

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Ambassador of Greece to the United States**  
**&**  
**U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic**  
**Opened the**  
**"22<sup>o</sup> ANNUAL CAPITAL LINK INVEST IN GREECE FORUM"**  
**"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 **"22<sup>nd</sup> Capital Link Invest in Greece" Forum: "Greece – Looking Ahead With Confidence"** took place, 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. Over the years, Capital Link Invest in Greece Forum has developed to become an International Summit about Greece, recognized as the main platform for updating US investors on developments in Greece, business and investment opportunities and the attractiveness of Greece as an investment destination. It gathers the elite of the financial and investment communities, as well business and government leaders from the United States and Greece. This year, as a Virtual Forum, the event was available to a global audience.

Foreign investments are of critical significance for the re-launching 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.

**With a 22-year track record of success, Capital Link Invest in Greece Forum has been engaged in a systematic effort to highlight Greece's profile, to a global business and investment audience.**

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**This year in particular, in 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 in order to achieve the shift of the economy to a new, sustainable development model for Greece of tomorrow. A confident economy: productive, technologically advanced, innovative, extroverted, intelligent, and competitive, which has disproved the pessimists and attracted the recognition and praise of European partners. 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 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.



**22nd Annual Capital Link Invest in Greece Forum**

Greece – Looking Ahead With Confidence  
*Digital Conference*

Tuesday & Wednesday, December 15 - 16, 2020  
8:00 am – 4:00 pm (New York Time)

In Cooperation With **NYSE** Lead Sponsors **citi** **TEN LTD**  
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**GREECE – ON A SUSTAINABLE GROWTH PATH, FORGING STRONGER TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES**  
Day 1 – Tuesday, December 15, 2020 | 8:00 – 8:20 am NY time

**OPENING REMARKS**



**H.E. Alexandra Papadopoulou**  
Ambassador of Greece to the United States



**H.E. Geoffrey R. Pyatt**  
U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic

**Ambassador of Greece to the United States  
&  
U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic  
Delivered Forum's Opening Remarks, with their speech entitled:  
"GREECE - ON A SUSTAINABLE GROWTH PATH,  
FORGING STRONGER TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES"**

**Mr. Nicolas Bornozis, President, Capital Link Inc. welcomed the two Ambassadors**

- **H.E. Alexandra Papadopoulou - Ambassador of Greece to the United States**

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**H.E. Alexandra Papadopoulou - Ambassador of Greece to the United States**, stated:

“Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is indeed a pleasure to address this Forum today and welcome you to a “taste of Greece”, i.e. an introduction to what Greece offers in terms of economic and investment opportunities, in these truly unprecedented circumstances.

We are facing a global health crisis unlike any other in the last 100 years, as well as the deepest global recession since World War II. The ensuing economic challenges are obvious- for everybody, for every country. Even more, for already - pre-COVID- challenged economies, like the Greek one, emerging after a long, 10-year long, severe crisis and seeing, immediately before the COVID outbreak, the first positive signs of recovery.

In the pre-Covid-19 era and until 2019, the Greek economy had shown positive growth rates over the last three years, specifically 1.5% in 2017, 2% in 2018 and 1.9% in 2019, with prospects for further development over 2% in 2020. These achievements were made possible through an impressive effort to correct prior significant macroeconomic imbalances, but also through an extremely ambitious, according to OECD’s assessment, national reform program.

Admittedly, the worldwide spread of the pandemic reversed the growth prospects of the Greek economy in 2020, causing instead a temporary recession, due to the significant decline in economic activity and mainly due to the large share of tourism in the Greek GDP.

However, amid the extremely adverse conditions and the worldwide uncertainty of the pandemic’s course, Greece has clearly enjoyed a high degree of confidence in world markets, reflected in Greek bond interest rates, being at historically low levels, as well as in the positive investment environment in Greece due to the record low borrowing costs.

Notably, in early November, Moody’s upgraded Greece’s credit rating due to stable prospects, under conditions of an unprecedented recession of the global economy; this can only be interpreted as proof of increased confidence in Greece for successfully managing the current crisis, for its ongoing reform initiatives, as well as for the prospects of the Greek economy.

Moreover, in mid- November, the European Commission published its 8th Enhanced Surveillance Report for Greece, recognizing Greece’s swift and effective response to the pandemic and its economic consequences, a response that positively contributed to a faster restart of the Greek economy.

Greece’s remarkable progress on the undertaken structural reforms was also highlighted in this report, for the positive impact on economic conditions and the investment climate in particular, despite adverse conditions. Furthermore, the report estimated a stronger recovery in 2021 with a growth rate of 5%. The prospects are enhanced by the optimal utilization of EU resources, from the EU Recovery Fund, through the respective National Recovery and Sustainability Plan, with emphasis on investments in the digital and green economy, for a sustainable and faster recovery of the Greek economy.

Greece, an important regional hub due to its geostrategic position at the crossroad of three continents in the Mediterranean Sea, with comparative advantages in high-quality human capital and in the fields of shipping, tourism, energy and supply chains, is a gateway to the European market of 450 million people, offering business opportunities in a wide range of sectors. In addition, the national privatization program enhances economic growth, as per significant ongoing privatizations in sectors such as infrastructure (energy, utility services, ports), real estate, especially in tourism (marinas in various locations, etc.).

In the energy sector, in particular, a significant number of key energy projects are under development (TAP, IGB, IGI, FSRU), with the support and active contribution of the EU, as Greece has been transformed into an energy hub in the Eastern Mediterranean, maximizing its own energy security, that of the wider region, but also the EU’s, while offering also excellent business opportunities to interested investors. Notably, Greece and the United States cooperate in infrastructure projects, energy security and regional stability in the Eastern Mediterranean, together with Cyprus and Israel, in the context of the 3 + 1 collaboration scheme.

On the subject of Greece - US relations, the two countries have strong and long-standing economic ties, and bilateral relations stand at their highest level in recent memory. The Greece-US Strategic Dialogue, in progress since 2018, has established a closer relationship between the two countries in the sectors of regional cooperation, defense and security, trade and investment, energy, law enforcement and relations between citizens. More specifically, in the context of the 2nd Round of the Strategic Dialogue and the Sub-Group on Trade and Investment, the two countries have been developing their collaboration in a number of areas of common interest, such as innovation, start-ups,

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energy, information technology, tourism, infrastructure. Presently, significant joint investments are being made in Greek shipyards, whereas there is important US interest in the ports of Kavala and Alexandroupolis, the latter city evolving into a hub for transporting American gas to Central and Eastern Europe.

In January 2020, the Greek Parliament ratified the updated Greece - US Mutual Defense Cooperation Agreement (MDCA), which was signed in October 2019 during the Secretary of State Pompeo's visit to Greece, further strengthening our bilateral defense cooperation. Furthermore, during Secretary Pompeo's recent visit to Greece in September 2020, the US-Greece Science-Technology Agreement (STA) was signed, establishing terms for launching private-public partnerships in innovation, further strengthening Greece's leading position as a hub of research and technology in Southeastern Europe.

Despite the global economic consequences of the pandemic, the Greek economy remains stable, providing a favorable investment environment and attracting continuous interest from American companies, thanks to Greece's highly trained human resources, as proven not only by Microsoft's recent investment in Greece, but also by the presence in the Greek market of several big American companies such as Pfizer, Deloitte and Cisco.

Throughout good times and bad, Greece has proven to be a pillar of stability in a highly volatile region, as is South East Europe/Eastern Mediterranean region; a functioning democracy with full respect for rule of law and the high standards of an EU member state; and as such, a reliable partner to the US, sharing common values and strategic goals."

**H.E. Geoffrey R. Pyatt - U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic**, stated:

"U.S.-Greece relations are at an all-time high and are poised to grow even stronger in the year ahead. In the United States, Greece is now seen as a provider of stability, security, and energy diversification in the Eastern Mediterranean and Western Balkans, as well as a unique value proposition for American investors.

Over the past year, Prime Minister Mitsotakis's market-friendly reforms have enhanced Greece's reputation as a trusted destination for American investment, paving the way for Greece's emerging knowledge-based economy. Microsoft will invest in a complex of data centers around Athens, and Amazon Web Services and Digital Realty are following suit. Supported by the Embassy's continued engagement in northern Greece, American companies like Pfizer, Cisco, and Deloitte are expanding their footprint in Thessaloniki and contributing to its development as a regional innovation hub.

With the recently completed Trans Adriatic Pipeline, the Greece-Bulgaria Gas Interconnector targeted for completion next year, the Alexandroupoli floating storage regassification unit, and new connections to North Macedonia, Greece and its neighbors are redrawing the energy map of Southeastern Europe, diversifying sources and routes. The United States has become one of Greece's main sources of LNG, which will serve as a transition fuel to Greece's green transformation. U.S. renewables companies are also taking advantage of Greece's rich natural resources. With new policy tools like the U.S. Development Finance Corporation, the United States and Greece are advancing strategic maritime investments to support energy security and catalyze regional integration.

Greece has emerged as a source of solutions in the Eastern Mediterranean and Western Balkans. Breakthroughs like the Prespes Agreement and Greece's network of trilateral relationships in the Eastern Mediterranean have helped to reposition Greek diplomacy. I am confident that Greece has found a recipe for economic success, and we look forward to accelerating our cooperation and taking our economic relationship to new heights in 2021."

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### **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** <http://forums.capitallink.com/greece/2020/meetings.html>



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: 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** in cooperation with **Capital Link** organized a special ceremony in honor of Greece titled **“Greek American Issuer Day at NYSE”**.



On Tuesday, December 15th, 2020, the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) held an official reception, **in digital form**, in honor of the Greek Delegation, Greek & Greek- American companies listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

**H.E. Adonis Georgiadis**, Minister of Development & Investments of the Hellenic Republic, & **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 **representatives of NYSE listed companies: 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**.

The event was broadcasted live on major news stations in the United States and abroad to an estimated audience of 150 million viewers worldwide.

## **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:

- 112 top level speakers who addressed
- more than 1,000+ delegates who attended the forum
- 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
- 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.

**This year’s Forum was honored by the participation of:**

### **WELCOME REMARKS**

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- **Mr. Nicolas Bornozis**, President of **Capital Link**
- **Mr. Ajay Kanani**, Director, International Capital Markets - **New York Stock Exchange** who expressed 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.
  
- **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.**
  
- **H.E. Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister, Hellenic Republic, delivered the Government's message to the international investor Community**
  
- **The Forum concluded with Closing Remarks by:**
  - **Mr. John Paulson**, President & Portfolio Manager - Paulson & Co.
  - **US Government Official Mr. Matthew Palmer**, Deputy Assistant Secretary, European and Eurasian Affairs, U.S. Department of State
- **Greek Government Officials**
  - **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
  - **Dr. 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**, Secretary General for International Economic Relations - Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs / Chairman of the Board of Directors - Enterprise Greece Invest & Trade
  
- **Bank of Greece**
  - **Mr. Yannis Stournaras**, Governor
  - **Mr. Spiros Pantelias**, Director, Financial Stability Department
  
- **Five Global Investment Banks**
  - **Citi • Goldman Sachs • HSBC • Nomura International • AXIA Ventures Group**
  
- **Four Greek Banks:**
  - **Alpha Bank: Mr. Vassilios E. Psaltis**, Chief Executive Officer • **Mr. Theodoros Athanassopoulos**, Executive General Manager Non Performing Loans Wholesale Banking, CEO Cepal Hellas Financial Services S.A.
  - **Eurobank: Mr. Fokion Karavias**, Chief Executive Officer • **Mr. Konstantinos Vassiliou**, Deputy CEO, Head of Group Corporate & Investment Banking Executive Member of the BoD

- **National Bank of Greece:** Mr. Pavlos Mylonas, Chief Executive Officer • Mr. Vassilis Kotsiras, Head of Capital Markets and Structured Finance
- **Piraeus Bank:** Mr. Christos Megalou, Chief Executive Officer • Mr. Athanassios Vlachopoulos, General Manager Corporate & Investment Banking • Mrs. Eleni Vrettou, Executive General Manager, Chief of Corporate & Investment Banking • Mr. George Kormas, Head of Group Real Estate of Piraeus Bank Group and CEO

➤ **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)
- Mr. John Jovanovic, Vice-President and Managing Director for the Aegean and Western Balkans - US International Development Finance Corporation
- Mr. Riccardo Lambiris, CEO – Hellenic Republic Asset Development Fund
- Mr. George Pitsilis, Governor - Independent Authority for Public Revenue, President of the Intra-European Organization of Tax Administrations (IOTA)
- Mr. Dimitrios Tsakonas, Director General - Public Debt Management Agency
- Mrs. Rania Ekaterinari, CEO – Hellenic Corporation of Assets and Participation (HCAP)

➤ **Top International Investors:**

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**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.