



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY  
(KOINON) OF ACADEMIES

PROGRAMME

# INAUGURAL SYMPOSIUM

2026, FEB. 9 & 10



ACADEMY OF ATHENS

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”*

**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

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: **Christoforos Charalambakis**, 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”*

**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”*

**Session V**

*The Idea of “Classic” in Ancient Literature and Art (Eastern Hall)*

Chair: **Christoforos Charalambakis**, 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 Papanghelis**, 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"*

**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**     *100<sup>th</sup> 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

**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)*

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OF

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**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

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**Donald Wuebbles**, Harry E. Preble Emeritus  
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the University of Illinois; Distinguished Scientist,  
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USA

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**Konstantinos Buraselis**, Academy of Athens

**Emmanouil Floratos**, Academy of Athens

**Andreas Karamanos**, Academy of Athens

**Paschalis Kitromilides**, Academy of Athens

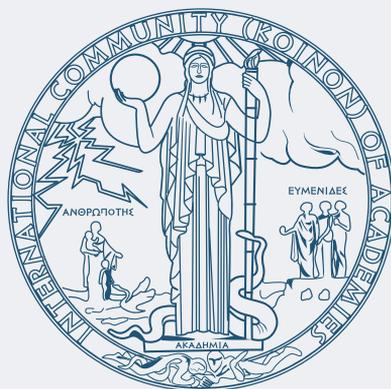
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of Athens

**Ares Rosakis**, Academy of Athens; California  
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**Pavlos Sourlas**, Academy of Athens

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**Georgios Amanatidis**, External Affairs Ambassador  
of the Koinon



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