

27th Annual Greek Economy Conference

The Chamber held its 27th Annual Greek Economy Conference, Greek and the Global Disruptive Environment, A Look into the Future, on November 28-29 at the Athenaeum Intercontinental Hotel. More than 400 delegates attended the two-day event which featured members of the government, the opposition, the business and diplomatic communities, academics, researchers and investors. Government Vice President Ioannis Dragassakis and EU Commissioner Pierre Moscovici delivered the keynote dinner addresses. Among the speakers were U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt, Japonica Chairman Paul Kazarian, Minister of Finance Euclid Tsakalotos, the ECB's Benoit Coeure, Bank of Greece Governor

Yiannis Strournaras, Minister of Development Dimitris Papadimitriou, ATHEX Chairman Socrates Lazaridis, and Minister of Tourism Elena Kountoura. Chamber President Simos Anastasopoulos welcomed the distinguished speakers and guests and underlined the proactive role the Chamber plays in promoting business development, trade and investment, economic growth and the goal of lower unemployment. The event, the Chamber's flagship conference, is viewed as Greece's premier meeting between the public and private sectors to discuss and analyze policies, legislation, and trends related to the Greek economy.



PAUL KAZARIAN



GEOFFREY PYATT



AMERICAN-HELLENIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MARKS 85 YEARS

The American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, founded in 1932, is celebrating its 85th Anniversary! Chamber President Simos Anastasopoulos said: "As one of the most active, successful, and dynamic AMCHAMs in Europe, the American-Hellenic Chamber is proud of its enduring impact on Greece-United States trade and investment relations. We have, through our steadfast growth, unending commitment, and pro-active initiatives, been able to affect substantial, positive change. Our dedication to reform, to modernization, and to win-win relationships means that more companies today are able to enjoy increased trade and that consumers in the United States have access to more Greek products and consumers in Greece have access to more American products. We shall continue to strive for improved relations and I salute all those stakeholders who have contributed to our efforts for more than eight decades, beginning of course with our members and extending to all those people in the public and private sectors who have worked with us, hand in hand, for a better market economy, a more open economy, and a more inclusive economy."



IOANNIS DRAGASAKIS



PIERRE MOSCOVICI



SIMOS ANASTASOPOULOS



YIANNIS STOURNARAS



SOCRATES LAZARIDIS



EUCLID TSAKALOTOS



NIKOS PAPPAS



ELENA KOUNTOURA



KOSTIS HATZIDAKIS



ELIAS SPIRTOONIAS

5th Agrotechnology Conference

The Chamber and its Agrotechnology Committee held the 5th Agrotechnology Conference titled: “The Contribution of Microorganisms to Agriculture, Food Production and Health”. The Conference was held on December 9, 2016 at the Perrotis College of the American Farm School of Thessaloniki.

Distinguished scientists, academics and researchers highlighted the multiple roles of beneficial microorganisms, whereas prominent entrepreneurs discussed their application in agriculture, livestock farming, food and health.

The 5th Agrotechnology Conference was attended by a large group of businessmen, corporate executives, representatives of the primary, secondary sectors and distribution channels, agricultural associations, students and administrative officials.

The Conference was sponsored by Dow AgroSciences Export SAS, Kouimitzis Group, and Pelopac Mediterranean Food Specialties and supported by Agrotech, Belas Foods, Bios Agrosystems, Koukakis Farm, Domaine Gerovassileiou, Profarm Agrosolutions, Trikalinos Co., Macedonia-Thrace Brewery and Tuvunu.

NIKOLAS BAKATSELOS



PANOS KANELLIS



CHRISTOS TSANTILAS



GEORGE KATSAROS



ATHANASIOS TSAFTARIS



GERASIMOS NIKOLOPOULOS



Dinner with Kyriakos Mitsotakis



The Chamber hosted a dinner on December 13 at the Athenaeum Intercontinental Hotel with guest of honor and keynote speaker Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Leader of the Opposition and President of New Democracy Party. Mr. Mitsotakis laid out the plans, proposals, and policies of New Democracy before an audience of 500 guests.

Chamber President Simos Anastasopoulos introduced Mr Mitsotakis and stated the Chamber is focused on improving Greece’s growth and employment and noted that the significant resources of the Chamber are available to aid and assist in Greece’s path to recovery. U.S. Ambassador Geoffrey Pyatt was among the honored guests.



ANASTASIA SIDERI, NIKOLAOS CHR. STAMPOLIDIS, SIMOS ANASTASOPOULOS, BETTY KAZAKOPOULOU

WIB—UNEARTHING THE PAST TO UNVEIL OUR FUTURE

The Women in Business (WIB) Committee of the Chamber hosted an exclusive event with keynote speaker Nikolaos Chr. Stampolidis, Professor of Archaeology, University of Crete & Director, Museum of Cycladic Art, on November 14 at the Museum of Cycladic Art in Athens. Professor Stampolidis spoke on Unearthing the Past to Unveil our Future and inspired the audience through vivid storytelling centered around ancient Eleftherna, presenting lessons of leadership from ancient times and current experiences. He demonstrated how great vision, passion, perseverance, and hard work—against all odds—and multiple connections and networks yielded, results following 30 years of following a goal. The collective work of thousands of people throughout the years, under his strong human-centric leadership, enabled the creation of an archaeological site and museum that is considered a jewel, adding value to Crete and our country. The motive for this great work has not been the discovery of archaeological items per say, but rather the understanding of how humans have lived, worked and perished for the 4500 years that Eleftherna flourished. The greatest reward, he said, is how his work has influenced the life of all those contemporary people that have been touched by this effort.

Leadership Forum

The Chamber, in collaboration with its Leadership Committee, held its 3rd Leadership Forum 2016 Talking With Young People: Business Opportunities and Entrepreneurship November 15 at Saracakis premises in Thessaloniki.

The event hosted more than 180 young guests from educational institutions, both public and private, who heard from top managers and key business leaders on challenges and opportunities regarding careers and who promote among young people a spirit of healthy entrepreneurship in planning their professional orientation.

ARTEMIOS MIROPOULOS



PANEL DISCUSSION



Smart Moves



LITSA PANAYOTOPOULOS



DIMITRIS NANOPOULOS

The Chamber’s Education, Innovation & Entrepreneurship Committee held its first Smart Moves event on December 7 at the Hilton Athens to stimulate debate that promotes innovation, educational institutions and the public sector to identify the Smart Moves that can cause fast, the massive changes and upgrade value we produce as a country.

The event was designed to create new dialogue among the key players in Greece’s R&D and education ecosystem to tap into the potential of Greece’s latent talent.

Opening the event was Professor Dimitris Nanopoulos, one of the world’s most distinguished physicists and a member of the Academy of Athens. Professor Nanopoulos discussed the importance for Greece to be part of the IT revolution underway globally, especially in light of the fact that the country did not take part in the Enlightenment or the Industrial Revolution. Committee Chair Litsa Panayotopoulos stressed the need for a new approach to development, one that included the private sector working hand in hand with educational institutions and the public sector.

See the Business Partner main feature, Thought Leaders, to explore the Smart Move proposals by the event’s speakers. Page 28.



MRS AND AMBASSADOR PYATT, SIMOS ANASTASOPOULOS

THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Chamber and the International Propeller Club of the United States, International Port of Piraeus, hosted their joint Thanksgiving Dinner on November 23 at the Ecali Club. Guest of Honor United States Ambassador, Geoffrey Pyatt, and the Presidents of the American-Hellenic Chamber of Commerce and the Propeller Club, briefly discussed the meaning of Thanksgiving and its importance as a social occasion. The event was marked by great success and more than 470 distinguished guests from the business and diplomatic communities attended this special gathering.



CHAMBER CALENDAR

January 30 Athens, InterContinental Hotel, New Year’s Reception

February 6 Thessaloniki, The MET Hotel, New Year’s Reception

February 8 & 9 Athens, Hellenic Armed Forces Officers Club, “Doing Business with the US Government”, Seminar organized with the Association of the US Army, European Region