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# PRESS RELEASE

## PANEL DISCUSSION

## "THE NEW ENERGY LANDSCAPE IN GREECE"

In the context of the

<u>26<sup>th</sup> Annual Capital Link Invest in Greece Forum</u>

"Greece - Speeding Ahead Post Investment Upgrade"

Monday, December 9, 2024 - New York

24 Sessions - 97 Top Speakers - 19 Listed Companies

An International Summit about the Greek Economy & Investment Opportunities in NEW YORK Featuring Top US and International Investors, Global & Greek Companies,

Global Investment Banks & Institutions, High-Ranking Government Officials from Greece and the US

# All photos

# Photo Gallery 1 | Photo Gallery 2

**Digital Journal** <a href="https://forums.capitallink.com/greece/2024/flip/">https://forums.capitallink.com/greece/2024/flip/</a> **Agenda:** <a href="https://forums.capitallink.com/greece/2024/agenda.html">https://forums.capitallink.com/greece/2024/agenda.html</a>

Friday, December 13, 2024

The following highly interesting speeches were delivered in the context of the PANEL DISCUSSION, titled «THE NEW ENERGY LANDSCAPE IN GREECE» that was part of the agenda of the 26th Annual Capital Link Invest in Greece Forum: "Greece - Speeding Ahead Post Investment Upgrade", that was held with great success and participation, on Monday, December 11, 2024 in New York, in cooperation with the New York Stock Exchange, the Athens Exchange Group (ATHEX Group), and major Global Investment Banks & Organizations, and under the Auspices of the Consulate General of Greece in New York. «Goldman Sachs», «Morgan Stanley» and «TEN Ltd (Tsakos Energy Navigation)» were the Lead Sponsors.

The topic of **«THE NEW ENERGY LANDSCAPE IN GREECE»** was covered by the following speakers:

Moderator: Mr. Evangelos (Evans) Courakis, Partner, Head of Energy, Sustainability & Infrastructure - Koutalidis Law Firm; General Secretary, Foreign Investors Council (Hellas)

#### Panelists:

- Mr. George Alexopoulos, Deputy CEO HELLENIQ ENERGY Holdings
- Ms. Vivian Bouzali, Chief Corporate Affairs & Communication Officer METLEN Energy & Metals
- Mr. Komu Kumar, Managing Director, Investment Banking Nomura Greentech
- Mr. Konstantinos Mavros, Deputy CEO PPC Group / RES, CEO PPC Renewables

Mr. Evangelos (Evans) Courakis, Partner, Head of Energy, Sustainability & Infrastructure - Koutalidis Law Firm; General Secretary, Foreign Investors Council (Hellas), moderated the panel on "The Energy Landscape in Greece," which featured Mr. George Alexopoulos (Deputy CEO of HELLENIQ ENERGY Holdings), Ms. Vivian Bouzali (Chief Corporate Affairs & Communication Officer), Mr. Komu Kumar (Managing Director, Investment Banking at Nomura Greentech), and Mr. Konstantinos Mavros (Deputy CEO - PPC Group / RES, CEO - PPC Renewables).

During his remarks, he emphasized that "Greece has everything it needs to become a significant energy hub in an era where energy security and autonomy are more critical than ever. To achieve this vision, it is essential to establish a fair, attractive, stable, and predictable regulatory framework and adopt long-term policies with a horizon of at least 20 years. While significant progress is being made, there is still work to be done."

Mr. George Alexopoulos, Deputy CEO - HELLENIQ ENERGY Holdings, stated: "Global energy demand is projected to rise by 20% by 2050, with hydrocarbons remaining essential for heavy industry and transportation. The energy transition of refining relies on technologies like CCS and sustainable fuels to achieve net-zero targets. Electrification is accelerating, with renewables expected to supply 45% of global electricity by 2040, up from ~30% in 2020.

Europe's path to net zero requires balancing decarbonization, energy security, and affordability, alongside substantial regulatory and financial support. Meeting these goals requires €1 trillion in annual investments, equivalent to 6% of the EU's GDP.

Greece, through its NECP, targets 80% of the country's power generation to be met by green electricity by 2030. Achieving this ambitious target requires grid upgrades, streamlined licensing for renewables, and a strong focus on energy storage.

HELLENiQ Energy through its "Vision 2025" strategy is transforming itself from a downstream oil company into a group that operates across the energy value chain. This involves upgrading our refining operations, reducing carbon footprint and producing low-carbon fuels while creating a diversified energy portfolio of renewables & battery storage and reorganizing our power & gas participations. Over the last five years, our total investments have exceeded €2 billion.

Our subsidiary, HELLENiQ Renewables, is one of the fastest-growing in renewable energy with 0.5 GW of operating capacity, and is currently developing a > 5 GW portfolio in Greece, Romania, and Cyprus. The goal is to operate projects with a capacity of at least 1 GW by 2026 and over 2 GW by 2030.

At the same time, HELLENiQ ENERGY is developing major energy transition projects, including production of SAF, CCS, green hydrogen and synthetic fuels.

HELLENIQ ENERGY remains at the forefront of energy developments in Southeast Europe, while contributing €2.26 billion to Greece's GDP in 2023, supporting over 30,000 jobs, and driving exports (12.1% of Greek total)."

Ms. Vivian Bouzali, Chief Corporate Affairs & Communication Officer - METLEN Energy & Metals, highlighted Greece's remarkable economic transformation in recent years: "Greece has successfully transitioned to a new era of economic stability and growth, reinforced by its recent investment grade upgrade. This milestone reflects the country's disciplined fiscal management, structural reforms, and investment-friendly policies, positioning Greece as a competitive and reliable destination for international investors. The progress we see today is the result of collective efforts to modernize the economy, enhance sustainability, and foster innovation across key sectors."

Ms. Bouzali underscored the pivotal role of METLEN Energy & Metals in advancing sustainable energy solutions. "Our company stands at the forefront of this transformation, driving investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable infrastructure."

She also highlighted how METLEN's efforts reflect broader advancements in sectors like energy, infrastructure, and technology: "These developments demonstrate Greece's commitment to sustainable development and innovation, securing a prosperous future for generations to come."

METLEN Energy & Metals' strategic approach mirrors the dynamism of modern Greece, reinforcing its vision as a forward-looking, globally integrated economy. "Our work goes beyond business—it is a contribution to the resilience and progress of our communities," she concluded.

Mr. Komu Kumar, Managing Director, Investment Banking – Nomura Greentech, stated: "Greece's commitment to the energy transition is exhibited through the revised National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), which includes more ambitious wind and solar targets to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and eventually reach climate neutrality in 2050, where Greece is seeking to become an exporter of green energy. Greece hit a record high in wind, solar and hydroelectric energy output last year, accounting for 57% of Greece's energy mix, an 8.5% annual rise from 2022. Greece's continuous effort to grow its renewable energy capacity has drawn significant interest from international investors, including Masdar through its €3.2bn acquisition of Terna Energy, Greece's leading renewable energy company, and Amazon through its investment in utility-scale wind energy projects in Greece."

Mr. Konstantinos Mavros, Deputy CEO - PPC Group / RES, CEO - PPC Renewables, during his intervention stated: "PPC Group is creating a new starting point for RES for 2025".

Mr. Mavros said that "Greece is among the leading countries in the world in terms of solar and wind penetration in generating electricity, the share of #RES has reached 60% of electricity generation, delignification continues, while we are constantly breaking records for the hours that our system relies exclusively on RES."

This, as he explained, "creates a new starting point for 2025, as #PPC Group, following the presentation of its strategic plan for the next three years, proves that it will continue to play a leading role in the development of renewable energy sources", as it becomes clear that it is absolutely necessary to continue the energy transition and to increase investments required to achieve the goal of green transition."

## THE FORUM WAS ORGANIZED:

<u>In Cooperation With</u>: New York Stock Exchange – NYSE & Athens Exchange Group (ATHEX Group)

<u>Under The Auspices</u>: of the Consulate General of Greece in New York, which hosted a welcome reception for all speakers.

This International Summit about Greece held in New York, has been taking place year after year, regardless of the political and economic conditions in Greece. With a 26-year track record of success, it has been engaged in a systematic effort to highlight Greece's profile to a global business and investment audience. The Forum was organized in a particularly positive timing for Greece, Featuring Top US and International Investors, Global & Greek Companies, Global Investment Banks & Institutions, High-Ranking Government Officials from Greece and the US (4 Greek Ministers), 19 Listed Companies, and 97 Top Level Speakers. This year's forum was particularly significant as Greece is now experiencing a remarkable upturn in economic growth and inflow of foreign investments. The regaining of the Investment Grade Rating is a milestone for the Greek economy, attracting long-term capital and creating favorable liquidity conditions. This rating status unlocks opportunities for a significant influx of foreign capital, facilitated by the significant efforts in digitalization and tax incentives. The country offers diverse sectors ripe for investment, including infrastructure, hospitality, real estate, and energy. Greece's geographical position at the crossroads of three continents provides easy access to emerging and mature markets.

The Prime Minister of Greece, H.E. Kyriakos Mitsotakis, opened the Forum and delivered the Greek Government's message to international investors, with a written message read by Mr. Nicolas Bornozis, President of Capital Link.

Keynote Remarks by Greek Ministers: Minister of Infrastructure & Transport, H.E. Christos Staikouras – former Minister of Finance, Minister of Labour & Social Security, H.E. Niki Kerameus, Alternate Minister of Economy & Finance, H.E. Nikolaos Papathanasis, and Deputy Minister of Environment & Energy, H.E. Alexandra Sdoukou.

Greek Government Officials: Ms. Mary Psylla, General Secretary of Tax Policy - Ministry of Economy & Finance,

**Mr. Orestis Kavalakis,** Governor of Recovery and Resilience Facility Coordination Agency - Ministry of Economy and Finance, **Mr. Dimitrios Tsakonas,** Director General - Public Debt Management Agency, **Mr. George Pitsilis,** Governor - Independent Authority for Public Revenue, and **Mr. Vassilis Kontozamanis,** Former Alternate Minister of Health.

US Government Representative • H.E. George J. Tsunis, U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic - U.S. Embassy in Athens.

European Investment Bank was represented by Mr. Yannis Tsakiris, Vice President.

The Athens Exchange Group was represented by Mr. Yianos Kontopoulos, CEO - Athens Exchange Group, (via webcast), and Enterprise Greece by Dr. Marinos Giannopoulos, CEO.

The Forum featured the important participation of representatives from the biggest Greek Banks:

- 1) Four Systemic Banks, Alpha Bank Eurobank National Bank Piraeus Bank,
- 2) Attica Bank and Hellenic Development Bank of Investments (HDBI ex TANEO), and
- 3) from **❖ major Global Investment Banks Barclays BNP Paribas Goldman Sachs International Morgan Stanley Nomura AXIA Ventures Group.**
- 4) Participating speakers in investor panel, representatives from: AXIA Ventures Group Brook Lane Capital CVC Capital Partners Grifon Capital Advisors Oaktree
- ♦ 19 Listed Companies: AKTOR Group of Companies (ATH:INKAT) Alpha Services & Holdings S.A. (ATH:ALPHA) Athens Stock Exchange S.A. (ATH:EXAE) Athens International Airport S.A. (ATH:AIA) Athens Water Supply & Sewage Company S.A. (ATH:EYDAP) Attica Bank S.A. (ATH:TATT) AVAX Group (ATH:AVAX) Dimand S.A. (ATH: DIMAND) Ellaktor S.A. (ATH:ELLAKTOR) Eurobank Ergasias Services & Holdings S.A. (ATH: EUROB) GEK TERNA S.A. (ATH:GEKTERNA) HELLENIQ ENERGY Holdings S.A. (ATH: ELPE) IDEAL Holdings S.A. (ATH:INTEK) LAMDA Development S.A. (ATH:LAMDA) Metlen Energy & Metals S.A. (ATH:MYTIL) National Bank of Greece S.A. (ATH: ETE) Piraeus Financial Holdings S.A. (ATH:TPEIR) Public Power Corporation S.A. PPC (ATH:PPC) Trastor REIC (ATH:TRASTOR).

During the Official Luncheon the Greek Minister of Infrastructure & Transport, Mr. Christos Staikouras, Mr. Christos Megalou, Chief Executive Officer, Piraeus Group, and Ms. Eleni Vrettou, CEO - Attica Bank delivered Keynote Remarks. Mr. Chris Taylor, Global Head of Listings – NYSE, Mr. Yianos Kontopoulos, CEO - Athens Exchange Group, and Dr. Nikolas P. Tsakos, Founder, Chairman & CEO - TEN Ltd. (NYSE: TEN); Chairman, INTERTANKO 2014-2018, delivered Welcome Remarks.

The Forum concluded with an Official Dinner during which the "2024 Capital Link Hellenic Leadership Award" was presented to **Dr. Yannis Stournaras**, Governor of Bank of Greece, for his invaluable contributions to the European and Greek economies, and for his instrumental role in keeping Greece as part of the Euro and to Greece's return to economic growth and prosperity. **Dr. Yannis Stournaras** delivered Keynote Remarks.

The Dinner opened with a brief Welcoming Speech by The Ambassador of Greece to the USA, H.E. Ekaterini Nassika.

Dr. Yannis Stournaras was introduced by Mr. John Paulson, President & Portfolio Manager - Paulson & Co.

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

On Tuesday, December, 10, 2024, within the context of the "26<sup>th</sup> Annual Capital Link Invest in Greece Forum", the New York Stock Exchange in cooperation with Capital Link organized for a 20<sup>th</sup> year in a row, a special ceremony, the "Greek American Issuer Day at NYSE", honoring Greece and Celebrating the Close Ties between the US, the Greek American and the Greek Business Communities, during which Greek & Greek American companies listed on the New York Stock Exchange rang the "Closing Bell" - at NYSE-New York Stock Exchange.

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Lead Sponsors: Goldman Sachs • Morgan Stanley • Tsakos Energy Navigation - TEN Ltd.

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<u>UNDER THE AUSPICES</u>: του Γενικού Προξενείου της Ελλάδος στη Νέα Υόρκη • Γραφείο Οικονομικών και Εμπορικών Υποθέσεων Νέας Υόρκης - Γενικό Προξενείο της Ελλάδος στην Νέα Υόρκη

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#### ABOUT CAPITAL LINK

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. The company 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.

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's proactive approach integrates Investor Relations, Information Technology and Media, enhancing 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 is also known for the organization of 18 top-level investment and industry forums, Webinars and Podcasts, the majority of which focus on maritime transportation and U.S. investment products, in 10 countries in Europe, the United States and Asia, in key industry centers, such as New York, London, Oslo, Hamburg, Athens, Limassol, Shanghai, Singapore, Tokyo and Hong Kong, featuring industry leaders focusing on investment strategies, sectors, critical topics of interest to the investment community that draw the elite of the global financial, investment and business communities. Capital Link holds about 18 forums annually focusing on the areas of its strategic concentration.

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 with a global marketing platform that 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 in 2023 by HABA – Hellenic American Association for Professionals in Finance, in 2018 by the Finance Monthly CEO Awards, in 2016 by the Wealth & Finance Magazine - by the International Propeller Club of the United States and by AHI-American Hellenic Institute, in 2013 and 2012 by the InterContinental Finance Magazine, and also in 2011 by the Lloyds's List Greek Shipping Awards.