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**Friday, September 9, 2022**

The MET Hotel | Thessaloniki, Greece



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## SPEAKERS BIOS

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**Kostas Andriosopoulos**

Professor of Finance & Energy  
Economics

Audencia Business School  
Chairman, Energy Committee,  
AmChamGR

Professor Dr. Kostas Andriosopoulos is the Executive Director of the Research Centre for Energy Transition & Sustainability Center at Audencia 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.

- President of the Energy Committee of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce.
- President of the Decarbonization Fund of the Greek islands for the Hellenic Ministry of Environment & Energy.
- Founder and former Chairman of the Hellenic Association for Energy Economics
- Board member of the Global Gas Center - World Energy Council as a Gas and LNG markets expert.

Since August 2018 he is Country Manager of Akuo Energy in Greece, a multinational company based in France that develops RES projects in 17 countries around the world. His work has been published in international finance and commodity-related Journals and has participated as speaker in recognized conferences world-wide.

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**Nikolaos Bakatselos**

President  
AmChamGR

Nikolaos Bakatselos is the President & CEO of “Pyramis Metallourgia A.E.” and “Pyramis Deutschland GmbH”. 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. 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 of Directors of SVE, Member of the Board of Directors of IOBE 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 AmChamGR and President of the Northern Greece Committee and since June 2019 he is the President of AmChamGR. Nikolaos Bakatselos is Founding Member and Member of the Board of Council of Competitiveness of Greece. From October 2019 until February 2022 he was elected as President of HEDNO by the General Assembly of HEDNO. He holds a B.A. in Sociology from University of Reading and a MSc in Shipping, Trade and Finance from City University Business School.



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**Belinda Balluku**

Minister  
Ministry of Infrastructure and  
Energy  
Albania

Mrs. Belinda Balluku is the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Albania since August 2022 and the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, a position she has held since January 2019. In the national elections of 2021, Mrs. Balluku has been elected Member of the Parliament in the Region of Tirana. Prior to her appointment as Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, she held the position of General Director of ALBCONTROL, the National Air Navigation Services Provider of Albania. Mrs. Balluku is a graduate of the Executive Program "Economic Development" from Harvard Kennedy School, as well as an honorary degree from IATA (International Air Transport Association) for the Management of Air Navigation Services (Air Navigation Services Management). Mrs. Balluku is the Minister of Infrastructure and Energy of Albania. Mrs. Balluku has several qualifications in the areas of Air Safety, Telecommunication, Human Resources, Local Governance Management and Social Institutions Management. Mrs. Balluku was honored by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) with a diploma in Air Navigation Services Management (with honors). She has also successfully received the General Management Diploma (with honors) from the International Air Transport Association, Miami, USA. She holds a Law Degree and in 1999 she graduated from the University of Athens in Business Administration. During her time as Director General at ALBCONTROL, Mrs. Balluku was selected as one of the 12 members of the Air Navigation Agency Board at EUROCONTROL. This board represents all stakeholders in air traffic management and their integration into the management and decision-making structures of EUROCONTROL in supporting the Single European Sky (SES). Mrs. Balluku's contribution in the field of aviation in Albania has been continuously valued by international partners, and she has fostered excellent cooperation with neighboring agencies to the integration of ALBCONTROL into European organizations. Furthermore, she has enabled the realization of major changes in ALBCONTROL aiming at raising and aligning standards with the European Community, including the realization of pan European objectives such as FRA and MLAT. In 2004, Mrs. Balluku joined the staff of the Municipality of Tirana, initially as Public Relations Adviser and later as the Head of the Mayor's Cabinet. During this period, she has led the development of communication strategies with the public and the media. She has been active in creating the web portal on the people's reception and has successfully managed the coordination between the Mayor and the executive directorates of the Municipality of Tirana. Mrs. Balluku has extensive experience in the field of telecommunication. She has held senior management positions in AMC, the largest state-owned mobile phone company in the country during 2000- 2004. During this dynamic period for AMC, Mrs. Balluku has been part of the decision-making board, as well. Mrs. Balluku has been a vital part of the Socialist Party of Albania since 2006. She has contributed continuously in electoral campaigns, has organized important political events and has been a driving force in engaging the youth in political activism. Social responsibility is an area where Ms. Balluku has increasingly contributed by being present through community projects and other initiatives.

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**Neil Robert Brown**  
Managing Director  
KKR

Neil works at the intersection of geopolitics and finance as Managing Director at KKR. Neil also focuses on energy security and climate as a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council. As MD on the KKR Global Institute and Infrastructure teams, Neil specializes in global trends and risk mitigation; investing in energy, climate, telecommunications, and infrastructure; and opening emerging markets for investment. Previously, he served for nearly a decade on the senior staff of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where he led global energy security and climate efforts and expanded the Nunn-Lugar WMD non-proliferation program, and he was previously a Senior Fellow at the German Marshall Fund. He has lived and worked with refugees in Africa, South Asia, and Europe. Neil is a volunteer board member of The Lugar Center, Merton College Charitable Corporation, Association of American Rhodes Scholars, and Columbia University Energy Journalism Initiative, and he is a Counselor at the International Strategy Forum. Neil studied at Harvard and Oxford.

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**Daniel Bustos**

Executive Vice President &  
Chief Commercial Officer  
Excelerate Energy

Daniel Bustos is Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer for Excelerate Energy, responsible for the commercial development of our LNG importation projects. Daniel formerly served as the Senior Vice President of Project Origination for Excelerate Energy. Prior to joining Excelerate Energy, Daniel worked for Repsol YPF in various positions for both E&P and downstream business in Latin America, including leading Repsol's oil and gas commercial activities in Bolivia, development of the propane business in Latin America, and managing strategic planning and development for the natural gas division in Argentina, Bolivia, and Brazil. In 2007, Daniel was part of the Repsol team that developed Bahía Blanca GasPort, the world's first floating regasification terminal. Daniel earned a Nuclear Engineering Degree from Instituto Balseiro (Argentina) in 1997 and holds both a Nuclear Engineering Master's Degree and an MBA in Corporate Finance.



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**Dan Byers**

Vice President

Climate and Technology

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Global Energy Institute

Dan Byers is vice president of climate and technology at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Global Energy Institute. With a focus on domestic and international climate policy, as well as broader environmental and regulatory issues, Byers develops and implements strategies in support of the Chamber's broader education and advocacy efforts. Byers brings over two decades of public policy experience to his work assessing the impact of existing and emerging federal laws and regulations on the U.S. energy industry. Before joining the Chamber, Byers was staff director of the Energy and Environment Subcommittee for the House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. Prior to that, Byers served as deputy to the associate director for technology at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), where he oversaw policy development and coordination associated with a broad suite of technology issues. From 2007 to 2009, he also worked for the White House National Economic Council, leading the development and coordination of telecommunications policy for the Bush administration. Byers holds an M.S. in soil science from North Carolina State University and a B.S. in crop and soil environmental sciences from Virginia Tech. He lives in Fairfax, Virginia, with his wife and two sons.

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**Kate Marie Byrnes**  
Ambassador  
U.S. Embassy to North  
Macedonia

A 28-year veteran of the U.S. diplomatic corps and a member of the Senior Foreign Service with the rank of Minister-Counselor, 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 a 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 the Army. She represented the 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).



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**Aristotelis Chantavas**

Head of Europe  
Enel Green Power

Aristotelis joined the Enel Group in November 2018 and is currently the Head of Europe region in Enel Green Power (EGP). In March 2020 he was elected President of SolarPower Europe. He has a diverse background in the management of different types of renewables projects, varying in both size and type. His broad professional career in renewable energy, both in Europe and North America, includes executive roles in business development, construction and maintenance, M&A and new investments. Aristotelis graduated in Civil Engineering from DUTH and holds an MSc in Engineering Business Management from University of Warwick, with further specialization in Entrepreneurial Studies at Harvard University.

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Konstantinos Eleftheriadis is the Energy Industry Leader and a Financial Advisory Partner at Deloitte Greece. He specializes in Financial Advisory, M&A Transactions and Forensic Services. With over 17 years of professional experience, Konstantinos' expertise has been instrumental in a range of sectors with special focus in the Energy & Resources market, both locally and internationally. Konstantinos specializes in services like: transactions, M&A assistance, feasibility studies, independent business reviews, liquidity, business and e-mobility plans and advice on Power Purchase Agreements, for many Greek and international clients that are operating in Power generation, Renewables, Oil & Gas, Mining & Metals, Waste treatment, etc

**Konstantinos Eleftheriadis**

Financial Advisory Partner  
Deloitte

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**Maria Rita Galli**

CEO  
DESFA

Maria Rita Galli is the CEO of DESFA (Hellenic Gas Transmission System Operator). Until recently she held the position of the Executive Vice President Business Development & Asset Management at Snam S.p.A, a leading global energy infrastructure company and was the Chairman of the SENFLUGA Energy Holdings S.A., a consortium controlling 66% of DESFA's share capital. Ms. Galli started her career at Eni in 1997, as a graduate in nuclear engineering from the Milan Polytechnic University. At Eni, she went through various roles within the International Business Development Department, joined relevant international projects and was involved in M&A activities. As a member of Eni's Board of Directors, she also oversaw the operations of some of the Group's companies abroad (Galp, Distrigas, eni Gas&Power Trading BV, eni Gas&Power France, GVS GmbH, etc.) Since 2006, she has been in charge of the International Business Development unit and, from January 2010, she has been in charge of the International Business Development and Assets Management department. In October 2016, she joined Snam as the Head of Business Development and International Asset Management.



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**Adonis Georgiadis**

Minister

Ministry of Development and  
Investments, Greece

Adonis Georgiadis was born on November 6th, 1972, in Athens. He graduated from the Faculty of History & Archaeology of the School of Philosophy of the National & Kapodistrian University of Athens. In 1993, he took over the management of publications 'GEORGIADIS-LIBRARY OF GREEK'. In 1994, he founded the Liberal Studies Center "GREEK EDUCATION". Elected MP in Athens B region in the elections of 2007 and 2009 with the LAOS political party. In February 2012, he joined the Nea Demokratia political party, having resigned from the parliamentary office. Elected with Nea Demokratia in Athens B in the national elections of 2012 and 2015. In 2011, he was Vice Minister of Shipping in the Government of Lucas Papademos and in 2013 he was appointed Minister of Health in the Government of Antonis Samaras. On January 18th, 2016, he was appointed one of the two Vice-Presidents of the Nea Demokratia by decision of Kyriakos Mitsotakis, the President of Nea Demokratia. On July 9th, Adonis Georgiadis was appointed as Minister of Development and Investments after the 2019 Greek elections. He is married to Eugenia Manolidou and they have two children, Perseus and Alcaeus.

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**Vasilis Gregoriou**

CEO & Executive Chairman of  
the Board  
Advent Technologies Holdings  
Inc.

Dr. Vasilis Gregoriou has been Chairman and CEO of Advent Technologies Holdings Inc. since inception. Dr. Gregoriou co-founded Advent in 2012. In addition, Dr. Gregoriou is an internationally known scientist with research and/or managerial positions in both the U.S. (Northeastern, MIT, Polaroid, Princeton) and Greece (NHRF, FORTH) over his 30-year career so far in the technology sector. His research activity extends over a wide area of subjects in the renewable energy space that include the areas of flexible photovoltaics based on organic semiconductors, optically active materials based on conjugated oligomers and polymer nanocomposites. His published work as co-author includes three books and more than 100 scientific papers. He is also co-inventor of 16 patents. Dr. Gregoriou has more than 25 years of experience in the U.S. market. He has extensive experience in the technical development of new products and in the management of such activities. He holds a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from Duke University and he has attended the MBA program at Northeastern University. He was also a NRSA award recipient at Princeton University. He also served as President of Society for Applied Spectroscopy (SAS) in 2001.

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**Andrew Herscowitz**

Chief Development Officer  
U.S. International Development  
Finance Corporation (DFC)

Andrew M. Herscowitz is the first Chief Development Officer (CDO) at U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC). As CDO, Herscowitz leads the DFC's efforts to pursue the most highly developmental projects in less developed countries. He reports directly to the Board of Directors, is a member of the Investment Committee, and is responsible for setting DFC's overall development strategy in coordination with the CEO. He oversees interagency coordination on development, creates and implements metrics for evaluating the development performance of DFC's portfolio, manages strategic relationships with private sector entities at the nexus of business and development, and serves as an ex officio member of DFC's Development Advisory Council. Prior to his appointment as CDO, Mr. Herscowitz was the Coordinator of the U.S. Government's Power Africa program from 2013-2020, where he grew the initiative to become the world's largest partnership for development with 170 partners and \$56 billion in commitments. Mr. Herscowitz is a Career Minister in the Senior Foreign Service and served overseas as Mission Director, Deputy Mission Director, and Regional Legal Advisor for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in multiple countries in Latin America and the Caribbean from 2002-2013. Upon joining USAID in 2001, Herscowitz served as the lawyer for USAID's Office of Development Credit, which has leveraged hundreds of millions of dollars in private sector funds through its loan guarantee program—an office that now is part of the DFC. He also worked with the USAID legal team that designed the original framework for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. He began his career in international development as a consultant with Probe International. Following graduation from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, Herscowitz spent a year as a Georgetown volunteer in Nicaragua. After earning a law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center, he worked for two law firms in Washington, D.C. In 2018, Herscowitz was awarded the "Service to Americas" medal, given to the U.S. Government officials who have provided the greatest benefit to the American people. In 2005, the Federal Bar Association recognized Herscowitz as one of the five most outstanding lawyers under the age of 35 in the U.S. Government. He has been named as an "African Energy Elite," as one of the 60 Most Influential Figures in East and West African Power and one of the Top 50 Most Influential Figures in Southern Africa Power. He also has been named as an MIT/Rockefeller "Global Commissioner for Ending Energy Poverty" and has served on three different World Economic Forum Global Future Councils since 2013.



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**Christopher R. Hill**  
Ambassador  
U.S. Embassy to Serbia

Christopher R. Hill arrived in Belgrade on March 31, 2022. He previously served as the U.S. Ambassador to Iraq, Korea, Poland, and North Macedonia, as Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, and as Head of the U.S. delegation to the 6 Party Talks on North Korea. Earlier in his diplomatic career, Hill was the special envoy for the Kosovo crisis and prior to that was a member of the U.S. negotiating team whose efforts led to the Dayton Peace Agreement, ending the Bosnian war. Following his retirement from the Foreign Service in 2010, Hill was Dean of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, and then Chief Advisor to the Chancellor for Global Engagement and Professor of the Practice of Diplomacy, at the University of Denver. In 2021, Hill was named the George Ball Adjunct Professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. In October 2021, he was called upon to return to diplomatic service when President Biden nominated him to be the next U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia. Hill earned a B.A. at Bowdoin College and an M.S. at the Naval War College. The recipient of numerous honors, including the Robert S. Frasure Award for Peace Negotiations and the Secretary of State Distinguished Service Award. Hill speaks Serbian, Polish, Macedonian and French. He is joined in Belgrade by his wife, Julie.

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**Ioannis Kaltsas**

Head

Investment Team for Greece  
and Cyprus  
European Investment Bank

Ioannis Kaltsas holds a Ph.D. in Economics and an MSc in Applied Economics from Virginia Tech (USA), an MA in Industrial Economics from the University of East Anglia (UK) as well as a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Science from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece).

He is Head of the Investment Team for Greece & Cyprus at the European Investment Bank (EIB). Prior to that, he worked in various managerial positions within the EIB and as a Senior Advisor to the EIB's Management Committee, as well as an expert for the evaluation of industrial and agricultural projects financed by the Bank. Before joining the EIB, he worked as an Economist in a UN Commodity Board and the World Bank, as well as an engineer in the champagne industry in France. His academic publications include papers in urban land values, futures markets as well as technical efficiency. He speaks fluently Greek, English, French and Spanish.

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**Nektaria Karakatsani**

Advisor to the Minister of  
Environment and Energy

Nektaria Karakatsani is an expert in energy regulation and EU funding. She is an advisor to the Minister of Energy and Environment in Greece, and a Member of the Board at the Center for Renewable Energy Sources and the Hellenic Survey of Geology and Mineral Exploration. She has acted as a member of the Board of RAE, CEER and ACER Board of Regulators. She holds a PhD in Energy Economics from London Business School and an MSc from Oxford University. She has worked as an energy consultant for UK institutions and firms, focusing on market reforms and risk management. She has published her research in influential journals, including Energy Economics, Journal of Forecasting, Oxford Handbook of Economic Forecasting and Journal of Non-linear Dynamics and Econometrics. She has been teaching forecasting, business statistics and econometrics at LBS, LSE and City University. Over the last years, she has written more than 60 articles to raise public awareness on issues of green funding, energy transition, infrastructure, consumers and competition.



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**Olga Khakova**

Deputy Director for European  
Energy Security  
Global Energy Center  
Atlantic Council

Olga Khakova is the deputy director for European energy security at the Atlantic Council's Global Energy Center, where she manages transatlantic energy initiatives. Before joining the Atlantic Council, Khakova was a senior program coordinator for US Energy Association's Energy Technology and Governance Program. She helped start and coordinate the Western Balkans' Electricity Market Initiative working group, which provides technical expertise on creating better-connected electricity markets. Khakova also worked as a program director for a leading energy non-profit in the Midwest, The Climate + Energy Project (CEP). While at CEP she co-led the conception and development of the Clean Energy Business Council, a network of businesses seeking to capitalize on renewable energy resources in Kansas and the greater Kansas City area through legislative, regulatory, and educational solutions. Khakova facilitated state-wide stakeholder engagement on energy issues, such as education and outreach on rate design dockets at the Kansas Corporation Commission. During her time at Bombardier Aerospace, Khakova organized events and developed communications strategies in Brazil, Canada, China, and the US for a distinguished human factors safety program called Safety Standdown. Khakova has a business administration degree from Wichita State University and a professional science masters in environmental assessment from the University of Kansas. She is originally from Ukraine.

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**Yuri Kim**

Ambassador

U.S. Embassy to Albania

Yuri Kim arrived in Tirana as the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Albania in January 2020. A career diplomat, Ambassador Kim has worked on key foreign policy and national security challenges across Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. She was director of Southern European Affairs, responsible for Turkey, Greece, Cyprus, and the broader Eastern Mediterranean region, as well as director of the Office of European Security and Political-Military Affairs, responsible for NATO and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). She was also previously Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary of State and director of the Center for the Study of the Conduct of Diplomacy. Earlier in her career, she was Special Assistant to Secretary Colin Powell as well as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Overseas assignments include Turkey, Iraq, the Republic of Korea, Japan, and China. Yuri Kim holds a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.Phil. from Cambridge University.

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**Yianos Kontopoulos**

CEO

Athens Exchange Group

Yianos Kontopoulos is Chief Executive Officer of Hellenic Exchanges-Athens Stock Exchange, and Athens Exchange Clearing House and Hellenic Central Securities Depository, its subsidiaries. Prior to joining ATHEX, he was CQS' Chief Macro Strategist. Before CQS, he was the Global Head of Macro Strategy at UBS. He joined UBS in 2015 from Eurobank Group, where he was the Group CIO and the CEO of the Asset Management firm. Previously, he was an economist for Salomon Brothers, a top-rated Merrill Lynch Global FX Strategist and Research Manager, and a systematic hedge fund founder. Yianos Kontopoulos holds a PhD, MPhil and MA in Economics from Columbia University and an AB in Economics from Harvard College.



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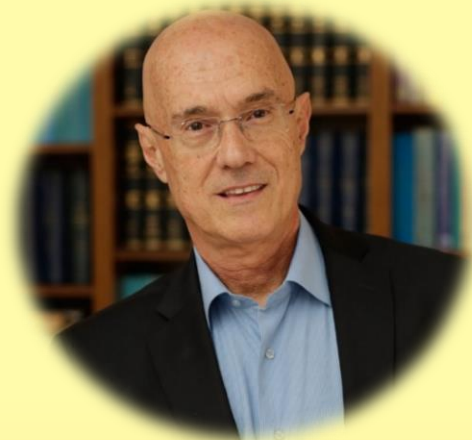
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**George Kremlis**

Principal Advisor to the Prime Minister;  
Chair, AmChamGR Circular Economy Committee

George Kremlis is currently Principal Advisor to the Greek Prime Minister on energy, climate, environment and circular economy issues. He is a member of the Board of the European Public Law Organisation. He is also a member of the environmental and social advisory council of the EBRD and also currently the Chair of the Bureau of the Espoo Convention and the SEA Protocol, Chair of the MOPs in 2019, elected Chair for the MOPs in December 2020 and re-elected Chair for the period 2021-2023. George Kremlis is Honorary Director of the European Commission (EC) and was in this capacity Active Senior responsible for circular economy in the islands. He started his career in the EC in 1981. He was a Legal advisor (from January 1981) in the European Commission's Legal Service, with an interruption of three years (1990-1993) in Greece where he exercised the functions of Advisor to the Greek Minister of National Economy (1990), National Co-ordinator for the EEC internal market (1990-1992), Head of the EEC Committee under the Greek Prime Minister (1993), and Secretary General for European Affairs in the Ministry of National Economy (1993). During this period he was also a Member of the Greek Competition authority. In 1995 he joined DGENV. From 1995 to 2004 he served as Head of the Legal Unit, responsible for all legal issues in the DG. From 2004 to 2005 he was the Head of the "Legal affairs and Governance" Unit, and from June 2005 to May 2013 Head of the Unit "Cohesion Policy and Environmental Impact assessments". From June 2013 till 30 March 2018 he has served as Head of the "Mainstreaming and Environmental Assessments" Unit (former "Enforcement, Cohesion Policy & European Semester, Cluster 1" Unit); in-between, from March to August 2011, he served as Acting Director of the Directorate "Legal Affairs and Cohesion" and from June 2013 to January 2014 as Director ad interim of the Directorate "Implementation, Governance and Semester". In his last position he was also the Chairman of the ENEA-MA (European Network of Environmental and Managing Authorities), and the EIA/SEA (Environmental Impact Assessment / Strategic Environmental Assessment) Experts Groups. He has also served as a member of the Board of the National Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development in Greece, and as a member of the Greek Regulatory Authority for Energy (RAE). He is Founding and Honorary President of the Hellenic Environmental Law Association. He was a lawyer of the Greek Supreme Court and at the beginning of his career he has been a Research fellow at the Centre of International Economic and European Law (1979-80), in Thessaloniki. Visiting Professor in a number of universities, in Greece and abroad, especially on post-graduate studies. He is the co-author of a four volumes Commentary, Article by Article, of the EU Treaties (in Greek). He is also the author of a very large number of various publications, in English, French and Greek, including books and articles, on EU Policy and Law, in particular institutional law, business law, private international law, environmental law, and comparative law.

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**David Livingston**

Senior Advisor

U.S. Special Presidential Envoy  
for Climate

David Livingston is senior advisor to the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, John Kerry. Prior to joining government, Mr. Livingston previously worked at the Eurasia Group, a consultancy, focusing on energy, climate, trade and technology issues, and as a non-resident senior fellow of the Atlantic Council. He has also served as a Fellow at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, as well as the inaugural Robert S. Strauss Fellow for Geoeconomics at the Office of the US Trade Representative. Earlier in his career, he worked at the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California and the University of Oxford, and is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

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**Laura Lochman**

Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Energy Diplomacy in the  
Bureau of Energy Resources  
U.S. Department of State

Laura Lochman started December 13, 2021 as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy Diplomacy in the Bureau of Energy Resources. She was previously Director of the Office of Canadian Affairs, and from January-September 2021, served as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs for Canada, Haiti, and the Caribbean. Laura Lochman is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service with over 30 years of experience in policy analysis and implementation. She has served in various overseas assignments with the Department of State, including as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy to the Kingdom of Denmark; Economic Counselor in Bogota, Colombia; Consul General in Calgary, Canada; Deputy Economic Counselor and Chief of the Trade and Investment Unit at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow; and Deputy Economic Counselor and Environment, Science and Technology Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Madrid. Earlier, she served in Caracas, Venezuela and Sao Paulo, Brazil. In Washington, Laura previously served in the State Department's Office of Cuban Affairs, the Bureau of South Asian Affairs, and in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. Laura was detailed for one year from the State Department to a non-governmental organization, the Nature Conservancy, as a policy advisor. She also spent two years as the State Department's Deputy Director of the Office of Central European Affairs.



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**Vladimir Malinov**

CEO

Bulgartransgaz

Vladimir Malinov is the Executive Director of the Bulgarian gas transmission system operator Bulgartransgaz since 2018. Mr. Malinov joined Bulgartransgaz as Head of Legal Division in 2010. He was responsible for regulatory affairs and was deeply involved in relations with EU institutions, the company's TSO certification and unbundling and the implementation of NCs. In 2019 Mr. Malinov was appointed as Member of the Board of Balkan Gas Hub and in January 2021 – as a Member of the Board of Gastrade S.A. - the project company developing the Alexandroupolis LNG Terminal. In December 2021 Mr. Malinov was elected Member of the Board of the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas (ENTSOG).

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**Yannis Maniatis**

f. Minister of Environment  
Energy and Climate Change  
Greece

Dr. Eng. Yannis Maniatis was an Assoc. Professor at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and since 2002 is Assoc. Professor at the University of Piraeus.

Visiting Professor at the Institute of Economic Geography, University of Bonn.

Director of the MSc “Climate Crisis and Information and Communication Technologies”

Director of the “Environmental and Energy Policies and Systems” Laboratory.

### Political

- Member of the Greek Parliament (2004 - 2019)
- Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change (2013 - 2015)
- Secretary General of the Ministry of Transport and Communications (1998 - 2001)

### Academic fields

1. Energy and Transportation Policies and Systems,
2. Environmental Management and Climate Change
3. Innovation Management and Digital Entrepreneurship
4. Systems and Policies of Smart Energy, Digital Agriculture, Smart Cities

### Publications

1. Maniatis, Y. (2020). “Green Development: the Answer to Climate Crisis”, diaNEOsis Eds, Athens
2. Maniatis, Y. (2016). “Structural Reforms and Progressive Patriotism”, Papazisis Eds, Athens.
3. Maniatis, Y. (2012). “Energy and Natural Resources: National Pillars for Development”, Livanis Eds, Athens.
4. Maniatis, Y. (2009). “The Challenge of Green Development”, Livanis Eds, Athens.
5. Maniatis, Y. (1993). “Geographic Information Systems and Environmental Monitoring”, Ziti Eds, Thessaloniki.

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### Experience

Tassos Manos is HEDNO's CEO since October 2019.

### In the Past:

Lafarge Holcim Europe-Head of Procurement Balkans.

Heracles GCo - General Manager responsible for Logistics, Exports, Distribution Terminals, Procurement and Group IS/IT.

ANEH Shipping Subsidiary-Managing Director.

PPC Renewables -Project Manager for Mergers & Acquisitions and Business Development

BCG (The Boston Consulting Group) - Consultant.

PQH S.A.- COO

Co-Founder - startups in medical device industry

### Education

INSEAD – MBA.

Technical University of Crete - MSc. in Engineering Management

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) - BA/MA in Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering



**Tassos Manos**

CEO  
HEDNO



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**Ioannis Margaris**

Deputy Chairman and Director  
General, Technology, Systems  
Development & Strategy  
Independent Power  
Transmission Operator (IPTO)

Ioannis Margaris, Dipl. Electrical Engineer and Computer Engineer (NTUA 2006), completed his PhD dissertation at the Power Systems Laboratory - School of Electrical and Computer Engineering NTUA in 2011 focusing on design and operation of Electricity Grids and Power Systems with Increased Penetration of Renewable Energy Sources. He worked for a period in the Public Power Corporation (PPC) – at the Non-Interconnected Island Power Systems Department – on dynamic security of power systems and data management for Smart Networks and MicroGrid applications on Greek island systems. He completed his Post-Doc research at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU Wind Energy Department 2012), where he continued working as Researcher (equiv. Assistant Prof.) and R&D project manager in North Europe, lecturing in MSc programs of DTU. He participated in the technology cooperation program between Denmark and China, in particular in the field of Transmission Systems and Electricity Networks and Wind Energy. In 2015 he became Executive Vice-Chairman of the BoD of Hellenic Electricity Distribution Network Operator (HEDNO – DEDDIE) focusing on Network Technology, Strategic Projects and Investments in the Distribution Grid, strengthening domestic and international partnerships of HEDNO with Distribution Network Operators and IT/ICT companies in the field of Smart Grids. In the past he had served as member of the BoD of OTE and as technology and policy advisor for projects in Europe, Latin America, Africa and China.

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**Zorana Mihajlovic**

Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister of Energy and Mining  
Serbia

She was born on 5 May 1970 in Tuzla. After graduating from the First Economics School in Belgrade, as a student of the generation, she enrolled at the Faculty of Economics, where she graduated in 1993 and received her doctorate in 2001 in the field of energy and economics. She became Assistant Professor at the University of John Nesbitt in 2008, Associate Professor and Vice-Rector for Science in 2011, and was elected as a full-time professor in 2016. She is the author and co-author of four books in the field of energy and sustainable development. She has published more than two hundred papers on the problems and possibilities of the development of the Serbian energy sector. She worked in the First Economics School, EPS-Elektroistok, at Nikola Tesla Airport and the University of John Nesbitt, where she is still employed. From 2004 to 2006, she was the Advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia for Energy. She was the Energy Adviser to Republika Srpska Prime Minister Milorad Dodik from 2010 to 2012. She is the president of the SNS Council for Energy and Mining since 2009, Vice President of the Party since 2012, and since mid-2016, she is the member of the SNS Presidency. From 2012 to 2014, she was the Governor of Serbia at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). She was elected Minister of Energy, Development and Environmental Protection in 2012. From 2014 to 2020 she was the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure. The portfolio of the ministry, headed by her, has the infrastructure projects in the value of approximately €16 billion. During the same term, she was appointed the President of the Coordination Body of the Government of the RS for Gender Equality, as well as the responsible person on behalf of the Government for the issue of Roma inclusion. She chairs the Joint Government Group of the RS with the task of defining specific measures for improving the position of the Republic of Serbia on the World Bank Doing Business list and the Council of Foreign Investors. She is the President of the Coordination Body for supporting the monitoring of project implementation, investing in the reconstruction and/or construction of clinical health centres. Since 2018, she is a member of the Advisory Board of the World Bank for Gender Equality and Development, the body responsible for reviewing the progress achieved in gender equality at the global level and recommending activities to empower women and reduce the gap between women and men. From the establishment of the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure in 2014, more than 200 km of new highways have been built, more than 200 km of railroads have been reconstructed, public enterprise reforms have been started and a major step forward has been made in harmonization of domestic legislation in the field of traffic and construction with the rules applicable in the European Union. A special achievement is the implementation of comprehensive reforms in the field of construction, which resulted in Serbia's progress from 186th to the 10th place in the world for issuing of building permits on the Doing business list of the World Bank and improvement of the overall rating of the country on the list from 91th to 43rd place in three years. In her twenty-five-year professional career, she received more than 200 acknowledgments, charters and recognition, among which the "Reformer of the Year" in the selection of the National Alliance for Local Economic Development (NALED) is one of the most significant ones. She received this award for the first time in 2014 for comprehensive building licensing reforms, and the second award, "Reformer of 2016", was awarded to her for decade of reforms in this area. She is the winner of the international award "Personality of the Year and the Best Minister for the Year 2018", which is awarded to the most successful personalities in the region, which was handed over to her in July 2018 in Sarajevo. Her hobbies are swimming, carting, flower growing and humanitarian work. She is a member of the Council of the University of Belgrade and the Management Board of the Development Fund. She is the founder of NGO Women's Government, a member of the European Movement in Serbia and the East West Bridge organization. She is the initiator of the initiative "Let Us Employ Thousands of Women in the Rural Areas", which is implemented by the Coordinating Body for Gender Equality in cooperation with Ethno-Network and NALED. She is the mother of one son. She speaks English.

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**Herro Mustafa**

Ambassador

U.S. Embassy to Bulgaria

Herro Mustafa is the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Ambassador Mustafa has served in Washington, Lisbon, New Delhi, Mosul, Beirut, and Athens. She is the recipient of notable awards from the State Department, including the Matilda W. Sinclair 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.



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**Naser Nuredini**

Minister

Ministry of Environment and  
Physical Planning  
North Macedonia

Naser Nuredini was born 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- Nuredini GmbH, Vienna, Director, Advisor

September 2014-March 2016 Acquisitor Ltd 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

December 2005-June 2006 CAIB International Markets Ltd., London, Analyst for research on the capital market for listed financial companies and real estate in Eastern Europe

March 2004-November 2005 B.P. Invest Consult, Vienna, Analyst

**EDUCATION**

1998-2002 University of Brighton, East Sussex, BA (Hons) in “International Business”, England

2000-2001 Fachhochschule Mainz “International Business”, Germany

1989-1998 Vienna International School “International Baccalaureate”, Austria

1986-1989 Primary School “Sabidin Bajrami”, North Macedonia

**PERSONAL SKILLS**

Languages Distinguished: Albanian, English, German

Intermediate level: Serbian

**OTHER SKILLS**

Member of FCA, United Kingdom of England

Member of Xetra, Eurex and Euronext

Organisation of two humanitarian activities such as: “St Anna Kinderspital” to fight cancer, and other fund for children with limited abilities

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**Spiros Papaefthimiou**

President, HAEEL;

Professor

Technical University of Crete

Dr. Spiros Papaefthimiou received his bachelor diploma in Physics (1995), MSc in Environmental Sciences (1997) and PhD specializing in smart energy saving devices for buildings (2001), all from Department of Physics at the University of Patras. He is currently Associate Professor in Energy Management Systems and Energy Efficiency Technologies, in the School of Production Engineering and Management at the Technical University of Crete in Greece. He is specialized in energy efficiency issues, energy saving applications and renewables' technologies. His research interests include experimental preparation and characterization of energy saving devices, technology of "smart" materials for energy applications, study of advanced solar collectors, study of photovoltaics, energy characterization of building structural elements, environmental analysis of systems, maritime emissions modeling, Life Cycle Assessment & Eco-Efficiency analysis. He has published more than 40 papers in international journals and has presented papers to numerous international energy conferences and acted as referee for international journals in the area of Renewables and Energy efficiency applications. He is the President of the Hellenic Association for Energy Economics and member in various professional and academic associations.

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**Constantinos Papalucas**

Coordinator

National Hydrogen Committee

Constantinos Papalucas is an Energy Policy/EastMed Specialist. He served as a Senior advisor to the Greek Minister of Environment and Energy and is currently leading the National Hydrogen Committee. He coordinates the Greek participation in the Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEIs) on Hydrogen putting the first Greek hydrogen projects in the pipeline. He also led the joint task force between the Greek Ministry and the U.S. Department of Energy that jointly developed a regional CCUS concept in Greece. During his tenure he has landed several world class major energy corporations to assess various upstream and midstream opportunities in Greece and invest in green technology ventures. In the past he served as an Associate at Harvard's Belfer Center and at the U.S. Congress Energy&Commerce Committee. Upon his return from the United States, Constantinos founded EastMed Energy Hub, an advisory platform that advocates for a regional energy hub in the Eastern Mediterranean through joint infrastructure and investments and that help its partners to grow in the region. He is also a member of the United Nations Group of Gas Experts (UNECE), Group of Experts on CMM and the Task Force of Hydrogen. He has written several Policy Papers and has been a member of the authoring team of the Greek National Energy and Climate Plan. His work has been hosted/featured in mainstream journals and magazines such as the Washington Times, S&P Global Platts, NAPE - Magazine for Dealmakers, Times of Israel, Egypt Oil&Gas, Hipporeads and others. Constantinos is a graduate of Harvard Kennedy School of Government. I am currently looking at the flights. I will let you later tonight whether it makes sense to hop on a flight or not.



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**George Pechlivanoglou**

Vice President  
Eunice Energy Group

George Pechlivanoglou studied mechanical engineering (BSc) and completed the MSc in renewable energy technology at the University of Oldenburg, Germany. He completed his 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 18 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. He is the former Wind Energy Committee Chair at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and a member at the German Chamber of Engineers (VDI) as well as the former representative of the Technical University of Berlin at the European Academy of Wind Energy (EAWE). Mr. Pechlivanoglou is currently holding the position of Vice President for the EUNICE ENERGY GROUP (EEG).

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**Dimitrios Psychoyios**

First Vice President  
Regulatory Authority for Energy  
(RAE)

Dimitrios Psychoyios is an Associate Professor of Finance & Investment at the Department of Industrial Management & Technology of the University of Piraeus. He started his academic career at the Manchester Business School of the University of Manchester as a lecturer in Finance. Dimitrios Psychoyios graduated from the Department of Mathematics of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and holds an MBA and a doctorate in Finance from the Athens University of Economics and Business. His expertise are in the area of energy and the environment finance, financial economics, corporate finance and investments. Dimitrios Psychoyios has taught in MBA programs at Greek, European and American universities, and his professional experience includes over 15 years of consulting, research, and training services for organizations in the private and public sector in Europe and Greece.

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**Artane Rizvanolli**  
Minister of Economy  
Kosovo

Dr. Artane Rizvanolli is a lecturer at Riinvest College since 2007. Upon obtaining her Bachelor's degree in Economics in 2006, she continued her Master studies in Economics for business analyses in Staffordshire University in the UK. In 2012, she completed her PhD in Economics from Staffordshire University focusing on the relationship between human capital and foreign direct investment in European transition economies. After her six-year engagement as a researcher at Riinvest Institute, she continued her work as a researcher and consultant on economic analyses and policy-making with various local and international organisations in areas such as employment, private sector development, diaspora's effects on the economy, public finances, etc.



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**Alexandra Sdoukou**

Secretary General for Energy  
and 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.

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**Kostis Sifnaios**  
Vice President &  
Managing 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 then 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 Director for BP Greece (2000 – 2002) to then once more resume his international career within BP's European supply chain till 2007. From June 2007 to the end of 2021, he worked in Copelouzos Group initially as New Projects Manager and then as Group Energy Director in the sector of Gas. He also managed the development of the Alexandroupolis LNG Terminal Project to its Final Investment Decision. Since January 2022, when FID was taken on the Alexandroupolis LNG Project, he was appointed Managing Director of Gastrade, the owner and operator of the Terminal. Mr. Sifnaios was born in Athens in 1960 and originates from the island of Lesbos. He speaks English, French and Spanish.

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**Konstantinos Skrekas**

Minister

Ministry of Environment &  
Energy, Greece

Konstantinos Skrekas comes from Megarhi, Trikala. He is married to Eirini Karagouni and has two daughters, Alexandra and Sophia. He holds a Degree in Civil Engineering from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Civil Engineering Department, Faculty of Technology), and an M.Sc. in Construction Management from the University of Birmingham, UK. After completing his studies, he worked in the Fast Moving Consumer Goods sector in managerial positions. He is the co-founder of a company operating in the FMCG sector and held the position of CEO for 15 years. In the general election of 6 May 2012 he was elected Member of the Greek Parliament (MP) for the Constituency of Trikala with the New Democracy Party. He was re-elected on 17th June of the same year. On the 25th of January 2015 he was elected Member of the Greek Parliament (MP), receiving the largest number of electoral votes among candidates from all political parties, in the Constituency of Trikala. He was re-elected in the elections on 20th September of the same year. In the general elections on 7th July 2019 he was elected Member of the Greek Parliament for the Constituency of Trikala. During his terms of office in the Hellenic Parliament he has been a member of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs, the Standing Committee on Production and Trade, the Special Permanent Committee on Research and Technology and the Special Permanent Committee on Environmental Protection. He was also Shadow Minister for the Environment and Energy Sector for the New Democracy Party from January 2016 – June 2019. He was appointed Minister of Development and Competitiveness from October 2014 until February 2015. On 9th July 2019 he was appointed Deputy Minister of Rural Development and Food, being specifically responsible for the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP). On 5th January 2021 he was appointed Minister of the Environment and Energy. He speaks English and French.



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**Katerina Sokou**

Nonresident Senior Fellow  
Europe Center Atlantic Council  
Washington DC Correspondent  
Skai TV

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.

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**Elias Spirtounias**  
Executive Director  
AmChamGR

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, 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. He serves as Treasurer of the American Chambers in Europe (ACE) Executive Committee.

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**Maria Spyraiki**

Member of the  
European Parliament

Maria Spyraiki is now serving her second mandate in the European Parliament with the party of Nea Demokratia - European People's Party (EPP), as a full member of the ENVI and ITRE Committee. During this mandate, she has been the rapporteur of 12 Reports, Opinions and Motions for Resolutions. Indicatively, she was the rapporteur on behalf of the European Parliament on the strategy to reduce methane emissions, which became a global pledge in COP26 Glasgow adopted by more than 100 countries, including the US. She is also the rapporteur of the Chemical Strategy for Sustainability, a crucial file which is paving the way on amending chemical legislation. Maria Spyraiki's first degree is in Chemistry from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She has an MSc in Energy Law, Business, Regulation and Policy from IHU, Greece. She worked for 22 years as a journalist.



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Atlantic Council



U.S. Chamber of Commerce



**Aristofanis Stefatos**

CEO

Hellenic Hydrocarbons and  
Energy Resources Management  
Company

Aristofanis (Aris) Stefatos, CEO of the Hellenic Hydrocarbons and Energy Resources Management Company (HEREMA SA) holds a PhD in geology & geophysics, a master's degree in Environmental Oceanography and a bachelors in Geology. For the last 15 years he has held senior and top management positions in private E&P companies in Norway and has been a founding partner of five Norwegian companies within the broader E&P sector, including companies developing innovative environmental and digitalization solutions. Through his 24 years of work experience, Mr. Stefatos has also worked with the technical maturation of exploration prospects and drilling. He has worked in geological basins in Europe, North America, Indian ocean, West Coast of Africa, and South East Asia. He has a proven track record of five oil and gas discoveries in the Norwegian and the Barents Sea.

Hybrid

Friday, September 9, 2022

The MET Hotel | Thessaloniki, Greece



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**Nikos Tsafos**

Chief Energy Adviser  
to the  
Prime Minister of Greece

Nikos Tsafos serves as the chief energy adviser to the Prime Minister of Greece. A leading authority on energy, Nikos has worked with companies, banks and governments in over 30 countries on some of the world's most complex energy projects. Most recently, he held the Schlesinger Chair for Energy and Geopolitics at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), and served on the Climate Advisory Committee of the Export Import Bank of the United States (EXIM). From 2016 to 2019, he was a lecturer at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS). Nikos has testified before Congress, the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, the Canadian House of Commons, and the Alaska State Legislature. He has written extensively on energy, including for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, EURACTIV, the National Interest, and others. Nikos is also a regular commentator on current affairs: he has been quoted in The New York Times, The Financial Times, The Economist, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, and Bloomberg, and he has appeared on CNN, NBC, the BBC, NPR, Al Jazeera, and other leading media outlets. He holds a B.A. in international relations and economics from Boston University, and an M.A. in international relations from Johns Hopkins SAIS.

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**George J. Tsunis**  
Ambassador  
U.S. Embassy to Greece

George James Tsunis presented his credentials to the President of the Hellenic Republic on May 10, 2022. He was nominated by President Biden and was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on March 10, 2022. Ambassador Tsunis is the proud Greek-American son of immigrants to the United States, with deep roots in the village of Platanos in the beautiful mountainous region of Nafpaktia. Growing up, his parents instilled in him the Hellenic ideals of καλοσύνη (goodness), αγάπη (love), and above all, φιλότιμο (the love of honor). He learned Greek as his first language. Deeply engaged with the Greek-American community, Ambassador Tsunis was a founding trustee of the Hellenic American Leadership Council, and is a trustee of the Hellenic Initiative among other roles. Prior to his nomination, Ambassador Tsunis was the Founder, Chairman and CEO of Chartwell Hotels, LLC. He served as Chairman of Battery Park City Authority. He was also a Trustee for the New York City Convention Development Corporation and the New York City Convention Operating Corporation and helped manage a 1.5 million square foot expansion of the New York Convention Center, transforming it into one of the world's most modern and beautiful convention centers. Ambassador Tsunis served as the chairman of the Nassau University Medical Center, a large public safety net hospital with a focus on providing care to vulnerable communities. Previously, Ambassador Tsunis was a Counsel and Partner (Attorney of Law), at Rivkin Radler LLP, Uniondale, NY, and Legislative Attorney, New York City Council. He served as Counsel for Dix Hills Water District, Dix Hills, NY and Town of Huntington Committee on Open Space Preservation, Huntington, NY. Ambassador Tsunis earned a B.A. from the New York University, New York, NY and a J.D. from St John's University of Law, Queens, NY. He was an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate (Order of Saint Andrew), the highest ecclesiastical honor that can be bestowed upon a layman by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, and is the recipient of numerous awards including the Harry Chapin Humanitarian Award for Long Island Cares and the lifetime achievement award for civic engagement for Long Island Business News. Ambassador Tsunis is married and has three children.



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Atlantic Council



U.S. Chamber of Commerce



**Joshua Volz**

Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
Europe, Eurasia, Africa, and  
Middle East  
U.S. Department of Energy

Joshua Volz currently serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Europe, Eurasia, Africa, and the Middle East at the U.S. Department of Energy. Volz was previously Director for the Office of European and Eurasian Affairs in DOE's Office of International Affairs. Prior to joining DOE, Volz led the Eastern Mediterranean team at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Energy Resources and held numerous positions within the U.S. Department of Defense. He has served in Iraq, Afghanistan, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, and Syria. Volz holds a B.A. in Philosophy and Political Science from Kalamazoo College, an M.S. in National Security Strategy and Resourcing from the National Defense University, and lectures at the Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies, and Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. He speaks French, Hebrew, Arabic, and Spanish.