

# PRESS RELEASE THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC Mr. KYRIAKOS MITSOTAKIS AT THE

<u>""22nd ANNUAL CAPITAL LINK INVEST IN GREECE FORUM"</u> "Greece - Looking Ahead With Confidence"

## An International Summit about the Greek Economy & Investment Opportunities Featuring top US and International Investors, Government & Business Leaders, Global Investment Banks & Institutions & the Greek Government

Tuesday & Wednesday, December 15 & 16, 2020 Digital Forum

2 Days – 33 Sessions – 112 Top Level Speakers

December 15, 2020

The <u>"22<sup>nd</sup> Capital Link Invest in Greece" Forum: "Greece – Looking Ahead With Confidence"</u> took place, with great success, in digital form, on Tuesday & Wednesday, December 15 & 16, 2020 in co-operation with the New York Stock Exchange and major Global Investment Banks and Organizations. Also with the overwhelming support of the Greek business & financial community. Citi and Tsakos Energy Navigation have been Lead Sponsors of the Forum for twelve years in a row. This year, as a Virtual Forum, the event was available to a global audience, attracting well over +2.000 participants, from all over the world.

**Over the years, the Forum has developed to become an International Summit about Greece**. With a **22-year track record** of success, the Forum has been engaged in a systematic effort to highlight Greece's profile, to a global business and investment audience.

Through a two-day period, 33 sessions, and 112 Top Level Speakers, from the Greek and international government, business and financial communities this event offered to a global audience a comprehensive, authoritative & insightful blueprint on the latest development and outlook of the Greek Economy. A special emphasis was given to the Business & Investment Opportunities in Greece and the wider region. Led by the Prime Minister, several key Greek Government Ministers outlined their specific programs and policies in the sectors of their portfolios. A top-level group of CEOs and other executives discussed trends, developments and opportunities for each of the main areas of the economy. Finally, a group of international investors shared their insight and shed light to the reasons that lead them to choose Greece as a Business and Investment Destination and what lies ahead.

The main topic of all panel discussions and presentations was the attraction of foreign investments that is of great importance for the relaunching of the economy.

The **Capital Link Invest in Greece Forum** provided an effective platform and the perfect timing for communicating the Prime Minister's relayed message at the HELEXPO on the Government's 12 initiatives to support the economy, which he described as "12 steps of confidence", and "bridges that will transfer Greece and the Greeks from the health and economic turmoil to the calm waters of progress and hope". This concrete plan enhances investor interest and confidence and, thus, helping to attract foreign investments.

The agenda, topics and structure of this forum have been designed to conform with investor interests and requirements. It combines the Greek and US government perspective, with that of private sector executives, international financiers and international investors.

## The Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. Kyriakos Mitsotakis, delivered the Government's message to US Investors: Video : <u>http://forums.capitallink.com/greece/2020/#</u> https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TXRi6LX8fNc



"Dear friends, Ladies and gentlemen,

About a year ago, in my address on the occasion of the 21st Annual Capital Link, no one could have predicted the magnitude and nature of the challenges the world was about to face. Challenges that led Greece and every other country across the globe to make significant adjustments to contain the multifaceted consequences of this pandemic.

My top near-term priority is to continue to make sure that we keep jobs alive, and that businesses and workers receive the support they need to get through this difficult period. And on this metric I am confident that once we recover, the productive capacity of the economy won't have been severely damaged.

But despite 2020's turbulence and everything that came with that, the main point I made last year is no less relevant: We were elected on a platform of reforms, to change the country. I firmly believe Greece deserves to be at the forefront of global policy making. And I am confident that, as the pandemic eventually subsides, Greece will be on the side of winners, with a rapid recovery fueled by the reforms that have already been put in place.

The pandemic also creates opportunities. If anything, it has showcased that decentralized and remote working is here to stay. And in this case I cannot think of many places to live that combine the set of advantages that Greece has to offer. A country blessed with natural beauty and a government focused on attracting global capital.

Following reduction in corporate income and dividend taxation, we are now slashing taxation of salaried employment, including lower social security taxes and a suspension of the solidarity income surcharge. We are also introducing a series of tax incentives for Greeks of the diaspora and foreigners who choose to work in Greece. We have a significant global talent pool that we can leverage to attract investments and enhance our growth prospects.

When it comes to cutting down red tape for investments, we have taken decisive steps to ease the burden for businesses by simplifying licensing and removing obstacles that detract them from doing what they are meant to: create products and services.

Numerous investments and reforms are also included in our plan to take advantage of the EU's Recovery and Resilience Fund. The projects that comprise our proposal aim at closing the investment gap as well as facilitating green transition and digital transformation. Greece's proposal was one of the first to have been submitted and has received a lot of positive feedback.

It is even considered by some as a template for other Member States. Greece is punching above its weight. And I am happy that the RRF was finally approved at the last European Council.

At the same time, we are putting forward an inclusive agenda which addresses a lot of the grievances which essentially were at the root cause of the crisis. Issues such as income inequality. How do you bridge the digital divide. How do you make sure that you reward the dignity of work.

Digitization remains at the forefront of our reform agenda. Through a meticulous effort that began before the pandemic and has been accelerated since then, we are simplifying and digitizing numerous services and procedures that required physical contact. The digitization of the state is the primary vehicle to remove remaining barriers and fight bureaucracy. And digital training ensures access to all.

The process of cleaning up our banks is well advanced, and our Hercules scheme is succeeding in reducing bad loans. Our 5G auction is upon us, and 5G will be operational in major cities very soon. Greece is at the forefront of efforts to tackle climate change, with our plan to end dependence on lignite well under way and investments in renewable energy sources providing enormous investment opportunities.

Our efforts are bearing fruit. Greece has been mentioned as a rising "soft power" country, punching above its weight. Despite the pandemic, foreign direct investment is flowing in. Microsoft selected Greece to develop a data centre region. Volkswagen is launching a pilot project on smart mobility and electric vehicles in one of our islands. And Pfizer, impressed by the talent pool, recently announced it will be building a second hub in the city of Thessaloniki.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is undeniable that Greeks as many other peoples across the globe are going through tough times. And despite the targeted fiscal response that aims at protecting jobs and businesses, the majority and certainly the most vulnerable are severely affected by the pandemic. But we are confident that once we get over this, the recovery will be swift and long lasting. And we invite the investment community to seize the opportunities that arise.

I wish every success to your conference. And I'm sure that the numerous government officials that participate will be able to present in detail the government's actions for a more extrovert and prosperous Greece."

#### **One-on-One Meetings in Digital Form**

As in previous years, the Forum provided foreign investors with unique networking opportunities through more than 100 one-on-one meetings with listed and not listed companies, as well as, with members of the Greek Government Delegation, which under the current circumstances were held in digital form on a special digital platform.

In cooperation with the investment banks supporting the Forum, there were organized two group sessions with institutional investors for all Ministers. **Ministers Staikouras, Georgiadis, Hatzidakis**: Each one addressed topics of his portfolio and of interest to the specific group of investors. Furthermore, **Minister Karamanlis also held a series of one** on one meetings with investors and other market participants.

Indicatively, participating funds: Allianz Asset Mgmt • Amiral Gestion • Artisan Partners, LP • Atlas Ridge Capital • Blackrock • Callawaycap • Cheever Partners, LLC • Colt Capital • Dromeus Capital • Eaton Vance • European Reliance • Fiera Capital • Franklin Templeton • Gagnon Securities • Glacier Pass Partners • Global Value Investment Corp • Golden Tree Asset Management • KKR • Koa Capital Partners, LLC • Melqart Asset Management • Metlife • Metzler Asset Management • Neon Capital • Orasis Capital • Prince Street Capital • ProValue AG • Schafer Cullen Capital Management, Inc. • Sephira Emerging Markets • SpringOwl • Vanshap Capital • Waterwheel

#### «GREEK AMERICAN ISSUER DAY» at the New York Stock Exchange



Within the context of the **"22nd Annual Capital Link Invest in Greece Forum"**, the New York Stock Exchange organized in cooperation with Capital Link a special celebration, in digital form, titled **«GREEK AMERICAN ISSUER DAY» at NYSE**, on Tuesday December **15, 2020.** The Greek Delegation, Greek & Greek-American companies listed on the New York Stock Exchange, <u>rang the Closing Bell at the New York Stock Exchange</u>, an event of unique visibility throughout the world. The event was broadcasted live on major news stations in the U.S. and abroad to an audience of millions of viewers worldwide.

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H.E. Adonis Georgiadis, Minister of Development & Investments & Dr. Nikolas P. Tsakos, President and CEO, Tsakos Energy Navigation (NYSE: TNP); Chairman, INTERTANKO 2014-2018, rang The Closing Bell accompanied by Captain Panagiotis N. Tsakos and the following companies listed on NYSE : Danaos Corporation (DAC) – Iraklis Prokopakis – Senior VP/Chief Operating Officer/Treasurer - Diana Shipping Inc (DSX) – Semiramis Paliou – Acting CEO/COO - Dorian LPG (LPG) – John Lycouris – Director & CEO of Dorian LPG USA LLC and Theodore Young, CFO, Dorian LPG - Dynagas LNG Partners LP (DLNG) – Michael Gregos – CFO - Navios Group of Companies (NM, NMM, NNA) – Ted C Petrone – Vice Chairman - Safe Bulkers Inc. (SB) – Dr. Loukas Barmparis President/Secretary - Mistras Group Inc. (MG) – Dennis M Bertolotti - President/CEO - and Mr. Nicolas Bornozis, President of Capital Link. Chris Taylor, VP of Listings, NYSE - The New York Stock Exchange welcomed the Greek Delegation and the listed companies and highlighted the long standing relationship between the New York Stock Exchange and the Greek and Greek-American business communities.

Chris Taylor said that this celebration has traditionally been held in conjunction with the Annual Capital Link Invest in Greece Forum. As this marks the 22nd anniversary of the Annual Capital Link Forum, he congratulated the President of Capital Link, Mr. Nicolas Bornozis, and his team on executing this year's event virtually. Chris Taylor also stressed that NYSE's commitment to the Greek-American diaspora and to Greece's maritime community and to NYSE's listed companies, remains strong. He concluded, by addressing a special welcome to the listed companies joining him for the virtual bell ringing, and wished everybody can meet in person for the NYSE event in 2021.

The active support and participation of NYSE, the world's largest stock exchange, enhances the prestige and the visibility of the Forum and of Greece to a wider international investment audience. It also shows the stable support of NYSE to Greece, the Greek companies, the Greek shipping industry and the Greek American Diaspora. The US Capital Markets are a major source of capital for a growing number of companies of Greek interest and the New York Stock Exchange is playing a leading role in this.

### FORUM OVERVIEW

Through the exceptional digital platform that was used, the Forum offered a unique combination of information, marketing and networking opportunities. The participants this year had the opportunity to be informed about Greece from:

- $\circ$   $\,$  112 top level speakers who addressed  $\,$
- more than 1,000+ delegates who attended the forum
- $\circ$   $\,$  More than 100 one-to-one meetings with listed and non- listed companies
- Separate meetings for the Ministers of Finance, Development & Investments and Energy, with a group of Institutional investors (funds) who are interested in investing in Greece
- At the same time all the attendees had the opportunity for extended networking: 

   To chat with their favorite speakers, sponsors and other participants in real time
   To visit the networking lounge to exchange ideas and to meet new contacts or connect with old friends
- Aiming to provide investors with an authoritative insight about Greece, a "digital library" was created which has been designed to be easily accessible for a long period after the forum.

It is worth noting that this year's Forum was honored by the participation of the Representatives of the European Institutions, International Rating Agencies, leading US Investors with active presence in Greece, five (5) International Investment Banks, four (4) Greek Banks and government representatives at the highest level:

Mr. Nicolas Bornozis, President of Capital Link Inc. welcomed the participants together with Mr. Ajay Kanani, Director, International Capital Markets - New York Stock Exchange who stressed the long standing relationship between the New York Stock Exchange and the Greek and Greek-American business communities.

H.E. Alexandra Papadopoulou, Ambassador of Greece to the United States and H.E. Geoffrey R. Pyatt - U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic, delivered the Opening Remarks to the Forum.

<u>As already stated above, H.E. Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister, Hellenic Republic, delivered the Government's</u> message to the international investor Community

**US GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS** Mr. Matthew Palmer, Deputy Assistant Secretary, European and Eurasian Affairs, U.S. Department of State • Mr. John Jovanovic, Vice-President and Managing Director for the Aegean and Western Balkans - US International Development Finance Corporation

#### Κυβερνητικοί Εκπρόσωποι της ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ

• H.E. Christos Staikouras, Minister of Finance • H.E. Adonis Georgiadis, Minister of Development & Investments • H.E. Kostis Hatzidakis, Minister of Environment & Energy • H.E. Kyriakos Pierrakakis, Minister of Digital Governance • H.E. Kostas Karamanlis, Minister of Infrastructure & Transport • H.E. Harry Theoharis, Minister of Tourism • H.E. Theodoros Skylakakis, Alternate Minister of Finance for Fiscal Policy • H.E. Nikos C. Papathanasis, Alternate Minister of Development & Investments - Private Investments & PPPs • H.E. Yannis Tsakiris, Deputy Minister of Development & Investments - Private Investments & PPPs • H.E. Yannis Tsakiris, Deputy Minister of Development & Investments - Private Investments & PPPs • H.E. Yannis Tsakiris, Deputy Minister of Development & Investments - Nr. Evangelos Kyriazopoulos, Secretary General of Ports, Ports Policy & Maritime Investments - Hellenic Republic • Mr. Alex Patelis, Chief Economic Adviser to the Prime Minister of Greece • Mr. Michael Arghyrou, Chairman of Council of Economic Advisors • Mr. Ioannis Smyrlis, Chairman of the Board – Enterprise Greece; Secretary General, International Economic Relations – Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Mrs. Rania Ekaterinari, CEO – Hellenic Corporation of Assets and Participation (HCAP) • Mr. Riccardo Lambiris, CEO – Hellenic Republic Asset Development Fund • Mr. George Pitsilis, Governor - Independent Authority for Public Revenue • Mr. Dimitrios Tsakonas, Director General - Public Debt Management Agency

Bank of Greece Mr. Yannis Stournaras, Governor • Mr. Spiros Pantelias, Director, Financial Stability Department

<u>Five Global Investment Banks</u> Citi • Goldman Sachs • HSBC • Nomura International • AXIA Ventures Group <u>Four Greek Banks</u> Alpha Bank • Eurobank • National Bank of Greece • Piraeus Bank

Senior Representatives of Greek and International Organizations and Institutions: Mr. Martin Bijsterbosch, Adviser – Country coordinator for Greece - Directorate General Economics - European Central Bank • Mr. Rolf Strauch, Chief Economist and Management Board Member - European Stability Mechanism (ESM) • Mrs. Andreea Moraru, Director, Greece & Cyprus - European Bank for Reconstruction & Development (EBRD)

**TOP INTERNATIONAL INVESTORS** AlleyCorp • Apollo Advisors • BC Partners • BlackSummit Financial Group, Inc. • BrookStreet Equity Partners • CVC Capital Partners • Fortress • U.S. International Development Finance Corporation • HIP Investment (Blackstone Group) • Insight Partners • Oak Hill Advisors • Paulson & Co. - INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES AECOM Infrastructure and Environment UK Ltd. • Atlantic Bank / New York Community Bank • AVIS Greece • Brown Hotels • CISCO, Greece, Cyprus, Malta, Portugal • DFC – U.S. International Development Finance Corporation • Eldorado Gold Corporation • EY • Flott & Co. PC • Google • Hines Greece • Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. • Libra Group • LightsourceBP • Microsoft Greece, Cyprus & Malta • Mohegan Gaming & Entertainment • NN Hellas • Pfizer Hellas • Quantum Partners/547 Energy LLC • SP Global - ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΕΣ ΕΙΣΗΓΜΕΝΕΣ ΣΤΟ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ XPHMATIΣTHPIO Athens Water Supply & Sewage Company S.A. (EYDAP) • Alpha Bank • ADMIE Holdings (Independent Power Transmission Operator S.A.) • Cenergy Holdings • ElvalHalcor • Fourlis Holdings • Eurobank S.A. • GEK TERNA Group of Companies • Hellenic Gas Transmission System Operator (DESFA) • Hellenic Petroleum S.A. (ELPE) • Lamda Development S.A. • Motor Oil (Hellas) • Mytilineos S.A. • National Bank of Greece • Opap • Orilina Properties REIC / Zeus Group • OTE Group of Companies • Piraeus Bank • Piraeus Real Estate • Prodea Investments • Public Power Corporation of Greece (PPC) • Sarantis • Terna Energy • Titan Cement Group • Trastor REIC (Värde Global Real Estate) Viohalco S.A - ΑΛΛΕΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΕΣ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΕΣ ΚΑΙ ΟΡΓΑΝΙΣΜΟΙ Blueground
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(DLNG) • Eurodry (EDRY) • EuroSeas (ESEA) • Pyxis Tankers (PXS) • Safe Bulkers (SB) • Seanergy Maritime Holdings (SHIP) • Star Bulk Carriers (SBLK) • Tsakos Energy Navigation (TEN)

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#### Or visit:

http://forums.capitallink.com/greece/2020/ www.capitallink.com www.capitallinkforum.com

#### **ORGANIZERS**

Founded in 1995, Capital Link is a New York based investor relations, financial communications and advisory firm with a strategic focus on the maritime, commodities and energy sectors, MLPs, as well as Closed–End Funds and ETFs. Based in New York City, Capital Link has presence in London, Athens & Oslo. Capital Link is a member of the Baltic Exchange and works very closely with the

New York Stock Exchange, NASDAQ and the London Stock Exchange as well as with major international and supranational organizations and industry associations in the areas of the firm's strategic concentration.

Our proactive approach, which integrates Investor Relations, Information Technology and Media, enhances awareness and branding for our clients through tailored outreach programs targeting analysts, institutional and individual investors and the financial media complemented by extensive and uniquely powerful marketing platforms. Capital Link offers a full suite of services including strategic and corporate advisory, investor relations, media relations, public and industry relations and the organization of corporate events. Capital Link is also known for the organization of large scale, high quality Investment Forums focusing on maritime transportation and U.S. investment products in key industry centers, such as New York, London, Athens, Limassol, Shanghai, Singapore, Tokyo and Hong Kong. The Capital Link Investment Forums feature industry leaders and draw the elite of the global financial and investment communities. The Capital Link brand is widely–recognized and valued worldwide by participants in these communities for combining rich informational and educational content with as well as superior networking opportunities. In addition to conferences, Capital Link organizes Webinars focusing on investment strategies, sectors, critical topics of interest to the investment community and company presentations. Capital Link's global marketing platform enhances the visibility and reach of these events on a global scale that lasts well beyond the date on which each event is held, becoming a continuous reference point for market participants.

Capital Link's efforts have been recognized by the 2011 Lloyds's List Greek Shipping Awards, in 2012 and 2013 by the InterContinental Finance Magazine and in 2016 by the Wealth & Finance Magazine, Also, by the International Propeller Club of the United States and AHI–American Hellenic Institute.

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