



EMPOWERING CITIES®IONS

October 20-21, 2021
Zappeion Megaron, Athens
(agenda as of Oct. 21)

Day 1 | Wednesday, October 20, 2021

11.00 ARRIVAL OF GUESTS

11.40 WELCOME REMARKS

Yiannis Thomatos, Vice President, Delphi Economic Forum

Lefferis Varouxis, CEO, PATRIS Newspaper

11.45 IN CONVERSATION (*online*)

language: English

Elisa Ferreira, EU Commissioner for Cohesion & Reforms

11.55 IN CONVERSATION (*online*)

language: English

Eleni Kounalakis, Lieutenant Governor of California, USA

Chair: Symeon Tsomokos, Delphi Economic Forum

12.20 WELCOME STATEMENT

Stelios Petsas, Alternate Minister of Interior

Chair: Iordanis Hasapopoulos, Journalist, Mega TV

12.40 IN CONVERSATION

Apostolos Tzitzikostas, President, Committee of the Regions (*online*)

Chair: Maria Nikoltsiou, Anchorwoman, Alpha TV

12.55 IN CONVERSATION

Dimitris Avramopoulos, fmr European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs & Citizenship, fmr Minister of Foreign Affairs, Greece

Chair: George Papakonstantinou, Journalist, SKAI & CNN.gr



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13.10 IN CONVERSATION

Makis Vouridis, Minister of Interior

Chair: **Maria Nikoltsiou**, Anchorwoman, Alpha TV

13.25 IN CONVERSATION

Adonis Georgiadis, Minister of Development & Investments

Chair: **Stamatis Zacharos**, Journalist, Action 24

13.40 IN CONVERSATION

Stavros Kalafatis, Deputy Minister of Interior, responsible for Macedonia-Thrace

Chair: **Maria Samolada**, Journalist, grtimes.gr

13.55 IN CONVERSATION

George Patoulis, Governor, Attica Region

Chair: **Nina Kasimati**, Journalist, ER

14.10 HOW CAN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT STEER EU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT TOWARDS A MORE SUSTAINABLE & TECH-SAVVY FUTURE?

Opening Statement:

Evangelos Meimarakis, Vice-Chair of the European People's Party (*online*)

Discussants:

Eva Kaili, Member, European Parliament (*online*)

Petros Kokkalis, Member, European Parliament (*online*)

Chair: **Konstantinos Tsoutsoplides**, Head, European Parliament Liaison Office in Greece

14.30 IN CONVERSATION

Kostas Karamanlis, Minister of Infrastructure & Transport

Chair: **Nina Kasimati**, Journalist, ERT

14.45 PRESENTATION – THE "OLIVE TREE REPLACEMENT IN ANCIENT OLYMPIA" PROJECT

A private multi national effort to restore natural beauty, stimulate sustainable growth of the regional economy and reinforce the symbolism of the victory wreath.

Nektarios Farmakis, Governor, Region of Western Greece

Chair: **Yanos Gramatidis**, Bahas, Gramatidis & Partners



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14.55 BUILDING RESILIENT REGIONAL & LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Nektarios Farmakis, Governor, Western Greece Region

Konstantinos Agorastos, Governor, Thessaly Region

Cees Loggen, President, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, Brussels (*online*)

Csaba Borboly, Member, Committee of the Regions, Brussels (*online*)

Chair: **Sotiris Polyzos**, Journalist, TRT

15.20 LUNCH BREAK

15.50 IN CONVERSATION

Kostas Zachariadis, Representative of the President of Syriza, Head of Interior

Chair: **Christina Korai**, Journalist, Action TV

16.00 TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE INSULAR POLICY

Opening Statement:

Ioannis Plakiotakis, Minister of Maritime Affairs & Insular Policy

Discussants:

George Hatzimarkos, Governor, South Aegean Region

Kostas Moutzouris, Governor, North Aegean Region

Chair: **Vasilis Skoularakos**, Journalist, Newsbomb

16.40 MANDATORY INSURANCE & NATURAL DISASTERS

Margarita Antonaki, Director General, Hellenic Association of Insurance Companies

Nikos Kehagiaoglou, Insurance Consultant, Hellenic Property Federation

Costas Synolakis, President, Athens College, Prof. of Natural Disasters, Member, Academy of Athens

Chair: **Mary Lampaditi**, Journalist, Proto Thema

17.05 IN CONVERSATION

H.E. Ernst Reichel, German Ambassador to Greece

Chair: **Isaia Tsaousidou**, Int. President, Association of European Journalists



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17.20 ENTREPRENEURSHIP 2.0 & REGIONAL GROWTH (*organized by EENE*)
Dr Vassili Apostolopoulos, CEO; President, Athens Medical Group; EENE

Chair: **Christina Korai**, Journalist, Action TV

17.45 IN CONVERSATION - EU RECOVERY FUNDS: NEXT STEPS
Dimosthenis Voivontas, Director of Monitoring & Implementation, Recovery & Resilience Facility Agency

Chair: **Kostas Papachlimitzos**, Anchorman, ERT

18.00 IN CONVERSATION
Domna Michaelidou, Deputy Minister of Labour & Social Affairs

Chair: **Christos Behlivanos**, Journalist, Larissanet

18.15 IN CONVERSATION - HUMAN RIGHTS & GOOD GOVERNANCE
Stelios Kypouropoulos, Member, European Parliament

Chair: **Makis Provatias**, Journalist, Athens Voice

18.30 IN CONVERSATION - GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL & INVESTMENT FUND
Ioannis Tsakiris, Deputy Minister of Development & Investments
Thanos Vlachopoulos, Gen. Manager, Head of Large Corporate & Wholesale Products, Piraeus Bank

Chair: **Nena Malliara**, Journalist, Insider

19.00 THE CONTRIBUTION OF SPORTS TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Lefteris Avgenakis, Deputy Minister of Sports
Isidoros Kouvelos, President, International Olympic Academy
Vassilios Blessios, Chief Marketing Officer, Lever, Samaras & Associates Group

Chair: **Panos Voglis**, Sports Journalist, Open TV

19.45 End of Day 1

Day 2 | Thursday, October 21, 2021

09.00 ARRIVAL OF GUESTS

09.45 IN CONVERSATION

Vasilis Kikilias, Minister of Tourism

Chair: **Maria Nikoltsiou**, Anchorwoman, Alpha TV

10.00 IN CONVERSATION

Kyriakos Pierrakakis, Minister of State and Digital Governance

Chair: **Aimilios Perdikaris**, General Manager, APE-MPE

10.15 DIGITALIZATION & DIGITAL GOVERNANCE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Dimitris Papastergiou, Mayor of Trikala

Peggy Antonakou, General Manager, SE Europe, Google

Dimitris Giantsis, General Director, Information Society SA

Sofiris Liaros, Chairman & CEO, Ilida

George Doukidis, Professor of eBusiness, Athens University of Economics and Business

Chair: **Sofiris Polyzos**, Journalist, TRT

10.45 IN CONVERSATION

Spilios Livanos, Minister of Agricultural Development & Food

Chair: **Gogo Katseli**, Journalist, Eleftheros Typos & SKAI

11.00 THE ROLE OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Opening statement:

Alexandros Kachrimanis, Governor, Epirus Region

Discussants:

Platon Marlafekas, Vice President & Head, Marketing & Exports Departments, Lux (*online*)

Thomas Arapogiannis, Agriculture Vice President, TÜV HELLAS (TÜV NORD), Greece

Manolis Panagiotopoulos, Country Commercial Lead, Crop Science, Bayer Hellas

Dimitris Kouretas, Professor of Animal Physiology – Toxicology, University of Thessaly

Chair: **Ioannis Panagos**, Publisher, Green Box Publishing SA



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12.00 IN CONVERSATION

Christos Stylianides, Minister for Climate Change & Civil Protection

Chair: **Vasilis Chiotis**, Director, SKAI Radio

12.15 COFFEE BREAK

12.45 EVIA: TOWARDS A MODERN & HOLISTIC CIVIL PROTECTION MECHANISM

Simos Kedikoglou, Deputy Minister of Agricultural Development & Food

Christos Triantopoulos, Deputy Minister to the Prime Minister for State Aid & Natural Disaster Recovery

Fanis Spanos, Governor Central Greece Region

Miltos Chatzigiannakis, Deputy Head of Interior, SYRIZA

Yannis Konstantatos, Mayor of Hellinikon

Chair: **Lena Paraskeva**, Journalist, Star Central Greece

13.25 IN CONVERSATION

Christos Dimas, Deputy Minister of Development & Investments

Chair: **Stelios Morfidis**, Journalist, Proto Thema

13.40 SMART CITIES AT THE SERVICE OF THE CITIZENS

Ioannis Bratakos, Chairman, Commercial and Industrial Chamber of Athens

Nikolaos Komineas, Mayor of Astypalea

Ioannis Michopoulos, Managing Director, Evolution Projects

Chair: **Dimitris Pefanis**, Director of Financial & Business Content, DPG Media

14.10 THE ROLE OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

George Kasapidis, Governor, West Macedonia Region (*online*)

Giorgos Amiras, Deputy Minister of Environment & Energy

Spyros Kouvelis, Director, EPLO, Institute for Sustainable Development

Maria Spyraiki, Member, European Parliament (*online*)

Apostolos Siskos, Managing Director, Envirometrics

Chair: **George Karameros**, Journalist, Flash.gr



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15.00 LUNCH BREAK

15.40 IN CONVERSATION - MAKING MIGRATION MANAGEMENT FUTURE READY
Notis Mitarachi, Minister of Migration & Asylum

Chair: **George Pierros**, Journalist, Action 24

15.55 IN CONVERSATION

Kostas Bakoyannis, Mayor of Athens

Theodosis Michalopoulos, CEO, Greece, Cyprus and Malta, Microsoft

Chair: **Katerina Panagopoulou**, Anchorwoman, Mega Channel

16.15 IN CONVERSATION

Erion Veliaj, Mayor of Tirana, Albania

Chair: **Sotiris Polyzos**, Journalist, TRT

16.25 CITIES AS "WORKSHOPS" OF PROGRESS

Constantinos Yiorkadjis, Mayor of Nicosia

Moses Elisaf, Mayor of Ioannina (*online*)

Vaggelis Geroliolios, Mayor of Dion-Olympus

Theodoros Karipidis, CEO, Lever SA, Development Consultants, member of «Samaras & Partners» group of Companies

Chair: **George Mikelopoulos**, Patris Newspaper

16.50 IN CONVERSATION

Alexis Charitsis, fmr Minister of Interior

Chair: **Kostas Laskaratos**, Journalist, ERT

17.05 PRESENTATION by diaNEOsis on Road Map for a Local Administration Reform in Greece

George Galanos, Asst. Professor, University of Piraeus



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17.20 CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Ioannis Maniatis, fmr Minister of Environment & Energy

George Kremis, Advisor to the PM on energy, climate, environment & circular economy

Athanasios Kefalas, President, Greek Mining Enterprises Association

Michael E. Economakis, Chairman of the BoD, Herrco

Dimitris Kontaxis, President, Federation of Recycling & Energy Recovery Industries & Enterprises

Chair: **Marina Protonotariou**, Journalist, mononews.gr

18.00 DECARBONIZATION CHALLENGES

Opening statement:

Kostas Skrekas, Minister of Environment & Energy

Discussants:

Socrates Famellos, fmr Alternate Minister of Environment & Energy

Nikos Bozos, Exports & Supply Chain Director of HERACLES Group

Yannis Yiarentis, Chairman & CEO, Renewable Energy Sources Operator & Guarantees of Origin

George Ioannou, CEO, Hellenic Energy Exchange SA

Marios Tsakas, CEO, DEDA

Chair: **Chryssos Kavounides**, Partner & Managing Director, Head of Athens Office, BCG

18.55 THE IMPORTANCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM

George Didaskalou, Secretary General, Ministry of Culture

Dimitris Fragakis, Secretary General, National Tourism Organization

Katerina Notopoulou, fmr Deputy Minister of Macedonia-Thrace

Sotiris A. Bouzeas, Founder and C.E.O. of GREEK CHALLENGE

Chair: **Thomi Paliou**, Journalist, Star Central Greece

19.40 End of Day 2



EMPOWERING CITIES & REGIONS

October 22-23, 2021
International Olympic Academy, Ancient Olympia

Day 3 | Friday, October 22, 2021

- 12.30 ARRIVAL OF GUESTS
- 13.00 WELCOME LUNCH
- 13.55 WELCOME REMARKS
Lefferis Varouxis, CEO, PATRIS Newspaper
Yiannis Thomatos, Vice President, Delphi Economic Forum
- 14.00 WELCOME STATEMENT
Nektarios Farmakis, Governor, Western Greece Region
- 14.15 IN CONVERSATION
Theodore Skylakakis, Alternate Minister of Finance

Chair: Giouly Iliopoulou, Patris Newspaper
- 14.35 IN CONVERSATION
Stelios Petsas, Alternate Minister of Interior

Chair: Giouly Iliopoulou, Patris Newspaper
- 14.50 THE NEXT DAY FOR WESTERN GREECE
Spyros Spyridon, Man. Director, Hellenic Agency for local development & local Government
Michalis Katrinis, MP of Ilia District
Andreas Nikolakopoulos, MP of Ilia District
Dionysis Kalamatianos, MP of Ilia District
Dionysia-Theodora Avgerinopoulou, MP of Ilia District
Aggelos Tsigris, MP of Achaia District

Chair: Kostas Gkelintis, Journalist Patrisnews.com
- 15.35 IN CONVERSATION
Panagiotis Papanikolas, Chairman & CEO, Olympia Odos

Chair: Pelly Bevouda, Journalist ORT TV



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15.50 IN CONVERSATION

language: English

Geoffrey Pyatt, US Ambassador to Greece

Chair: Alexia Tasouli, Diplomatic Correspondent, Open TV

16.05 HOW TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IS CHANGING THE GREEK REGIONS: LARGE-CAPACITY MOTORWAYS & PORTS

Dmitry Pankin, President, Black Sea Trade & Development Bank

George Vilos, Executive Director, Commercial & Business Development, Fraport Greece

Demetrios Iatrides, Executive Director, Hellenic Ports Association

Athanasios Kottaras, Deputy Managing Director, OSE

Chair: Nikos Karagiannis, Journalist, ypodomes.com

16.40 IN CONVERSATION

Nikos Androulakis, Member, European Parliament

Chair: Kostas Krietsiotis, Journalist, ORT TV

16.55 PRESENTATION by diaNEOsis on Modern Agricultural Sector

Dionyssis Nikolaou, General Manager, diaNEOsis

17.10 ENTREPRENEURSHIP 2.0 & REGIONAL GROWTH (*organized by EENE*)

Armodios Yannidis, CEO Vitex SA, Sec. General Hellenic Entrepreneurs Association (EENE)

Anastasios (Tassos) Economou, YPO Global Chairman 2020-2022 & Founder & Managing Director of iGroup (*online*)

Michael Tsaoutos, Vice President, ELLA-DIKA MAS NGO, General Manager EPSA SA

Savvas Peltekis, Managing Director, TUV Hellas

Dimitris Skuras, Professor, Department of Economics, University of Patras

Chair: Pavlos Efthymiou, Director General, Hellenic Entrepreneurs Association (EENE)



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- 18.10 IN PURSUIT OF A LOCAL HERITAGE BRAND: HOW CAN REGIONS WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE A UNIQUE CULTURAL & TOURIST PRODUCT?

Opening statements:

Lina Mendoni, Minister of Culture & Sports

Sofia Zaharaki, Deputy Minister of Tourism

Discussants:

Alexandros Angelopoulos, CEO, Aldemar Group

Stratos Mavralexakis, Gen. Manager, Grecotel Riviera Olympia & Aqua Park, Mega Resort

Petros Doukas, Mayor of Sparti

Panayotis Dimopoulos, Prof., University of Patras, Chair, Natura 2000 National Committee

Chair: **Themis Kanellopoulos**, Best TV

- 18.50 PRESENTATION – THE "OLIVE TREE REPLACEMENT IN ANCIENT OLYMPIA" PROJECT *language: English*

A private multi national effort to restore natural beauty, stimulate sustainable growth of the regional economy and reinforce the symbolism of the victory wreath.

Nektarios Farmakis, Governor, Region of Western Greece

George Georgiopoulos, Mayor of Ancient Olympia

Steven de Laet, Director, Arete Fund, USA

Dianne de Laet, Director, Arete Fund, USA

Chair: **Yanos Gramatidis**, Bahas, Gramatidis & Partners

- 19.30 WESTERN GREECE, INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Vasilis Giannopoulos, Deputy Governor of Western Greece, Ileia

Charalampos Mponanos, Deputy Governor of Western Greece, Achaia

Thodoris Vasilopoulos, Deputy Governor of Agricultural Development, Western Greece

Panagiotis Sakelaropoulos, Dep. Governor for Econ. Policy & Financial Control, Western Greece

Chair: **Andreas Christopoulos**, Editor Molonoti.gr

20.00 End of Day 3



EMPOWERING CITIES®IONS

October 22-23, 2021

International Olympic Academy, Ancient Olympia

Day 4 | Saturday, October 23, 2021

09.30 ARRIVAL OF GUESTS

10.15 WELCOME REMARKS

George Georgiopoulos, Mayor, Ancient Olympia

10.20 WELCOME STATEMENT (*online*)

George A. Papandreou, President, Socialist International

10.30 OVERTOURISM: POPULAR DESTINATIONS UNDER PRESSURE

Stavros Arachovitis, fmr Minister of Rural Development and Food

Gkikas Gkikas, Mayor of Ios

Chair: Marianna Mitropoulou, Patrisnews.gr

11.00 IN CONVERSATION

Nassos Iliopoulos, Press Representative of Syriza

Chair: Pelly Bevouda, Journalist ORT TV

11.15 REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE: THE WASTE MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE

Manolis Grafakos, Sec. General, Ministry of Environment & Energy

Kostas Peletidis, Mayor of Patras

Athanasios Vasilopoulos, Mayor of Kalamata

Lena Belsi, Head of Geocycle Hellas, member of HERACLES Group

Chair: Pelly Bevouda, Journalist, ORT TV

12.00 GETTING DE-LIGNITIZATION RIGHT: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE REGIONS

George Stathakis, fmr Minister of Environment & Energy

Kostis Moussouroulis, Chairman, Just Transition Development Plan Steering Committee

Spyros Kouvelis, Director, EPLO, Institute for Sustainable Development

Konstantinos Tzioumis, Mayor of Tripoli

Orestis Omran, Partner, Head of EU-Greek Practice, DLA Piper UK LLP

Chair: Pelly Bevouda, Journalist, ORT TV

**to be confirmed*



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12.50 WESTERN GREECE, HOSPITALITY THROUGH THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Nikolaos Korovesis, Deputy Governor of Culture & Tourism, Western Greece

Andreas Filias, Deputy Governor Administration and e-Government, Western Greece

Dimitris Nikolakopoulos, Deputy Governor, Volunteering and Olympism, Western Greece

Lampros Dimitrogiannis, Dep. Governor of Energy, Environment, Natural Resources & Spatial Planning, Western Greece

Chair: **Eleni Asimakopoulou**, Journalist, Mega Channel

13.40 WOMEN IN THE LOCAL POLITICS

Rozina Vavetsi, Mayor of Nikolaos Skoufas, Arta

Chair: **May Zanni**, President and Co-founder, Women Act

14.00 light lunch

End of Day 4 – End of Olympia Forum II