

# ...in the news

## GREEK SCIENTIST WINS PRESTIGIOUS DANNIE HEINEMAN PRIZE



Northwestern University astrophysicist Vicky Kalogera has been awarded the 2018 Dannie Heineman Prize for Astrophysics for her groundbreaking work studying compact objects—including black holes, neutron stars and white dwarfs—in astrophysical systems. The prize, which has been administered jointly by the American Astronomical Society and the American Institute of Physics since 1980, recognizes her significant contribution to advancing scientific understanding of the “evolution and fate of compact objects in binary systems, with particular regard to their electromagnetic and gravitational wave signals.”

## NEW STARTUP GETS HEAVYWEIGHT MENTORING

French insurance giant AXA and pharmaceutical company Servier will support Greek startup TechApps Healthier in a tripartite partnership focused on knowledge sharing, communicating the company’s goals to the public, and attracting users. Healthier is an application that touts itself as “the first complete, mobile, smart, personal health management assistant,” and it allows users to gather and manage data on their health, from medications and physical activity to appointment and preventative advice. “This cooperation will help us develop our company and help our fellow citizens organize and manage every aspect of their health, on a day to day basis,” said Nikos Vasilakis and Alexis Dimitropoulos of TechApps Healthier. The three companies were brought together through the Mazinnov French-Greek innovation network.

## PRIVATIZATION TO BOOST NORTHERN GREECE ECONOMY

The Hellenic Republic Asset Development Fund (TAIPED) is stepping up its work in northern Greece, aiming to conclude the privatization of Thessaloniki Port Authority (OLTH) by mid-March, enter the second stage of tenders for the Egnatia Odos highway, and start the process for the concession of the port authorities of Alexandroupoli and Igoumenitsa, in which there is considerable interest. The sound utilization of these three ports, combined with investment in infrastructure and services in the region, the sell-off of Egnatia, and the development of Pan-European Corridor IV linking Germany to the Balkans are expected to considerably boost the local economy.

## JP MORGAN HIRES FORMER PDMA CHIEF



STELIOS PAPADOPOULOS

JP Morgan has hired the former head of the Greek Public Debt Management Agency (PDMA), **Stelios Papadopoulos**, to head its investment banking business in Greece. Papadopoulos joined the PDMA in 2012 and oversaw the design and execution of the debt relief plan and the country’s return to public debt markets.

## FRAPORT GREECE NAMES COO



REINCE PRIEBUS

Fraport Greece appointed **Ilias Maragakis**, formerly the company’s Director of Safety and Performance, as its new **Chief Operating Officer**. Maragakis has been with Fraport Greece since 2016 and has over 20 years of aviation experience and holds an MSc in Airport Planning and Management.

## GREEK DIRECTOR AT THEATER ERFURT



MYRON MICHAILIDIS

Greek conductor **Myron Michailidis** has been selected to be the **General Music Director at Theater Erfurt** from 2018/19 and 2019/20. Michailidis has previously served as Artistic Director of the Greek National Opera and General Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Thessaloniki State Symphony.

## INCE & CO CHAIRMAN TO HEAD GREEK OFFICE



PAUL HERRING

International law firm **Ince & Co** announced that **Paul Herring**, firm Chairman and Global Board Member, has been appointed **Head of its Greek office**. Herring is widely regarded as one of the world’s top shipping lawyers and has considerable experience advising clients with interests in Greece.

## LLOYD’S LIST GREEK SHIPPING AWARDS 2017



The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Lloyd’s List Greek Shipping Awards, held at the Athenaeum InterContinental Hotel in Athens and drawing a crowd of over 1,000, named shipowner Evangelos M. Marinakis as Greek Shipping Personality of the Year for 2017 and honored Onassis Group veteran Pavlos J. Ioannidis with a Lifetime Achievement Award. The annual awards recognize achievement within the Greek shipping community and in the Greek shipping market place, with winners selected by an independent panel of judges representing a broad cross-section of the Greek shipping industry.

## GREEK HOTELS SHINE BRIGHT

Things are looking good for hotels up and down the country, as a strong tourism season in 2017 and renewed efforts by hoteliers to improve their offering have once again resulted in a host of awards and international recognition for hotels throughout Greece. Indicatively, a total of 117 Greek hotels won distinctions for 2018 in key categories awarded by leading leisure, travel and tourism company TUI. A further eight Greek hotels were awarded the company’s prestigious Holly Award, which celebrates the world’s 100 best-rated hotels; these included: Anthemus Sea in Halkidiki, Neptune Hotels and Hotel Palladium on the island of Kos, and Grecotel’s ultra-luxury Amiranades and Caramel Boutique Resort on Crete. A number of Greek hotels also won distinctions at the recent World Luxury Hotel Awards in Switzerland, including Porto Carras Grand Resort in Halkidiki that took home three awards, and three additional hotels, including Kensho on Mykonos and Aenaon Villas on Santorini, were included in the Boutique Hotel Awards’ “World’s Best” category. Meanwhile, major players such as the Four Seasons, Marriott, and Accor’s Ibis are expected to open new premises in Athens over the coming months.

## MARATHON VC DOUBLES DOWN WITH EQUIFUND

Athens-based investment firm Marathon VC has announced an increase to their fund with the addition of funds from the European Investment Fund, the National Bank of Greece and other key players under the new Equifund program, with the latest closing raising Marathon’s fund to €32 million. In total, Equifund, the fund of funds, is set to disburse up to €260 million through at least eight new funds, and there is speculation that the National Bank of Greece will partner with the majority of Equifund offshoots. Equifund was launched in December 2016 by the Greek government and the European Investment Fund, aiming to unlock the equity potential in the Greek market and boost entrepreneurship.

## HELLAS SAT SATELLITE TO BEGIN FINAL TESTING



Primary assembly of Hellas-Sat-4/SaudiGeoSat-1, a Greek geostationary communications satellite that was commissioned in 2015 for Hellas Sat (itself a subsidiary of ArabSat), has been completed, and the satellite has been shipped to Lockheed Martin’s environmental testing facility in California where it will undergo final assembly, receiving its solar arrays and communications antennas. Hellas-Sat-4/SaudiGeoSat-1 will then go through a series of tests to ensure it can survive the rigors of its launch and its mission in space. “It will offer our clients in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East additional capacity for television and data,” said Hellas Sat Managing Director Christodoulos Protopapas. The satellite will be deployed to a geostationary orbit at 39 degrees East longitude and is expected to serve for a minimum of 15 years.

# SPEAKERS CORNER

### GROWTH

I learned to always take on things I'd never done before. Growth and comfort do not coexist.

—GINNI ROMETTY

### LEADERSHIP

Ninety percent of leadership is the ability to communicate something people want.

—DIANNE FEINSTEIN

### LUCK

Chance favors the prepared mind.

—LOUIS PASTEUR

### OPPORTUNITY

You create opportunities by performing, not complaining.

—MURIEL SIEBERT

### SUCCESS

Pray that success will not come any faster than you are able to endure it.

—ELBERT HUBBARD