, and is a national of Italy, Australia, and New Zealand.





Rouli Christopoulou, Head of Corporate Responsibility, Alpha Bank

Rouli Christopoulou is a communications & sustainability professional with 20 years of experience, undertaking roles related to corporate & brand communication, public affairs, CSR & sustainable business. She is Head of Corporate Responsibility at Alpha Bank since 2021. From 2007-2021 she worked for Vodafone Greece holding managerial roles and in 2016 she was appointed Head of Vodafone Foundation & Sustainability, having previously worked in Agencies as a Communications Consultant. She holds an MA in Corporate Communication from Bournemouth University and an International & European Relations Degree from the Department of Political Science and Public Administration of the University of Athens. She is an active volunteer, a member of the BMW Foundation Responsibile Leaders Network, a member of the Corporate Responsibility Committee of American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and an Advisor Board member at the Greek Non-Profit "Women Do Business" promoting female entrepreneurship.





Maria Dimopoulou, Manager Communications & Sustainability, Papastratos

Maria Dimopoulou is a senior communication executive with extensive experience in communication campaigns, corporate and sustainability strategy, reputation management, crisis management and media relations. For the last 3 years she has been working in Papastratos as Manager Strategic Communication & Sustainability. She has studies in History of Art (BA) & Applied Communication (MA) in Greece and UK, while in academic years 2016 & 2019 she also worked as a Guest Lecturer in the Advertising & Public Relations laboratory of Panteion University. She is a volunteer at Women On Top, offering mentoring services. She is married and a mother of two kids.





Alexandros Gousiaris, Beekeeper

I was born in Karditsa in 1966. I studied Mathematics at the University of Crete. I graduated from the Beekeeping Educator School and have been teaching as a certified adult instructor since 1989. In 1996 I returned to my place of origin, Ilias Karditsa, and joined the Young Farmers program, active in the production and processing of honey and tomato products, utilizing 3 investment projects. 90% of our products are exported to 12 countries and have been honored with 21 taste awards. I participated as a speaker in conferences, symposia and workshops on topics related to beekeeping and agriculture. I write articles for beekeeping and culinary magazines. I was the President of the Hellenic Beekeeping-Sericulture Scientific Society from 2018 until 2022.





Giorgos Karapanagos, Public Health Data Analyst, Médecins Sans Frontières Greece

I was born and raised in Athens, Greece in 1979. I have studied Biochemistry at the University of Essex, UK, and continued with postgraduate studies in Inorganic Chemistry and Biophysics as a NCSR Demokritos scholar. My next step was towards a brand-new academic direction. After having worked for a couple of years as a professional cook, I decided to do a MSc in Human Nutrition, Public Health, and Policy at the Agricultural University of Athens. After that I worked for a short time in clinical research as a medical advisor in Contract Research Organizations, before I joined Doctors Without Borders (MSF – Médecins Sans Frontières). As a field epidemiologist for Doctors Without Borders, I have worked in Democratic Republic of Congo, Jordan, and Central African Republic. With the emergency teams there I have responded to epidemiclogy. And finally, I have supported the MSF interventions by conducting operational research. Since April 2021, I am holding the post of the Public Health data analyst in the Greek office of MSF. Our focus now is on Planetary Health issues and on incorporating evidence-based approaches in the humanitarian medical interventions.





Demetres Karavellas, CEO, WWF Greece

Demetres Karavellas is a conservation leader who has worked with WWF in various posts for over twenty-five years. He has been active in the field and on key policy issues linked to natural resources, conservation of species and critical habitats, climate change and sustainable development, at national, regional and global level. He is the CEO of WWF Greece and is presently also chairing the WWF Mediterranean Marine Initiative, a concerted network wide effort to conserve the valuable marine and coastal ecosystems and promote a sustainable blue economy for the region. He is also a member of the SDSN Leadership Council of Greece. He holds a BSc in Marine Biology from Queen Mary University and a MSc in Fisheries Biology & Management from Bangor University.





Thomas Kolster, Founder & Creative Director, Goodvertising Agency

Thomas Kolster is a frontrunner and one of the most recognized thinkers globally where marketing, business and sustainability meet. He continuously challenges the status-quo with his vocal, and often provocative, views on values, purpose, and leadership. In an over-crowded do-good market, people don't buy your values or your "why", but rather who you can help them become. He's an international keynote speaker who has featured in over 70 countries for companies like Facebook, P&G, and IKEA, to conferences like TEDx. As the founder of the Goodvertising Agency, he advises Fortune 500 companies, start-ups, non-profits and governments on more creative strategic approaches to brand and business impact. His pen rarely rests and besides his seminal books Goodvertising (2012) and The Hero Trap (2020), he writes for the likes of The Guardian, Ad Age, and Adweek. Thomas continues to drive industry change through his active participation in leading forums, such as The International Advertising Association's Sustainability Council and D&AD's Impact Council. He helps to promote best practice as go-to judge of top award shows such as D&AD and Cannes Lions. Thomas is also an eager entrepreneur and has launched impact platforms such as Projector, WhereGoodGrows and ImpactPimp because his belief is simple: Change begins with you!





Kiara Konti, Partner, Climate Change and Sustainability Services Leader CESA, EY

Kiara Konti is a Partner at EY in Greece, leading EY's Climate Change and Sustainability Services (CCaSS) practice in Greece and the Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe and Central Asia (CESA) region. She has subject-matter knowledge and 18 years of experience in sustainable development, across a series of ESG aspects, including decarbonization, the circular economy, and sustainable finance. Kiara has led more than 200 engagements, among others, on sustainability strategy and target setting, sustainability governance and management systems, ESG risk and opportunities identification and impact analysis/double materiality, stakeholder engagement, community investment, measurement of non-financial KPIs, socioeconomic outcomes measurement, measurement of social return on investment (SROI), climate/green and sustainability-linked bond/loan frameworks, ESG reporting, ESG training and non-financial assurance services, for more than 100 companies across 25 sectors. She is a subject-matter expert on ESG standards and frameworks, including GRI, SASB, <IR>, TCFD, UNGC, UN SDGs, SROI, CDP, SBTi, ECOVADIS, SEDEX, ISO 26000, ISAE3000, AA1000AS & APS, AA1000SES, UNEPFI PRB, PRI, etc. Kiara is a BoD Member of the UNGC Network in Greece, a member of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce (AmChamGR) Corporate Responsibility Committee, as well as a member of AmChamGR Circular Economy Committee, a GRI certified trainer, and an AccountAbility Certified Sustainability Assurance Practitioner. Since 2006, Kiara has published a number of articles on ESG and sustainability in Greek magazines and newspapers, has contributed to international book publications on sustainability, is a regular speaker in sustainability conferences and events in Greece and abroad. (indicatively https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LVOogYPivuo, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEfGJt0 Ai0) and has provided a series of open and in-house training courses on the subject.





Anastasia Kotanidou, Professor of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, University of Athens Medical School

Anastasia Kotanidou is Professor of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Medical School and President of the Hellenic Society of Critical Care from 2016 until 2021. She is principal investigator in more than 10 clinical studies the last 3 years. She has written more than 198 papers in peer review international journals with impact factor of 49 and more than 9000 citations. She attended the Medical School of the University of Sofia, Bulgaria from 1976-1982, and received her Ph.D. from the University of Athens, Medical School in 1993. She is a member of the Greek Medical Association, Hellenic Thoracic Society, Greek Bronchologic Society, Hellenic Society of Critical Care Medicine, Hellenic Society of Studies in Disturbances in Sleep, European Society of Transplantation, European Society of Intensive Care Medicine, American Association for the Advancement of Science. She speaks Greek, English, Bulgarian, Russian.





Phoebe Koundouri, Professor of Economics, Athens University of Economics and Business

Phoebe Koundouri, is a world-renowned environmental economics professor and global leader in sustainable development. She is widely recognized as a pioneer in innovative, human-centric, interdisciplinary systems for the sustainable interaction between nature, society, and the economy. She is listed in the most-cited women economists in the world, included within the official Stanford University list of the Top 2 % of world scientists, with 15 published books and more than 500 published peer reviewed scientific articles, book chapters, research and policy reports. She is elected member of the World Academy of Art & Science, President of the European Association of Environmental and Natural Resource Economists and she has received numerous international awards for academic excellence, including the prestigious European Research Council Synergy Grant (2020). With 100 European/Global research projects/initiatives on Sustainable Blue Growth, Water-Food-Energy Nexus, Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation and Sustainable Finance and a team of 200 researchers, her work defines policies and supports human well-being across the globe. Since 2006 she is Professor at the Athens University of Economics and Business (AUEB), founding director of ReSEES Research Laboratory (AUEB), the Sustainable Development Unit (ATHENA Informatics Research and Innovation Center) and the EIT Climate-KIC HUB Greece of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, the latter focusing on innovation acceleration and research commercialization. She also holds a position as a Professor at the Department of Technology, Management and Economics, Technical University of Denmark, she co-chairs the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network - Europe (SDSN Europe), SDSN Global Climate Hub, the International Center for Research ICRE8 and the Scientific Advisory Board of European Forest Institute. She is the Founder and scientific chair of the Alliance of Excellence for Research and Innovation on Aeiphoria (AE4RIA) which includes three research and innovation institutions that she founded and scientifically chairs: ReSEES Laboratory at AUEB, Sustainable Development Unit (SD.U) at ATHENA RC, and International Centre for Research on the Environment and the Economy (ICRE8). She holds a PhD from the University of Cambridge and has been affiliated as researcher and lecturer with Cambridge, UCL, LSE, University of Reading.





Dr. Athanasios Krystallis, Associate Professor & Executive Director, Center of Excellence in Food, Tourism and Leisure, The American College of Greece

Dr. Athanasios Krystallis is Executive Director of the Center of Excellence in Food, Tourism and Leisure, and Associate Professor in the American College of Greece (ACG). Prior to that, Athanasios was a Professor of Food Marketing in Aarhus University School of Business, Denmark. His area of expertise is the development of market research designs to study customer behavior towards differentiated products/services and customers' buying attitude & choice. His expertise lies in product/service differentiation and the development of new offerings incorporated into a wider customer-centric logic. His work comprises +100 international peer-reviewed research publications, most in ASB and ISI-ranked Journals. He has a strong fund-raising record, participating in numerous scientific research projects funded by the EU or national funds in countries such as Greece, Scandinavia, Brazil, China etc. Athanasios also is a Marketing Consultant, having designed and implemented numerous projects in all areas of marketing research in Greece and abroad, in industries like food and drinks, wine, tourism, pharma, cosmetics, manufacturing, high-tech, ICT, retailing, transportation etc. Athanasios is a Marketing Academy (EMAC), the Academy of Marketing Science (AMS), and the American Association of Wine Economists (AAWE), among others.





Agnes Mariakaki, Psychologist & Managing Director, MindSearch

Agnes Mariakaki is passionate about people, conversations, and cultures, with a focus on the transformative under-standing of people. She has worked as a researcher in more than 15 countries, conducting over 4,000 focus groups, and advising more than 300 brands on strategy, growth, consumer, and social insight. She has been managing MindSearch, a research and insights consultancy, since 1995, and has pioneered the first eye tracking research lab in Greece. She is the social researcher in the development of MAMEM, a technology that allows the use of digital devices with the mind and eye, opening new worlds of opportunity for people with limited mobility. She has developed a Google awarded application that transforms the experience of historical locations for visitors. She holds a Master's degree in Organizational Psychology from the University of Lancaster, a Master's in Non-Verbal Communication and Synergology. She is a graduate of the Paul Ekman Emotional Intelligence Academy in the UK, a certified NLP Trainer with the International Society of NLP and a certified Lego Serious Play facilitator, and a Design Think Strategist with Bricks and Business, Denmark. She is a best-selling author, Youtuber and Tiktoker.





Dimitris Michopoulos, Chairman & CEO, MuellenLowe Athens

With more than 25 years of-experience, Dimitris Michopoulos is a results-driven leader, well known for his thought leadership and his proven track record in strategic management. Focusing on boosting and maintaining sustainable, profitable growth in private and public organizations, he has built and inspired senior-level teams which have delivered impressive results locally and internationally. Dimitris joined MullenLowe Athens in 2020. Previously, he had been heading the Weber Shandwick operation in Greece, as its Managing Director since 2014. From 2012 to 2014 he was an advisor to the Management of OPAP overseeing the marketing and corporate communications. Prior to that, for nine years, Dimitris was Corporate Affairs Director at Vodafone in Greece. His professional career started with five years at Unilever. He has also served as General Manager of Communications and Marketing at the Mediterranean Games Committee. Inspirational speaker himself and founder of the thought creativity doctrine, Dimitris has delivered distinct speeches at international conferences and lectured as management and a BSc in General Business & Management and Organizational Behavior, as well as a Board Practice & Directorship Development Program Certification, while he has attended leadership courses at the IMD Business School. He is a member of the CEO Clubs Board of Directors as the VP for Reputation and a Founding Partner of Your Directors Club.





Dr. Kimberley Miner, Scientist and Systems Engineer, NASA Jet Propulsion Lab, California Institute of Technology

Dr. Kimberley R. Miner is a Scientist and Systems Engineer at the NASA Jet Propulsion Lab in California, where she researches and forecasts climate risks. Her work has taken her to the most extreme environments in the world- from Antarctica to Mt. Everest- where her team secured a Guinness World Record for identifying the highest altitude pollutants. Dr. Miner's research has been highlighted by CBS, the New York Times, Washington Post, GQ, and Sports Illustrated. Before coming to NASA, she worked with the Department of Defense in Washington DC, assessing climate risks to national interests. Dr. Miner is a Fellow at the Center for Climate and Security and Co-Chair of the NASA HQ Interagency Forum on Climate Risks, Impacts, and Adaptation. She is a graduate of Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs (MPA) and the University of Maine's Climate Change Institute (Ph.D.), where she was a Fulbright, Switzer, and Department of Defense fellow. She is a Black belt, certified Wilderness Firefighter and First Responder, and mom to a lively cattledog.





Elli Panagiotopoulou, Group Communications and Corporate Affairs Director, Polygreen

With more than 25 years of experience in Communications and Corporate Affairs, Elli is leading all communications efforts at Polygreen Group, a Greek multinational with presence in Greece, the Balkans, UAE and Mauritius, that offers circular economy and oil spill solutions around the world. She is responsible for strategy, stakeholder engagement and purpose-led brand activations. Prior to that, Elli was Communications and Corporate Affairs Manager at Athenian Brewery for 13 years, responsible for external communications, CSR as well as employee engagement. She started her career in Switzerland, working in Marketing and CRM, before assuming key roles in Communications and PR agencies in London and then Greece. Elli holds a BA in Political Science from the University of Athens and an MSc in International Relations from the London School of Economics, while she has followed specialization and management courses at the New York University, Ashridge Business School and Burson Marsteller in Milan.





Pakis Papademetriou, Head, ESG Division, Eurobank

Pakis Papademetriou has been serving sustainability and quality since 1994. He received a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and Master's degree in Industrial Engineering, both from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is certified in Business Sustainability Management from the University of Cambridge (CISL). Since September 2021, he heads the ESG Division of Eurobank S.A. From 1999-2021, he joined Athens International and was engaged in the development and application of diverse management systems focusing on quality, sustainability, and corporate administration, and held the position of Manager, Corporate Quality reporting to the CFO. He is Chair of the Corporate Responsibility Committee of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and member of the Steering Committee of the UN Global Compact Network Hellas.





Sotiris Pastras, Sustainability & Corporate Responsibility Manager, Apivita

Sotiris Pastras is the Sustainability & Corporate Responsibility Manager of APIVITA. He is responsible for the integration of the Sustainability Report, the B Corp & BREEAM Certifications, the CDP & EcoVadis assessments, and the Social Responsibility Program. He studied at the National Kapodistrian University of Athens graduating from the Communication & Mass Media Department. He also completed his Master of Science degree in Human Recourses Management (Athens University of Economics and Business) emphasizing in Business Ethics and Corporate Responsibility. As a swimmer and member of the Greek National Team, he participated in two Olympic Games in Athens (2004) and Beijing (2008). He founded the swimming team "Pastra Cretonaxiosa" the first Greek team ever to cross the English Channel (2016). He is also a founding member and General Secretary of the NGO "ExcellenSeas" which supports students from Greek borderline islands to their academic studies. In January 2021 he was appointed as a member of the Corporate Responsibility Committee of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce.





Margaritis Schinas, Vice President, European Commission

Margaritis Schinas took office as Vice-President for Promoting our European Way of Life in the Von der Leyen Commission in December 2019. In this capacity, he oversees the EU's policies for migration, security union, social rights, skills, education, culture, youth, health and dialogue with churches, religious associations and non-confessional organisations. Margaritis Schinas started his career in the European Commission in 1990. He also served as a Member of the European Parliament, from 2007 until 2009. Upon the completion of his parliamentary term of office, he returned to the European Commission and held various senior positions. In 2010, President Barroso appointed Margaritis Schinas as Deputy Head of the Bureau of European Policy Advisers. Later he served as Resident Director and Head of the Athens Office of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN). In 2014, President Juncker appointed Margaritis Schinas as the European Commission's Chief Spokesperson. He holds an MSc on Public Administration and Public Policy from the London School of Economics, a Diploma of Advanced European Studies on European Administrative Studies from the College of Europe in Bruges and a Degree in Law from the Aristotelean University of Thessaloniki.





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 Center, Hellenic Cosmos an innovative, based on new technologies, theme park. During his tenure, he contributed significantly to the expansion, development and operation of the Center and its establishment as one of the most known technology-driven cultural theme park in Greece and abroad. From March 2009, he 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, during 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. He serves as Treasurer of the American Chambers in Europe (ACE) Executive Committee.





Aggelos Stefanopoulos, Project Manager, Kosmocar

Angelos Stefanopoulos was born in Athens in 1977. He is a well-experienced professional in the automotive industry, with a proven track record of successes. His career started back in 2002 at Fiat Credit Hellas, while since 2005 he is a valuable member of Kosmocar SA family, undertaking roles of high responsibility. In 2016 he was assigned with the role of the Marketing Manager, while in 2020 he undertook the role of the Sales & Network Development Manager for the Volkswagen brand, the volume brand within Kosmocar SA portfolio. Since April 2021, he has the role of the Project Manager, in a venture of great importance both for the Volkswagen Group and the Hellenic Republic: transforming Astypalea into the first "Smart and Sustainable Island", leading the way for the electric mobility and for the sharing services of electric vehicles across the globe. He holds a degree in Statistics & Insurance Science by the University of Piraeus and a Master's Degree (MSc) in Marketing & Communication focusing on New Technologies by the Athens University of Economics and Business.





Professor Costas Synolakis, President, Athens College

Academician Costas Synolakis graduated from Athens College in 1975. He obtained his degrees from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech): a B.Sc. in Engineering and Applied Science in 1978, an M.Sc. in Civil Engineering in 1979, and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering in 1986. In 2016 he was elected a regular member of the Academy of Athens and is currently Secretary of the Division of Natural Sciences. In 1985 he was appointed Professor of Civil, Environmental and Aerospace Engineering at the University of Southern California (U.S.C.) Viterbi School of Engineering where, in 1996, he founded the USC Tsunami Center. Following his appointment as Professor of Natural Hazards and Environmental Hydraulics at the Technical University of Crete and election by the National Research and Technology Council, he served as President of the Hellenic Centre for Marine Research. In 2019 he was elected Chairman of the newly established Special Scientific Committee on Climate Change in Greece, where he serves pro bono. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic Space Center. In July 2020, he assumed the Office of President of Athens College. He has authored a large number of publications, studies, and articles in scientific journals and has conducted dozens of field missions around the world. Among the numerous academic accolades and other distinctions, he has received both in Greece and abroad, is the Presidential Young Investigator Award bestowed upon him in 1989 by U.S. President George Bush and the prestigious 2019 International Coastal Engineering Award bestowed by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). In 2020 he received the Hamaguchi Award bestowed upon individuals or organizations that have made significant scientific or pragmatic contributions to the enhancement of coastal resilience against tsunami, storm surge and other coastal disasters, thus raising people's awareness of disaster resilience. An internationally renowned pioneer in the field of tsunami research and other natural hazards, Professor Synolakis has edited five books, has mentored over 50 PhD and MSc students, has conducted over 220 conference presentations and has helped produce several documentaries on acclaimed networks such as DISCOVERY, BBC, National Geographic, History Channel and ZDF. He is best known for his ground-breaking theories on wave physics and his insights on the complexity of major global tsunamis.





Theofanis Tasis, Lecturer Contemporary Practical Philosophy, Alpen-Adria University

Theofanis Tasis is teaching Contemporary Practical Philosophy at the Alpen-Adria Universität and is a visiting Professor at the University of St. Gallen. His areas of specialization include Political and Moral Philosophy, New Media Philosophy and Transhumanism. His monograph *Castoriadis, a philosophy of autonomy* published in Greece by Eurasia Publications won the Kaftantzogleio Prize of the University of Athens in 2008 and is now in its second edition. His book *Digital Humanism: The iconistic subject and artificial intelligence* published by Armos Publications (2019) explores the notion of a digital humanism as an alternative to the challenges presented by transhumanism and artificial intelligence is now in its third edition and was shortlisted for the National Book Award in Greece. In *Politics of Bios II: The care of the self in the iconistic society* published by Armos Publications (2017) the second part of a planned trilogy and now in its third edition he explores Philosophy as an art of living regarding New Media. The first part *Politics of Bios: On Irony* published by Eurasia Publications (2012) examines the relation of the private and public sphere in terms of the body and human senses and the political and ethical function of irony. It won the Kaftantzogleio Prize of the University of Athens in 2013. His latest book *Philosophy of Human Enhancement* published by Armos Publications (2021) discusses the desirability and the political and ethical consequences of human enhancement criticizing Transhumanism and Technological Posthumanism as ideologies. He has also translated and edited books by Martin Heidegger, John Stewart Mill, Alexander Nehamas and Roberto Unger into Greek. Theofanis Tasis is a member of the Humanistische Akademie Berlin and the Greek Philosophical Society.





Melina Thomaidou, Communications & Patient Relations Manager, AbbVie

Melina Thomaidou is a Senior Communications Manager & Strategist. Since 1999 she has worked for Abbott Laboratories and since 2013, she is a senior corporate member of AbbVie biopharmaceutical company. With over 23 years leading a variety of positions in the pharmaceutical sector, Melina is highly experienced in public affairs & external relations, strategic communication, patient advocacy, digital marketing, sales, and clinical affairs. Melina is adept at driving change in brand awareness and strategic health initiatives, implementing product launches, strategic communication, crisis management, public relations, and corporate social responsibility programs. A visionary, proactive, strategic thinker with excellent inter-personal and presentation skills, detail-oriented, and focusing on innovation.





George Terzis, Communications & Corporate Affairs Senior Manager, Alpha Bank

George Terzis holds the position of Senior Manager in the division of Corporate Communications and Corporate Affairs in Alpha Bank. He is a communications expert with a long and established career as an executive and senior editor in print and digital media as well as TV/Radio. From 1998-2019 he worked for Kathimerini newspaper and in 2016 he was appointed Head of Kathimerini's digital edition. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Communication and Media Studies from National and Kapodistrian University of Athens as well as a Bachelor's degree in European Studies/Civilization from Panteion University.





Aris Vrettos, Director of Sustainability Strategy and Transformation, Croda International Plc

Aris is the Director of Sustainability Strategy and Transformation at Croda, a FTSE100 Life Sciences and Consumer Care company. His role is to stretch the group's sustainability ambitions and commitments and support Croda's business sectors in further enhancing their sustainability strategies in partnership with their customers and suppliers. Before joining Croda, he was the Director of the Centre for Business Transformation at the University of Cambridge's Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL), developing new thinking, tools and strategies to enable business to play a transformative role toward a sustainable economy. Between 2012 and 2020 was the Global Director for the HRH The Prince of Wales's Business & Sustainability Programme, the leading executive programme where he trained over 1,000 leaders on systems change and sustainable business. Previously he was a Senior Advisor at the think-tank AccountAbility, focusing on corporate materiality, engagement and strategy. Aris is a member of the Cambridge Global Challenges Initiative and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. He is a trained economist and journalist and began his career writing for international news and reporting on social issues.