



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY
(KOINON) OF ACADEMIES

PROGRAMME

INAUGURAL SYMPOSIUM

2026, FEB. 9 & 10



ACADEMY OF ATHENS



MONDAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2026

VENUE: Neoclassical Building,
Academy of Athens (28 Panepistimiou Ave.)
Academy's Main Hall

09:00 Arrival & Registration

09:30-10:15 Welcome Addresses - Inaugural Plenary Session

Christos Zerefos, President of the Board of Directors,
International Community (Koinon) of Academies

Nikiforos Diamantouros, President, Academy of Athens

Keynote Speech

Prokopios Pavlopoulos, Former President of the Hellenic
Republic; Academy of Athens; Honorary Professor,
University of Athens

"Myth and Truth in the Age of Artificial Intelligence"

Presentation and performance of Mozart's Costa Violin

Presentation: **Dr. Ulrich Leisinger**, Director of Research,
Mozart Institute, International Mozarteum Foundation

Performance: KV 373 Rondo in C

Nina Patrikidou, Mozart's Costa Violin (Vice President,
Mozarteum Hellas)

Evgenia Votanopoulou, Piano (President, Mozarteum
Hellas)

10:15-11:15 Keynote Speeches

Chair: **Ares Rosakis**, Academy of Athens

Subra Suresh, NAS; NAE; NAM; AAA&S; French Acad. Sc.;
Chinese Academy Sc.; Leopoldina; Royal Spanish Acad.
Sc.; Royal Swedish Acad. Eng. Sc. (IVA); Indian National Sc.
Acad.; Professor at Large at Brown University and
Vannevar Bush Professor of Engineering Emeritus at the
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT); Former
President of Carnegie Mellon University; Former Director
of the U.S. National Science Foundation

"Deep Learning from Nature and Machines"

John Schellnhuber, Corresponding Member, Academy of
Athens; NAS; A.E.; Leopoldina; Pontifical Acad. Sc.;
Director General, International Institute for Applied
Systems Analysis (IIASA)

"Hi-Tech Meets No-Tech"



MONDAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2026

VENUE: Neoclassical Building,
Academy of Athens (28 Panepistimiou Ave.)
Academy's Main Hall

11:15–12:45 Session I: *AI, Human Health and Intelligence*

Chair: **Stamatios Krimigis**, Academy of Athens

Michael I. Jordan, NAS; NAE; AAA&S; ForMemRS; Inria Paris
and the École Normale Supérieure, France

"A Collectivist, Economic Perspective on AI"

Prabhakar Raghavan, NAE; Senior Vice President, Google

"Can AI Assist in Computer Science Research?"

Christos H. Papadimitriou, Academy of Athens; NAS; NAE;
AAA&S; Donovan Family Professor of Computer Science,
Columbia University

*"Grounded Language: What Brains Can Learn
and Machines Cannot"*

Stylianos Antonarakis, Academy of Athens; Swiss Academy
for Medical Sciences; Professor of Genetic Medicine,
University of Geneva

*"The Glorious Past and the Bright Future of
Genomic Medicine"*

12:45–13:15 Keynote Speech

Chair: **Antonios Rengakos**, Secretary General,
Academy of Athens

Athanasios Fokas, Vice President, Academy of Athens;
Inaugural Chair of Nonlinear Mathematical Science;
Professor Emeritus and Director of the *Mathematical
Legacy Programme*, University of Cambridge

*"Highlights of the Ancient Greek Thought: from
the Concept of Proof to Eudaemonia"*

13:15–13:30 Ceremony in Honour of Major Benefactors, Benefactors and Sponsors



TUESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2026

VENUE: Neoclassical Building,
Academy of Athens

09:00 **Arrival**

09:30-11:00 **Parallel Sessions**

Session II *Economic and Social Challenges (Main Hall)*

Chair: Vasilis Rapanos, Academy of Athens

Lucas Papademos, Academy of Athens; Former Prime Minister of Greece; Former Vice-President of the European Central Bank; Former Governor of the Bank of Greece

"Innovation, Competitiveness, Growth and the Future of European Economy"

Jeffrey Sachs, AAA&S; Columbia University; President, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network

"On Sustainability in the Anthropocene"

Angelos M. Syrigos, Professor of International Law & Foreign Policy, Panteion University; MP of the Greek Parliament for the 1st District of Athens; Foundation for International Legal Studies of Prof. Elias Krispis and Dr. Anastasia Samara-Krispi

"Rail EUXINA: From Chiron the Centaur to Contemporary Geopolitics"

Phoebe Koundouri, A.E.; WAAS; EASA; AETDEW; IAP; Professor in Economics, Athens University of Economics and Business; Senior Research Fellow, University of Cambridge; Co-Chair, United Nations GSDR; President, World Council of Environmental Economists

"Systems Transformations for Sustainability Transition: Impact Driven Science-based and Stakeholders-validated Pathways"

Session III *Archaeology & History (Eastern Hall)*

Chair: Kostas Buraselis, Academy of Athens

Manolis Korres, Academy of Athens; Restoration Architect; Professor of Architectural History, NTUA

"The Temple of Olympian Zeus"

Michael Cosmopoulos, Academy of Athens; RSC; AAA&S; EASA; The Hellenic Government-Karakas Foundation Professor of Greek History and Archaeology, University of Missouri-St. Louis

"Archaeology and AI: Uses, Challenges, and Prospects"



TUESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2026

VENUE: Neoclassical Building,
Academy of Athens

Didier Viviers, A.E.; President (Secrétaire perpétuel), Royal Academy of Sciences, Letters and Fine Arts of Belgium; Professor at the Université Libre de Bruxelles

"People Matters: When Archaeology and Academies Follow the Same Path"

Paschalis Kitromilides, Academy of Athens; Cyprus Academy; Professor of Political Science, University of Athens

"Roots of the Enlightenment in Classical Greek Philosophical Reflection"

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 Parallel Sessions

Session IV *Climate Change in the Anthropocene and Cultural Heritage Resilience in the Mediterranean (Main Hall)*

Chair: **John Burrows**, University of Bremen

Petteri Taalas, Finnish Academy of Science and Letters; Professor and Director General, Finnish Meteorological Institute; WMO Secretary General emeritus

"Status of Global Climate and Greenhouse Gases"

Guy Brasseur, A.E.; Acad. Sc. Hamburg; Norwegian Acad. Sc. & L.; RAB; Max Planck Institute for Meteorology; Honorary Professor, University of Hamburg

"Sky Architects: The Promise and Peril of Climate Manipulation"

Andreas Karamanos, Academy of Athens; A.E.; Professor of Crop Production and Former Rector, Agricultural University of Athens; Former Secretary General at the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs

"Natural Vegetation as a Basic Component of Cultural Heritage: Importance and Threats in a Changing Climate"

Christos Zerefos, Academy of Athens, President of the Board of Directors, International Community (Koinon) of Academies; A.E.; Norwegian Acad. Sc. & L.; EurAsc; Prof. Emeritus of Atmospheric Physics, University of Athens

"Climate Crisis and Our Efforts to Monitor its Effects at the UNESCO Heritage Monuments"

TUESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2026

VENUE: Neoclassical Building,
Academy of Athens

- Session V** *The Idea of "Classic" in Ancient Literature and Art (Eastern Hall)*
 Chair: **Christoforos Charalampakis**, Academy of Athens
David Holton, Emeritus Professor of Modern Greek, University of Cambridge
"The Reception of Classical Antiquity in Early Modern Greek Writing (ca. 1500-1700)"
Theodoros Papangelis, Academy of Athens; Professor Ordinarius and Chair of Latin, Classics Department, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
"Roman 'Classics': the Geopolitical Twist"
Tim Whitmarsh, FBA; Regius Professor of Greek, University of Cambridge
"Christianity and the Classical World"
Xinwei Li, CASS; Director-General, Chinese School of Classical Studies, Athens
"Cultural Communication Across the Eurasia Steppe and the Origin of Chinese Civilization"
- 13:00-14:30** Break
- 14:30-16:00** Parallel Sessions
- Session VI** *Natural and Human-Triggered Mega-Disasters (Main Hall)*
 Chair: **Doros Theodorou**, Academy of Athens
Ares Rosakis, Academy of Athens; NAS; NAE; ForMemRS; A.E.; EurASc; EASA; AAA&S; INAE; "Theodore von Kármán" Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, Former Director of Graduate Aerospace Laboratories (GALCIT) and Dean of Engineering, California Institute of Technology
"Third Anniversary of the February 6th, Mw7.8 Türkiye / Syria Earthquake: Was Supershear Rupture Responsible for Making it the Most Lethal Event in Modern History?"
Philip England, Corresponding Member, Academy of Athens; FRS; Professor, Former Chair of Geology and Former Head of the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Oxford
"Earthquake Hazards in Continental Interiors: From Ignorance to Known Unknowns"

TUESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2026

VENUE: Neoclassical Building,
Academy of Athens

Constantinos Synolakis, Academy of Athens; NAE; A.E.;
Gordon S. Marshall Professor of Engineering Technology,
Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and
Director, Tsunami Research Center, University of Southern
California; Chair, National Committee on Climate Change
of Greece; Former President, Hellenic American
Educational Foundation of Athens

"Crisis Management and Emergency Warnings"

Georgia Destouni, Corresponding Member, Academy of
Athens; KVA; IVA; NAE; Professor of Hydrology and Water
Resources, Dept. of Physical Geography, Stockholm
University; Guest Professor of Engineering Hydrology,
Dept. Of Environmental Science and Engineering (SEED),
KTH Royal Institute of Technology

"From Water Extremes to Disasters: Floods, Droughts, and Cascading Impacts in a Changing World"

Session VII *100th Anniversary of Quantum Science and
Technology (Eastern Hall)*

Chair: **Sir David Payne**, University of Southampton

Jean Iliopoulos, Corresponding Member, Academy of
Athens; French Acad. Sc.; Former Professor of Theoretical
Physics and currently Honorary Member of Laboratory
of Theoretical Physics, École Normale Supérieure, Paris

"From Classical to Quantum Physics"

Emmanouil Floratos, Academy of Athens; EurASc;
Professor Emeritus of Theoretical Physics, University of
Athens

"It from Qubit: The Universe as a Quantum Computer"

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break



TUESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2026

VENUE: Neoclassical Building,
Academy of Athens

16:30-17:30 Plenary (Main Hall)

Chair: **Christos Zerefos**, Academy of Athens

***"From Archaeological Excavation to Heritage
Management: The Case of Plato's Academy and
the Ephorate of Antiquities of Athens"***

Elena Kountouri, Head of the Directorate of Prehistoric
and Classical Antiquities and Deputy Director of the
Ephorate of Antiquities of the City of Athens

Nikolaos Petrochilos, Deputy Head of the Department of
Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities and Museums of the
Ephorate of Antiquities of the City of Athens

17:30-18:30 *Inaugural Meeting of the Honorary Members of the Koinon (closed meeting)* **(Main Hall)**



WITH THE KIND SUPPORT OF

MAJOR BENEFACTORS

Academy of Athens

Mrs C. Sofianou Co-Founder
and Chairwoman of the Board
of SOFMEDICA Group

BENEFACTORS

TEMES S.A

Metlen Energy & Metals

Mariolopoulos–Kanaginis

Foundation for the
Environmental Sciences

Kostas and Eleni Ourani Foundation

SPONSORS

**Foundation for International
Legal Studies of Professor
Ilias Krispis & Dr Anastasia
Samara-Krispi**

Acropolis Museum

Bank of Greece

The Panayotis & Effie

Michelis Foundation

Vianex S.A.

SUPPORTERS

Ministry of Culture (Greece)

Ministry of Tourism (Greece)

**Greek National Tourism
Organisation (GNTO)**

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Guy Brasseur, Max Planck Institute for
Meteorology, Germany

Juerg Luterbacher, University of Giessen,
Germany

Sadis Matalon, UAB Heersink School
of Medicine, University of Alabama at
Birmingham, USA

Sir David Payne, Optoelectronics Research
Centre, University of Southampton, U.K.

John Schellnhuber, Director General,
International Institute for Applied Systems
Analysis (IIASA), Austria

Subra Suresh, Professor at Large at Brown
University and Vannevar Bush Professor of
Engineering Emeritus at the Massachusetts
Institute of Technology (MIT); Former
President of Carnegie Mellon University;
Former Director of the U.S. National Science
Foundation

Wei-Chyung Wang, Professor Emeritus,
University at Albany, State University of New
York, USA

Donald Wuebbles, Harry E. Preble Emeritus
Professor; Special Advisor to the President
of the University of Illinois; Distinguished
Scientist, Discovery Partners Institute,
University of Illinois, USA

HOST ACADEMY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Christos Zerefos, Academy of Athens (Chair)

Konstantinos Buraselis, Academy of Athens

Emmanouil Floratos, Academy of Athens

Andreas Karamanos, Academy of Athens

Paschalis Kitromilides, Academy of Athens

Antonios Rengakos, Secretary-General,
Academy of Athens

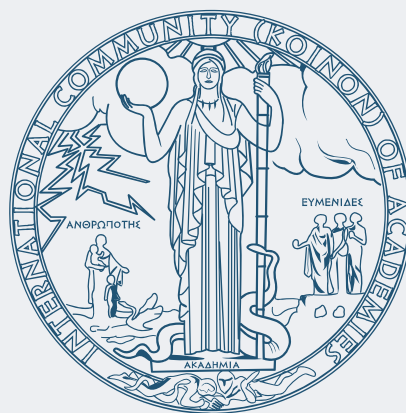
Ares Rosakis, Academy of Athens; California
Institute of Technology, USA

Pavlos Surlas, Academy of Athens

Michalis Tiverios, Academy of Athens

Georgios Amanatidis, External Affairs
Ambassador of the Koinon

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE VISIT
academyofathens.gr



79 Vasilissis Sofias Avenue, 115 21,
Athens, Greece
Tel. +30 210 8832048
koinonofacademies@academyofathens.gr

INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY
(KOINON)
OF ACADEMIES