



**EMPOWERING CITIES&REGIONS**

**October 20-21, 2021**  
**Zappeion Megaron, Athens**  
*(Draft agenda as of Oct. 8)*

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**Day 1 | Wednesday, October 20, 2021**

11.30 ARRIVAL OF GUESTS

12.00 WELCOME REMARKS

✓ **Yiannis Thomatos**, Vice President, Delphi Economic Forum

12.05 IN CONVERSATION (*online*)

*language: English*

✓ **Elisa Ferreira**, EU Commissioner of Cohesion & Reforms

12.15 IN CONVERSATION (*online*)

*language: English*

✓ **Eleni Kounalakis**, Lieutenant Governor of California, USA

12.25 WELCOME STATEMENT

✓ **Makis Vouridis**, Minister of Interior

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

12.40 IN CONVERSATION

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

Chair: ✓ **George Papakonstantinou**, Journalist, CNN.gr

12.55 IN CONVERSATION

✓ **Stelios Petsas**, Alternate Minister of Interior

Chair: ✓ **Iordanis Hasapopoulos**, Journalist, Open TV

13.10 IN CONVERSATION

✓ **Adonis Georgiadis**, Minister of Development & Investments

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

13.25 IN CONVERSATION

✓ **Stavros Kalafatis**, Deputy Minister for Macedonia – Thrace

Chair: **TBA**

*\*to be confirmed*

13.40 IN CONVERSATION

√ **George Patoulis**, Governor, Attica Region

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

13.55 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

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

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

14.25 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

14.35 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

Chair: TBA

15.00 LUNCH BREAK

15.40 TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE INSULAR POLICY

Opening Statement:

√ **Ioannis Plakiotakis**, Minister of Maritime Affairs & Insular Policy

Discussants:

√ **George Hatzimarkos**, Governor, South Aegean Region

√ **Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou**, Governor, Ionian Islands Region

√ **Kostas Moutzouris**, Governor, North Aegean Region

√ **Konstantinos Mavros**, CEO, PPC Renewables (*online*)

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

16.20 MANDATORY INSURANCE & NATURAL DISASTERS

- ✓ **Christos Triantopoulos**, Dep.Minister to the Prime Minister for State Aid & Natural Disaster Recovery
- ✓ **Margarita Antonaki**, Director General, Hellenic Association of Insurance Companies
- ✓ **Nikos Kehagiaoglou**, Insurance Consultant, Hellenic Property Federation
- ✓ **Costas Synolakis**, Prof., Natural Hazards Management & Coastal Engineering, Academy of Athens

Chair: **TBA**

16.50 IN CONVERSATION

- ✓ **Kostas Karamanlis**, Minister of Infrastructure & Transport

Chair: ✓ **Fay Chrisochoou**, Journalist, Antenna

17.05 IN CONVERSATION

- ✓ **H.E. Ernst Reichel**, German Ambassador to Greece

Chair: **Saya Tsaousidou**, President, European news journalism

17.20 IN CONVERSATION - GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL & INVESTMENT FUND

- ✓ **Ioannis Tsakiris**, Deputy Minister of Development & Investments
- ✓ **Eleni Vrettou**, Executive Gen. Manager, Chief of Corporate & Investment Banking, Piraeus Bank

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

17.35 IN CONVERSATION - EU RECOVERY FUNDS: NEXT STEPS

- ✓ **Nikos Mantzoufas**, Governor, Recovery & Resilience Facility Coordination Agency

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

17.50 IN CONVERSATION - HUMAN RIGHTS & GOOD GOVERNANCE

- ✓ **Stelios Kypouropoulos**, Member, European Parliament

Chair: ✓ **Makis Provas**, Journalist, Athens Voice

18.05 ENTREPRENEURSHIP 2.0 & REGIONAL GROWTH (organized by EENE)

- ✓ **Dr Vassili Apostolopoulos**, CEO; President, Athens Medical Group; EENE

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



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18.40 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

End of Day 1

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**October 20-21, 2021**  
**Zappeion Megaron, Athens**

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**Day 2 | Thursday, October 21, 2021**

09.30 ARRIVAL OF GUESTS

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 Manager, Information Society SA

✓ **Sotiris Liaros**, Chairman & CEO, Ilida

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

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

10.45 IN CONVERSATION

✓ **Spilios Livanos**, Minister of Agricultural Development & Food

Chair: ✓ **Gogo Katseli**, Journalist, Eleftheros Typos

11.00 THE ROLE OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Opening statement:

✓ **Alexandros Kachrimanis**, Governor, Epirus Region

Discussants:

✓ **Kleomenes Barlos**, Chairman, Federation of Industries, Peloponnese & Western Greece

✓ **Platon Marlafekas**, Vice President & Head, Marketing & Exports Departments, Lux

✓ **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

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

✓ **Fanis Spanos**, Governor Central Greece Region

✓ **Christos Triantopoulos**, Dep.Minister to the Prime Minister for State Aid & Natural Disaster Recovery

✓ **Yannis Konstantatos**, Mayor of Hellinikon

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

13.30 IN CONVERSATION

✓ **Christos Dimas**, Deputy Minister of Development & Investments

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

13.45 SMART CITIES AT THE SERVICE OF THE CITIZENS

✓ **Ioannis Bratakos**, Chairman, Commercial and Industrial Chamber of Athens

✓ **Nikolaos Kombineas**, Mayor of Astypalea

✓ **Ioannis Michopoulos**, Managing Director, Evolution Projects

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

14.15 THE ROLE OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

✓ **George Kasapidis**, Governor, West Macedonia Region

✓ **Panagiotis Nikas**, Governor, Peloponnese Region (*online*)

✓ **Giorgos Amiras**, Deputy Minister of Environment & Energy

✓ **Erion Veliaj**, Mayor of Tirana, Albania

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

✓ **Apostolos Siskos**, Managing Director, Envirometrics

Chair: ✓ **George Karameros**, Communication Manager, Flash.gr

15.00 LUNCH BREAK

15.45 IN CONVERSATION - MAKING MIGRATION MANAGEMENT FUTURE READY

✓ **Notis Mitarachi**, Minister of Migration & Asylum

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16.00 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

Chair: **Niki Zorba**, Journalist, Capital.gr

16.30 IN CONVERSATION

- √ **Alexis Charitsis**, fmr Minister of Interior

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

16.45 PRESENTATION by diaNEOsis

- √ **George Galanos**, Emeritus Professor, University of Piraeus

17.00 CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- √ **Ioannis Maniatis**, fmr Minister of Environment & Energy
- √ **George Kremlis**, Advisor to the PM on energy, climate, environment & circular economy
- √ **Michael E. Economakis**, Chairman, Herrco
- √ **Athanasios Kefalas**, President, Greek Mining Enterprises Association
- √ **Dimitris Kontaxis**, President, Federation of Recycling & Energy Recovery Industries & Enterprises

Chair: **TBA**

17.40 DECARBONIZATION CHALLENGES

Opening statement:

- √ **Kostas Skrekas**, Minister of Environment & Energy

Discussants:

- √ **Socrates Famellos**, fmr Alternate Minister of Environment & Energy
- √ **Dimitris Chanis**, CEO HERACLES Group
- √ **Yannis Yiarentis**, Chairman & CEO, Renewable Energy Sources Operator & Guarantees of Origin
- √ **George Ioannou**, CEO, Hellenic Energy Exchange SA

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

18.15 IN CONVERSATION

- √ **Kostas Bakoyannis**, Mayor of Athens



✓  
**Michalopoulos,**  
Cyprus and Malta,

**EMPOWERING CITIES&REGIONS**

**Theodosis**  
CEO, Greece,  
Microsoft

Chair: ✓  
**Panagoulou,** Anchorwoman, Mega Channel

**Katerina**

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

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**Day 3 | Friday, October 22, 2021**

12.30 ARRIVAL OF GUESTS

13.00 WELCOME LUNCH

14.00 WELCOME REMARKS  
✓ **Lefteris Varouxis,** CEO, PATRIS Newspaper

14.05 WELCOME STATEMENT  
✓ **Nektarios Farmakis,** Governor, Western Greece Region

14.20 IN CONVERSATION  
**Theodore Skylakakis,** Alternate Minister of Finance

Chair: ✓ **Giouly Iliopoulou,** Patris Newspaper

14.40 IN CONVERSATION  
✓ **Stelios Petsas,** Alternate Minister of Interior

Chair: ✓ **Giouly Iliopoulou,** Patris Newspaper

15.00 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

Chair: **Maria Orfanou,** Journalist, Gnomi newspaper

15.30 PRESENTATION  
✓ **Panagiotis Papanikolas,** Chairman & CEO, Olympia Odos

*\*to be confirmed*



15.45 IN CONVERSATION

*language: English*

√ **Geoffrey Pyatt**, US Ambassador to Greece

Chair: √ **Alexia Tasouli**, Diplomatic Correspondent, Open TV

16.00 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

√ **Panagiotis Tsonis**, CEO, Port of Patras

√ **Demetrios Iatrides**, Executive Director, Hellenic Ports Association

√ **Athanasios Kottaras**, Deputy Managing Director, OSE

Chair: **Nikos Karagiannis**, Journalist, ypodomes.com

16.40 IN CONVERSATION

**Alexandra Sdoukou**, Sec. General, Ministry of Environment & Energy \*

Chair: **Dimitris Konstantopoulos**, Lamiareport

17.00 PRESENTATION

√ **Dionyssis Nikolaou**, General Manager, diaNEOsis

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

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

√ **Tassos Economou**, Managing Director, iGroup (*online*)

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

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

17.50 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

√ **Petros Doukas**, Mayor of Sparti

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

Chair: √ **Themis Kanellopoulos**, Best TV

18.30 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

19.10 WESTERN GREECE, INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

√ **Charalampos Mponanos**, Deputy Governor of Western Greece, Achaia

√ **Vasilis Giannopoulos**, Deputy Governor of Western Greece, Ileia

√ **Thodoris Vasilopoulos**, Deputy Governor of Agricultural Development, Western Greece

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

√ **Fokion Zaimis**, Dep.Governor of Entrepreneurship Research and Innovation, Western Greece

Chair: **TBA**

End of Day 3

*\*to be confirmed*

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

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**Day 4 | Saturday, October 23, 2021**

09.30 ARRIVAL OF GUESTS

10.00 WELCOME REMARKS

√ **George Georgiopoulos**, Mayor, Ancient Olympia

10.05 OVERTOURISM: POPULAR DESTINATIONS UNDER PRESSURE

√ **Vasilis Kikilias**, Minister of Tourism \*

√ **Yannis Retsos**, President Greek Tourism Confederation \*

√ **Constantinos Koukas**, Mayor of Mykonos \*

√ **Gikas Gikas**, Mayor of Ios

Chair: √ **Marianna Mitropoulou**, Patrisnews.gr

10.50 REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE: THE WASTE MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE

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

√ **Athanasios Vasilopoulos**, Mayor of Kalamata

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

Chair:

11.35 IN CONVERSATION

√ **George A. Papandreou**, President, Socialist International \*

Chair: **Christos Bechlivanos**, Larissanet

11.50 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

√ **Konstantinos Tzioumis**, Mayor of Tripoli

Chair: √ **Pelly Bevouda**, ORT TV

12.20 WESTERN GREECE, HOSPITALITY THROUGH THE OLYMPIC GAMES

- √ **Nikolaos Korovessis**, Deputy Governor of Culture & Tourism, Western Greece
- √ **Andreas Filias**, Deputy Governor Administration and e-Government, Western Greece
- √ **Panagiotis Sakelaropoulos**, Dep. Governor for Econ. Policy & Financial Control, Western Greece
- √ **Dimitris Nikolakopoulos**, Deputy Governor, Volunteering and Olympism, Western Greece

Chair: **TBA**

13.00 light lunch

End of Day 4

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