

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

It's great to be with you again.

It has been almost a year since the last time I had the opportunity to present you the prospects of the Greek economy.

I remember urging you to believe in our efforts to restart our economy and invest in it.

I'm sure that those of you who did so haven't regretted it.

Because in 2016, our economy regained its positive growth dynamics, outperformed fiscal targets and applied a series of deep structural reforms that enhanced its competitiveness.

In particular,

- tax system modernization and tackling tax evasion.
- Promoting a stable and investment friendly environment,
- Legislating an ambitious, anti-bureaucratic and operational framework for licensing,
- Enacting a radical public administration reforms that hit corruption and favor meritocracy and evaluation,
- Also facilitating synergies between the public and the private sector that allow investments to flourish,
- Taking measures to enhance the effectiveness of our judicial system,
- Upgrading the bankruptcy law by allowing for a second chance for the entrepreneurs.

Based on the above, OECD granted Greece the first place in changes and reforms for 2015-2016.

Now all institutions expect that Greece will grow by 2,7% in 2017 and by 3,1% in 2018.

In recognition of our progress, we received recently the first short-term debt relief measures as agreed with our partners last May.

We pursue the timely fulfillment of the requirements included in the financing agreement made with our European partners, so as to regain market access as soon as possible.

All the above ensure that Greece is once again a safe and a promising place with rich potential.

This becomes more important if we take account the turbulent economic and political worldwide environment.

Member of a strong club of advanced economies such as the EU and Eurozone, Greece has great opportunities to offer thanks to:

- Its geostrategic position at the crossroads of three continents.
- The big infrastructure projects already in progress or about to begin in areas such as gas, green energy, transportation, logistics and trade.
- The funds available for public and private investment schemes through the so-called "Juncker Plan".
- The world wide dominant sectors of shipping and tourism.
- And the high quality and expertise of our research centers and human capital

Therefore I'm going to renew my invitation to you once more.

Greece is "born again".

Be a part of this revitalization.

Thank you