

## ATHENS, GREECE

**Accommodation:** [Ilisia Hotel](#)

Address: 25 Michalakopoulou Street, Athens, Greece, GR-11528

Phone number: (+30) 210 724 4051, (+30) 210 724 1847

*The German Marshall Fund has paid for your stay. Breakfast and wifi are both included with the reservation. You are responsible for incidental charges such as phone calls, laundry, or room service. The hotel may ask you for a credit card or deposit when you check in.*

City Coordinators **Elizabeth Phocas**, Deputy Director, ELIAMEP  
+30 6948 043490  
[elizabeth@eliamep.gr](mailto:elizabeth@eliamep.gr)

**Evelyn Karakatsani**, Programme Manager  
[events@eliamep.gr](mailto:events@eliamep.gr)  
+306939127306

**ELIAMEP**

49 Vas. Sophias Ave., 106 76 Athens

+30 210 7257110

Taxi In case you need a taxi, you may contact Mr. Manolis Benissis at +30 6946 688 591. In such cases, you need to have the taxi arranged for your pick up in advance.

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### Monday, October 15

*Dress: casual*

#### **Afternoon Arrival and Hotel Check-in**

**Ilisia Hotel** is situated in the city center of Athens, in the area called "Ilisia". From the Athens International Airport "Eleftherios Venizelos" you can arrive at the hotel by Metro, by bus or by taxi.

#### **By METRO / UNDERGROUND**

You will board the **Metro M3 (blue line)** from the Airport's Station and get off at Evangelismos station. The hotel is approximately 7 minutes walking distance from Evangelismos Station. The approximate time from the Athens International Airport to the Hotel is 45 minutes. The metro departs from the airport every 30 minutes. The [metro ticket](#) from/ to the Airport costs 10 €, one way.

#### **By BUS**

Take the **X95** bus from Athens International Airport to Syntagma. Exit at the station of the Hilton Hotel, The Ilisia Hotel is approximately 4 minutes walking distance from the Hilton Hotel. The bus station is located between Exit 4 and 5 at the arrivals level. The bus departs every 15-20 minutes and the approximate time from the Airport to the Hotel is 50 minutes. The ticket costs 6.00 €.

#### **By TAXI**

The approximate time from the Airport to the Hotel is 45 minutes and the fare will cost approximately 40€ per car (night fare at 56€).

## Informal meeting

**6.30 pm** **Chelsea and Edgar** please meet Evelyn Karakatsani at the lobby of the hotel for a walk around Plaka area followed by dinner at a typical Greek tavern.

Plaka is the oldest district in Athens. The area is built at the foothill of the Acropolis, with picturesque neoclassical houses and mainly pedestrian streets. The houses of Plaka are built in the style of the Cyclades by the settlers of Anafi Island (Anafiotika area) in mid 18th century. Walking through the Anafiotika area, you can enjoy a wonderful view of the city and the Acropolis and you can taste local food at one of the many traditional tavernas.

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## Tuesday, October 16th

*Dress: smart casual*

**8.30 am** **Please meet at the lobby of the hotel – Walk to the Hellenic Parliament**

**9:00 – 9:30 am** **Introduction to the program**  
**Elizabeth Phocas**, Deputy Director, ELIAMEP

During your four day visit in Athens, you will have the opportunity to connect and share your views with national parliamentarians, academics, policy makers, NGO representatives as well as the active network of Greek MMF alumni. The program is focused on the main challenges Greece and the EU are facing; the migration and refugee crisis as well as the economic crisis and how it affects our neighborhood in geopolitical terms. You will also hear about sustainable development in times of crisis; the preservation of Greece's cultural heritage and visit the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC), which is the first private-public partnership of its type in Greece: one of the most important civic (cultural/educational) projects ever undertaken in the country.

**9:30-10:00 am** **Guided visit to the Hellenic Parliament Building**

The history of the impressive building of the Hellenic Parliament is intimately linked to the history of the Modern Greek state. Initially, the building served as the palace of Kings Otto and George I. It became the Parliament and Senate building a hundred years after it was constructed, and still houses the Hellenic Parliament today.

**10:00 – 11:00 am** **The Geopolitical Context**  
Brief introduction by Dr. **Thanos Dokos**, Director General, ELIAMEP  
[@ThanosDokos](https://twitter.com/ThanosDokos)  
Followed by discussion with Greek MPs:  
**Evi Christofilopoulou**, Member of the Hellenic Parliament, Democratic Alignment  
Hellenic Parliament Building  
**Giorgios Koumutsakos**, Member of the Hellenic Parliament, New Democracy  
**Harry Theocharis**, Member of the Hellenic Parliament, Independent

Europe's Southern and Eastern neighborhoods have changed considerably during the past few years and the key words describing the regional security environment are fluidity, instability and unpredictability. In the Mediterranean and the Middle East, the impact of the Arab revolts is being added to other global and regional trends and drivers. In Europe's east, we find ourselves closer to a 20th century-style Cold War between the West and Russia, as the unfolding

crisis in Ukraine is indeed Europe's most serious post-Cold War security challenge since the Yugoslav civil war. In addition to uncertainty, Greek foreign policy makers will function for the foreseeable future under the Damocles sword of the country's economic crisis, which is imposing a number of constraints and limitations.

*Thanos Dokos received his Ph.D. in International Relations from Cambridge University and has held research posts at the Hessische Stiftung Friedens und Konfliktforschung (1989-90) and the Center for Science and International Affairs (CSIA) at Harvard University (1990-91). He served as the Director for Research, Strategic Studies Division, Hellenic Ministry of National Defence (1996-98) and as an Advisor on NATO issues to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1998-1999). He was a NATO research fellow in 1996-98. He is currently the Director-General of ELIAMEP. He has taught at the Universities of Athens and Piraeus, the Hellenic National Defense College, the Diplomatic Academy and the Hellenic National Security School. His research interests include global trends, international security, Greek-Turkish relations & Mediterranean security.*

**12:00 – 13:00 pm**

**Reshaping the EU after the Crisis**

**George Pagoulatos**, Professor of European Politics and Economy, [Athens University of Economics & Business](#); Member of the Board of Directors, [ELIAMEP](#)

[@gpagoulatos](#)

[Impact Hub Athens](#), Karaiskaki 28, 10554, Athens, Greece

Since 2009-2010 Europe and the Eurozone have been engulfed in a severe, far-reaching and prolonged crisis. What started on the other side of the Atlantic soon spread into Europe as a global financial crisis, subsequently transmuted into various crises: a (private and sovereign) debt crisis, a banking and a fiscal crisis, an economic and social crisis for the member states specifically affected, and on to a socio-political crisis and a crisis of democracy. The Eurozone crisis has exposed the construction defects of EMU, has been aggravated by policy failures at national and European levels, and has thrust the viability of the EMU project into doubt. It has generated poisonous divisions and discontent, both within and between member states, splitting the Eurozone between creditors and debtors, unleashing forces of fragmentation. It has also given impetus to important institutional, governance and policy reform initiatives, in a Eurozone that has been operating in perpetual crisis mode.

In the light of the Brexit referendum outcome, the agenda of EU reform becomes more urgent than never. We will outline directions for EU reform centered around a further deepening of the single currency area, also allowing for greater flexibility with regard to the member states that have chosen to remain outside the single currency regime.

*George Pagoulatos is Professor of European Politics and Economy at the [Athens University of Economics & Business](#) (AUEB), and Visiting Professor at the [College of Europe](#) in Bruges. He was Senior Advisor and Director of Strategy at the PM Office under Prime Ministers Lucas Papademos and Panagiotis Pikrammenos in 2011-12. He is a member of the ELIAMEP Board of Directors, Board member of the [European Policy Centre \(EPC\)](#), Advisory Board member of [Social Europe](#), and Senior Advisor of [Macro Advisory Partners \(MAP\)](#). He was member of the High Council of the [European University Institute \(EUI\)](#) (2010-13), and President of ECSA-Greece (2013-14). He is a regular columnist in the Sunday edition of the main centrist newspaper *Kathimerini* since 2007. Pagoulatos holds degrees from the University of Athens and the University of Oxford (MSc, DPhil), where he was a Rhodes Scholar. His research and publications focus on the EMU and the EU, Southern European and Greek political economy, economic governance, political economy of banking and finance, political economy of reform.*

**13:00-13.30 pm**

**Brief presentation of Impact Hub Athens**

Impact Hub Athens is part of an International Network of social driven professionals and a variety of high impact creative professionals that are dedicated into prototyping the future of business. From social inclusion and social integration to environment and fair trade, the Impact Hub Athens is engaging expertise from its worldwide presence and creating a net of intercultural, high impact community that acts locally and internationally.

**13:30 – 14:30 pm**

**Lunch** (on your own)

15:00-16.00 pm

**The emerging Greek startup ecosystem and the Athens Startup Business Incubator**

**Antonis Livieratos, (MMF)** Associate Professor at the University of Athens, Department of Economics

[The Athens Startup Business Incubator](#), 8 Amerikis Str., Athens, 10671

Greece is emerging as a hub for startups. This trend is fueled by talent deriving from Greek and European universities, relevant policies supporting entrepreneurship and a gradual change in the mindset of young graduates that more and more recognize entrepreneurship as a career path. Still at an early stage the Greek startup ecosystem is trying to find its position in a booming international (startup) environment. We will discuss unique 'ingredients' that can make this ecosystem flourish as well obstacles and difficulties. The Athens Startup Business Incubator (Th.E.A.) is one of the key players of the Greek startup ecosystem. It is an initiative of the Athens Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI) and it supports early stage startups with a strong extroversion potential.

*Antonis Livieratos is an Associate Professor at the University of Athens, Department of Economics. He is an educator and consultant in the fields of business strategy, innovation and entrepreneurship. Antonis is also the co-founder of Saint Startup ([www.saintstartup.com](http://www.saintstartup.com)), a free web app guiding early stage startups from the idea to the first clients. He holds a PhD in 'Business Strategy and Innovation' from the University Paris South 11, a Master of Science (DESS) in 'Management of Innovation and Technology' from the University Paris Dauphine 9 and an undergraduate degree in 'Economics' from the University of Athens. He speaks English, French and German.*

20:00 – 22:00 pm

**Welcome dinner with Greek Network** (cost covered by GMF)

Restaurant: "[Vlassis](#)", 15, Meandrou Ilisia, Athens

Tel. +30 210 6463060

*Part of the Mediterranean cuisine and diet, Greek cuisine has shared characteristics with the cuisines of Italy, the Balkan Countries, Turkey and the Levant. Contemporary [Greek](#) cookery makes wide use of olive oil, vegetables and herbs, grains and bread, [wine](#), [fish](#) and various meats, including [poultry](#), [rabbit](#) and [pork](#). [Olives](#), [cheese](#), [eggplant](#) (aubergine), zucchini ([courgette](#)), and [yogurt](#) are also important ingredients. Starters like tzatziki, the famous appetizer made out of yogurt, taramosalata, the Greek red caviar, and then usually fried aubergines, dolmadakia yialantzi (stuffed vine leaves) and of course Horta (Greek dandelions or boiled radishes), and main dishes like moussaka, stuffed tomatoes, giouvarlakia (meatballs with rice in white egg and lemon sauce) and soutzoukakia (meatballs in red sauce), are among the unique recipes of the Greek cuisine. Greek cuisine also includes a wide variety of salads made with fresh ingredients.*

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**Wednesday, October 17**

*Dress: Smart casual*

09:00 am

Please meet at the lobby of your hotel

9:30 – 10:30 am

**Dealing with the ongoing refugee crisis**

**Lefteris Papayannakis**, Vice-Mayor for migration, integration and refugees, Municipality of Athens

[Open Hospitality Centre for Refugees in Eleonas](#)

Eleonas reception facility opened its doors in August of 2015. Named after the area of Eleonas, the center has capacity to host 720 people, including families and single men mainly from Afghanistan and Syria. Eleonas is an open facility, which means persons housed in it are free to enter and exit at will. It is currently one of the best reception facilities in Athens but also Greece. NGOs are operating on the grounds, assisting in the day to day operation (health services, interpretation, organized activities for children). During the visit, the structure and organization of the site will be discussed, services offered and main nationalities assisted.

*Lefteris Papagiannakis* was born in France in 1971. He completed his primary and secondary education in Greece. He returned to France to study public law in the University of Lille II, followed by a DEA in European Community Law and International Economic Law. After the completion of his studies he worked in the European Parliament as a parliamentary assistant. Since then he also worked on the education of the Muslim minority in Greece (in Thrace), as a legal counselor for the political party Ecologists Green and the Special Secretariat on environmental inspection. He was elected in the municipal council of Athens in 9/2014 and named vice mayor on migrant and refugee affairs in 3/2016.

**11:00- 12:00 pm**                    **INNOVATHENS - An integrated hub supporting Innovation and Entrepreneurship, of the Municipality of Athens, Amalia Zepou, Vice – Mayor for Civil Society and Innovation Serafio, 170 Peiraios Str., Athens**

INNOVATHENS is an integrated hub supporting Innovation and Entrepreneurship where one can meet experienced market executives and academics as well as successful entrepreneurs who will help to work out fully in a practical way a business idea and develop or transform one's business. Moreover, it provides free access to specialist expertise, information and advice on several areas of interest and alternative ways to build a professional career.

*Amalia Zepou* is vice mayor for Civil Society and Innovation of the municipality of Athens since September 2014. In April 2013, she became the Advisor of Athens Mayor Mr Yorgos Kaminis for civil society networking. She created the digital platform "synAthina" which was further developed into an idea that won one of the five Mayors Challenge awards of 1 million euro from Bloomberg Philanthropies in September 2014. Prior to the Municipality she was working as an independent documentary producer since 1998. She has a B.A. in Social Anthropology from the London School of Economics and an M.A. in Media Studies from the New School for Social Research in New York in 1991.

**12:30 - 13:30pm**                    **Fourth Industrial Revolution and Greece. If and how Greece could gain from it Yannis Mastrogeorgiou, Director General, Institute of Democracy "Constantinos Karamanlis" (GMF Fellow) 62, Piraeus Ave., Moshato**

Jobs lost, jobs gained. The need for lifelong learning, the fear of brain drain. The digitalisation of productivity poses many challenges and potential threats, how should governments respond? Is Europe and Greece ready for the new "cold war of Data and AI?"

*Yannis* was born in Athens. He has studied history, international relations, journalism and European studies. Yannis has worked in the advertising industry, has expertise on political communication and has been Communications Director of the Ministry of Education and Chief of staff of a Greek MP. He has been Director of the think tank DIKTIO since 2013 until 2018. From July 2018, he is the Director of the Institute for Democracy Kon. Karamanlis. As part of his duties, he has written several studies on issues such as the Refugee crisis, the Demographic problem of Greece, the evolution of the EMU, the flat tax rate system and two books on the 4th Industrial Revolution. Also, he has attended the German Marshall Fund Memorial Fellowship

**14:00 - 15:00 pm**                    **Lunch at the Acropolis museum (on your own)**

**15:00 – 18:30 pm**                    **Guided Visit of the Acropolis Museum and the Parthenon and discussion on the protection of cultural heritage in Greece – Guided walk around Plaka neighborhood Ermis Katsampanis, tour guide, tel: (+30) 6976 184944**

The **Acropolis Museum** was firstly conceived by Constantinos Karamanlis in September 1976. He also selected the site, upon which the Museum was finally built, decades later. With his penetrating vision, C. Karamanlis defined the need and established the means for a new Museum equipped with all technical facilities for the conservation of the invaluable Greek artifacts, where eventually the Parthenon sculptures will be reunited. For these reasons, architectural

competitions were conducted in 1976 and 1979, but without success. In 1989, Melina Mercouri, who as Minister of Culture inextricably identified her policies with the claim for the return of the Parthenon Marbles from the British Museum, initiated an international architectural competition. The results of this competition were annulled following the discovery of a large urban settlement on the Makriyianni site dating from Archaic to Early Christian Athens. In the year 2000, the Organization for the Construction of the New Acropolis Museum announced an invitation to a new tender, which was realized in accord with the Directives of the European Union. It is this Tender that has come to fruition with the awarding of the design tender to Bernard Tschumi with Michael Photiadis and their associates and the completion of construction in 2007. Today, the new Acropolis Museum has a total area of 25,000 square meters, with exhibition space of over 14,000 square meters, ten times more than that of the old museum on the Hill of the Acropolis. The new Museum offers all the amenities expected in an international museum of the 21st century.

## Evening Free

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**Thursday, October 18**

*Dress: smart casual*

**9:00 am – 12:00 pm**      **Individual Appointments**

**12:30 – 13:30 pm**      **Culture in a Time of Crisis: The Case of the SNFCC**  
**Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC)**  
*Tour & discussion*  
**Nicholas Yatromanolakis**, CMO, SNFCC (GMF Fellow 2013)  
SNFCC, *364 Syggrou Ave., 17674 Kallithea*  
**Elly Andriopoulou**, *SNFCC Grant Manager*

Designed by architectural firm Renzo Piano Building Workshop, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC) is a sustainable, world-class cultural, educational and recreational urban complex that includes the new home of the National Library of Greece (NLG) and the Greek National Opera (GNO), located within the Stavros Niarchos Park. It was constructed through a grant from the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) and was transferred to the Greek State in February 2017. Alongside the NLG and the GNO, the SNFCC has developed its own cultural, educational and sports programming, open to all and free of charge, thanks to an exclusive grant from the SNF. In 2017, the SNFCC organized over 3.500 free events and welcomed more than 3 million visits.

**13.30 – 14.30 pm**      **Lunch**

**14.30 - 15.30 pm**      **Guided visit to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC)**

**16:00 – 17:00 pm**      **Europe and the rise of extremisms**  
**Rosa Vasilaki**, researcher at ELIAMEP

In recent years, Europe has experienced the growing popularity and influence of ideologies like aggressive nationalism, populism and xenophobia which has resulted in the sharp rise of far-right extremism, embodied in the forms of political parties and also of hate rhetoric which increasingly appeals to larger audiences. Having recourse to a set of common features across Europe, the far-right's rhetoric builds upon the global and European financial crisis and its impact on the national economies and the social fabric, the recent migrations and refugee crisis and is crystallised into violent hate speech and practices. Xenophobia, racism, homophobia and general intolerance for

diversity are recurrent characteristics in the articulation of far-right hate speech in its different manifestations across the EU. While religious fundamentalism seems to be receding at the moment, one of its long-lasting effects is the way it fueled cultural anxieties. In Greece, one of the consequences of both the financial and refugee crises has been a sharp rise in xenophobic and racist attitudes, expressed by many different parts of society and primarily -but not exclusively- cultivated by far-right groups that have spectacularly gained power (parliamentary power included) and credibility during the ongoing crises. We will address the factors – structural and circumstantial – which made such turn towards insularity, xenophobia and aggressive nationalism possible, and we will contemplate on solutions and necessary interventions against the rise of violent extremism.

*Rosa Vasilaki is a researcher at ELIAMEP working for the ‘Enhancing the Integration of Women, Beneficiaries of International Protection by Development and Implementation of Multifaceted Integration Training (INTEGRA-TRAIN)’ project. She holds a PhD in History from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and a PhD in Sociology from the University of Bristol. She has taught history and sociology in a number of universities in Greece, Israel and the UK. Her main research interests revolve around the changing role of religion in modernity, in the rise postsecular and postwestern knowledges, and in the manifestations and genealogy of violence in the modern world, such as politically and religiously motivated violence and the special role of security forces in modern states. Her article “Provincializing IR? Prospects and Deadlocks in post-Western IR Theory” (2012) won the Northedge Essay Prize of Millennium Journal of International Studies, whilst her research proposal “Policing the Greek Crisis: Public Order and Civil Unrest in Times of Turmoil” won the second prize of Greek Politics Specialist Group 2015 Competition “Innovative Approaches for the Study of Greek Society and Politics”*

**17.30 – 18.30 pm                      Debrief**

**19:00 pm                                  Farewell Dinner**

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### **Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Departures**

We recommend referencing your individual flight itinerary and confirming departure details online prior to departure, and if possible, to share taxis or public transportation to the airport or train station.

GMF will not cover your airport transfer.