



25  
2011 2026

International Conference  
**GREECE  
& AFRICA**

Diplomatic Dialogues, Multilateral  
Cooperation, and Global South  
Challenges

2026  
13-14 MAY

13 MAY  
14:00  
Laskaridis  
Foundation

14 MAY  
10:00  
University  
of Piraeus



**CONFERENCE  
PROGRAM**

13 MAY

1:30 PM

2:00 PM

3:00 PM

Moderator

4:00 PM

Moderator

5:00 PM

Moderator

6:30 PM

## Laskaridis Foundation

2nd Merarchias 36 & Aktis  
Moutsopoulou, 185 35, Piraeus

## Arrival

## Welcome Addresses

**Michael Sfakianakis**, Professor, Rector of the University of Piraeus

**Harry Theoharis**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, Member of the Hellenic Parliament

**Aristotle Tziampiris**, Professor, Chair of the department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus

**H.E. Roseline Kathure Njogu**, Principal Secretary, State Department for Diaspora Affairs, Kenya Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Dimitris Skalkos**, Secretary General for International Economic Relations and Extroversion, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Vassilis Takas**, President of the Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce

### Session A: Greek-African Relations: Insights from Diplomats I

**Aristotle Tziampiris**, Professor, University of Piraeus

**H.E. Lindiwe Msengana-Ndlela**, Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa

**Ifigeneia Kontoleontos**, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic

**H.E. Zaina Benhabouche**, Ambassador, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

### Session B: Greek-African Relations: Insights from Diplomats II

**Christos Nikou**, Tenured Lecturer, University of Piraeus

**Georgios Petmezakis**, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic

**H.E. Laurence Auer**, Ambassador of France to Greece

**H.E. Souad Trabelsi**, Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia

**H.E. Matadi Nee Muteba Mukaji Micheline**, Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Congo to Greece

### Session C: Greek-African Relations & Challenges of the Global South

**Eirini Cheila**, Professor Emerita, University of Piraeus

**Nikolaos Farantouris**, Professor, University of Piraeus, Member of the European Parliament [*pre-recorded*]

**Aigli Zafeirakou**, Senior Education Technical Advisor–Consultant, World Bank [online]

*Humans and their growing needs in the Africa region: Opportunities for strengthening Africa–Greece partnerships*

**George Galanos**, Associate Professor, University of Piraeus  
*Investments and Development in the Global South: Greece's Position in Africa's Economic Rise*

**Periklis Saragiotis**, Senior PSD Specialist Eastern & Southern Africa, World Bank Group [online]

*Economic Transformation of Sub-Saharan Africa*

Buffet 

  
OPENING  
CEREMONY

14 MAY

**University of Piraeus**  
Conference Room  
Karaoli & Dimitriou 80  
Piraeus, 185 34

10:00 AM

**Moderator**

**Nikolaos Raptopoulos**, Associate Professor, University of Piraeus

**Angelos Syrigos**, Professor, Panteion University, Member of the Hellenic Parliament

**Michalis Psalidopoulos**, Professor Emeritus, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens

*Aspects of the economy of Africa: Success cases and fragile states*

**Konstantinos Lavdas**, Professor, Panteion University

**John Okumu**, Professor, Ag, Vice Chancellor, Kenyatta University

**Despina Sinou**, Maitresse de conférences Sorbonne Paris Nord

*Political conditionality in EU-Africa relations: realities, challenges and limits*

11:15 PM

**Moderator**

**Session B: Multilateral Aspects of Greek-African Relations**

**Spyridon Roukanas**, Professor, Vice-Rector University of Piraeus

**Vicky Pantazopoulou**, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Kenya in Greece

*Greeks in Northern Africa. Historical background and future perspectives*

**Andreas Diamanteas**, Member of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce (IT Fintech)

*Beyond Trade: Building a Digital and Financial Corridor Between Greece and Africa*

**Vangelis Kamaris**, Member of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce (Metlen Energy & Metals)

*Connecting Africa and Europe: The Strategic Role of the Global Gateway*

**Eleftheria Ftaklaki, PhD**, Advisor for Strategic Foresight at Presidency for Greek Government.

*Gendering the African Security Architecture: AU-EU-UN Interactions.*

12:30 PM

**Coffee** ☕

13:00 PM

**Moderator**

**Session C: Greek-African Relations: Political, Economic and Social Perspectives**

**Foteini Asderaki**, Professor, University of Piraeus

**Asteris Huliaras**, Professor, University of the Peloponnese

*Influence without Power? Networks and discourses in Greek-African Relations*

**Dimitris Loukas**, Chairman of the Board, Hellenic-Zambian Chamber Zambia-Extroversity with Safety

**Konstantinos Zaimis**, Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce (Steelmet Corporate Services)

*The challenge of resurfacing the Greek presence in Africa*

**Marianna Gavriel**, Honorary Consul of Ghana in Greece and in Cyprus

*Beyond Aid: Investment, Infrastructure and the Future of Greece-Africa Relations [online]*

**Nektarios Polychroniou**, Honorary Consul of Botswana in Greece

**Dimitrios Tourikis**, LL.M. (c), MSc, TEP-Founder & CEO of CALLAMUS, Global Tax & Wealth Advisory

*Greece, the Horn of Africa and Somaliland in a New Era of Geopolitical Realignment*

**CONCLUDING REMARKS BY THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

## Scientific Committee

**CHEILA Eirini**, Professor Emerita at the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus, Scientific Coordinator

**TZIAMPIRIS Aristotle**, Professor and Chair of the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus

**ASDERAKI Foteini**, Professor and Vice-Chair of the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus

**RAPTOPOULOS Nikolaos**, Associate Professor of the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus

**NIKOU Christos**, Tenured Lecturer at the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus

## Organizing Committee

**CHEILA Eirini**, Professor Emerita at the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus, Scientific Coordinator

**GOUSSIOS Charalampos**, Professor at the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus

**RAPTOPOULOS Nikolaos**, Associate Professor of the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus

**ALIGIZAKI Sissy**, Senior Teaching Fellow at the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus

**NIKOU Christos**, Tenured Lecturer at the Department of International and European Studies at the University of Piraeus

## List of Participants

**ASDERAKI Foteini**, Professor, University of Piraeus

**AUER Laurence**, Ambassador of France to Greece

**BENHABOUCHE Zaina**, Ambassador, People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

**CHEILA Eirini**, Professor Emerita, University of Piraeus

**DIAMANTEAS Andreas**, Member of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce (IT Fintech)

**FARANTOURIS Nikolaos**, Professor, University of Piraeus, Member of the European Parliament

**FTAKLAKI Eleftheria**, PhD, Advisor for Strategic Foresight at the Presidency of the Greek Government

**GALANOS George**, Associate Professor, University of Piraeus

**GAVRIEL Marianna**, Honorary Consul of Ghana in Greece and in Cyprus

**HULIARAS Asteris**, Professor, University of the Peloponnese

**KAMARIS Vangelis**, Member of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce (Metlen Energy & Metals)

**KONTOLEONTOS Ifigeneia**, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic

**LAVDAS Konstantinos**, Professor, Panteion University

**LOUKAS Dimitris**, Chairman of the Board, Hellenic-Zambian Chamber

**MICHELINE Matadi Née Muteba Mukaji**, Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Congo to Greece

**MSENGANA-NDELELA Lindiwe**, Ambassador of the Republic of South Africa

**NIKOU Christos**, Tenured Lecturer, University of Piraeus

**NJOGU Roseline Kathure**, Principal Secretary, State Department for Diaspora Affairs, Kenya Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**OKUMU John**, Professor, Ag. Vice Chancellor, Kenyatta University

**PANTAZOPOULOU Vicky**, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Kenya in Greece

**PETMEZAKIS Georgios**, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic

**POLYCHRONIOU Nektarios**, Honorary Consul of Botswana in Greece

**PSALIDOPOULOS Michalis**, Professor Emeritus, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

**RAPTOPOULOS Nikolaos**, Associate Professor, University of Piraeus

**ROUKANAS Spyridon**, Professor, Vice-Rector, University of Piraeus

**SARAGIOTIS Periklis**, Senior PSD Specialist Eastern & Southern Africa, World Bank Group

**SFAKIANAKIS Michael**, Professor, Rector of the University of Piraeus

**SINOU Despina**, Maitresse de conférences, Sorbonne Paris Nord

**SKALKOS Dimitris**, Secretary General for International Economic Relations and Extroversion, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**SYRIGOS Angelos**, Professor, Panteion University, Member of the Hellenic Parliament

**TAKAS Vassilis**, President of the Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce

**THEOHARIS Harry**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, Member of the Hellenic Parliament

**TRABELSI Souad**, Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia

**TZIAMPIRIS Aristotle**, Professor, Chair of the Department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus

**TOURIKIS Dimitrios**, LL.M. (c), MSc, TEP-Founder & CEO of CALLAMUS, Global Tax & Wealth Advisory

**ZAFEIRAKOU Aigli**, Senior Education Technical Advisor-Consultant, World Bank

**ZAIMIS Konstantinos**, Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce / Steelmet Corporate Services

**MITROUSIS Panagiotis**, Senior Multimedia Designer

