

EOS Fund Completes First Closing

The EOS Hellenic Renaissance Fund (EOS Fund), a private equity fund established to support Greek small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in their early growth stage, has completed its first closing, raising funds of €94.3 million. Through its work with SMEs, the fund makes a significant contribution to bolstering entrepreneurship in key strategic and outward-oriented sectors of the Greek economy. The fund is expected to grow to €120 million by the end of 2018.

EOS Fund was established in the context of the EquiFund investment platform, which is an initiative between Greece and the European Investment Fund (EIF) and is financed by the Greek ESIF fund of funds TAESYM. Its goal is to facilitate access to finance for SMEs. EOS Fund is managed by EOS Capital Partners under the authority of the Hellenic Capital Markets Commission.

Earth Friendly Products Is Expanding in Europe



Earth Friendly Products (EFP), a U.S.-based company founded by Van Vlahakis, a pioneering Greek immigrant to the United States, has returned home by launching a production line in Greece, aiming to strengthen the presence of ECOS™ in Europe and the Middle East.

EFP has been operating within a framework of environmental integrity and ecological consciousness since 1967. Recognized

as a leader in corporate social responsibility and one of the top 100 green companies in America, EFP has achieved the rare trifecta of sustainability: Platinum Zero Waste, Water Neutral and Carbon Neutral.

A primary manufacturer with four facilities in the United States, EFP is the maker of ECOS™ laundry detergent and over 200 other environmentally friendly products that are safer for people, pets and the planet. The company has the highest amount of certified Safer Choice products in the U.S. and is designated as the EPA's Safer Choice 2017 & 2015 Partner of the Year.

ECOS™ products, which are available throughout the U.S. and in over 60 countries, are the result of highly innovative green science and are made from plant-derived ingredients and amazing natural fragrances. The entire ECOS™ product line meets daily housekeeping and personal care needs and is free of harmful substances such as 1,4-dioxane, formaldehyde, phosphates and other toxins.

Learn more at www.ecos.com and www.ecos.com.gr



UOA LAUNCHES ENGLISH-TAUGHT BA

The National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (UOA) will become the first state university in Greece to offer an undergraduate degree course taught entirely in English. The four-year BA in Archaeology, History and Literature of Ancient Greece will be offered in association with the International Hellenic University in Thessaloniki and is targeted at international students from across the European Union and beyond.

The program has been hailed as an important educational and scientific initiative that will put Greece on the map as an increasingly appealing destination for international undergraduate students. Taking in up to 100 students a year and with annual tuition fees of €8,000, it will feature specially designed classes, seminars, and field trips to archaeological sites and other locations of interest, and will give students an opportunity to participate in excavations.





Winning Bid for Oil Exploration Off Crete

Greece's Ministry of Environment and Energy has announced that it has selected a consortium made up of Hellenic Petroleum (HELPE), Total and Exxon Mobil to conduct hydrocarbon research off the coast of western and northwestern Crete, in areas covering 19,868 sq. km and 20,058 sq. km respectively. Following the international call for tenders in December 2017, the consortium held negotiations with the Hellenic Hydrocarbon Resources Management (HHRA) agency, which submitted its approval to Environment and Energy Minister George Stathakis. The agreement must still be reviewed by the Court of Auditors before it is presented in Parliament.



Updated Protection for Holidaymakers

As of Sunday July 1, 2018, new EU rules mean increased protection for holidaymakers buying combined travel arrangements. The new rules, an update to the existing EU Package Travel Directive which was introduced in the 1990s, include an expanded definition of a travel "package" to include customized travel and accommodation combinations and linked travel arrangements, provide clearer information to travelers, and strengthen traveler rights and protections. The new rules also benefit businesses by making competition in the travel market fairer while keeping compliance costs reasonable for all. They establish common EU-wide rules that facilitate cross-border trade, harmonize and modernize information requirements, and reduce regulatory burden. The Commission is set to examine how the rules have been transposed and applied in Member States and take appropriate follow-up measures as necessary.

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Udemy

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AEGEAN TO EXPAND FLEET



Aegean Airlines has signed a purchase agreement for 30 new aircraft—10 new A321neos and 20 new A320neos—from Airbus. The agreement, which was signed by Aegean Chairman Eftichios Vassilakis and Airbus CEO Tom Enders, comes three months after a memorandum of understanding between the two companies in March 2018. The order will provide a considerable boost to Aegean's current fleet of 19 Airbus aircraft and to the company's competitiveness.