

Friday May 24th

1st Section: 10:30 – 11:30

Topic: “The European energy and climate policy, transnational Cooperation and green energy transition in the Balkans”

Speakers' CVs:

Alexandra Sdoukou

Alexandra Sdoukou is a lawyer and has served as a legal consultant in both the private sector and public administration. In 2007, she was formally employed by the Management Organisation Unit of Development Programmes (MOU S.A.). She holds a Law degree from Democritus University of Thrace, complemented by postgraduate degrees in European Commercial Law from the University of Bristol and in International and European Economic Studies from the Athens University of Economics and Business.



From 2004 to 2012, she held significant advisory roles within various ministries, including the Ministries of Economy and Finance, Development and Environment, and Energy. From 2012 to 2015, she served as the Director of the Minister's Office of Environment, Energy, and Climate Change.

Her extensive expertise lies in the formulation, execution, and supervision of energy policies. Notably, from 2017 to 2019, she served as a special advisor on energy and mineral resources matters to Mr. Kyriakos Mitsotakis, the President of New Democracy Party. From July 2019 until June 2023, she held the position of Secretary General for Energy and Mineral Resources (GSEMR) at the Hellenic Ministry of Environment and Energy. On June 27, 2023, she was appointed as Deputy Minister of Environment and Energy.

Konstantinos Fragkogiannis

Konstantinos (Costas) Fragkogiannis was born in 1959, in Northern Greece (Kavala), where he completed his basic education. Following his graduation from the British Institute of Marketing (HND), he continued his studies in the U.S., earning a BS in Business Administration and an MBA in International Management & Computer Systems from the University of San Francisco.



In June 2023, his term was renewed as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, with the portfolio of Economic Diplomacy and Openness, an office he has held since July 2019. Fragkogiannis has greatly contributed to reforms and legislation pertaining to the Ministry's restructuring on issues of economic diplomacy and the complete revamping of Enterprise Greece (Greece's Trade and Investment Agency) and Export Credit Greece. Dozens of FDIs have been supported under his leadership, while fast-track procedures, one-stop-shop services and targeted incentives have been introduced, resulting in record-breaking foreign investments and a complete turn-around in Greece's branding. Fragkogiannis has worked towards enhancing Greece's bilateral relations with Eastern Europe, the USA, Germany, all MENA countries and Libya, among others; while he also leads the 'positive agenda' initiative with Turkey. The innovative "Astypalea-smart and sustainable island" project is one of his most-known achievements at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Fragkogiannis brings experience of over 30 years in the private sector, where he has held senior executive positions in major companies and groups, such as Emporiki Bank, Interbank, Delta, the Vasilakis Group, Ant1, the Viohalco Group, Vivartia, and the Chipita Group. Having successfully handled development projects worth hundreds of millions of Euro throughout the world, he has gained invaluable experience in negotiating with organizations in countries where he has overseen investments. He has led a total of 18 greenfield projects in 16 countries, 9 investment consortiums, 5 buyouts and, finally, the founding of multiple commercial enterprises in dozens of countries.

Through his many years of international experience, he has gained a wide-ranging and up-to-date perspective on what is required to effectively attract foreign investments and to promote exports and growth in the globalized economy.

Μαρία Σπυράκη

Η Μαρία Σπυράκη είναι ευρωβουλευτής της ΝΔ και του ΕΛΚ. Είναι πλήρες μέλος της επιτροπής Βιομηχανίας, Ενέργειας και Έρευνας και της επιτροπής για το Περιβάλλον, τη Δημόσια Υγεία και την Ασφάλεια Τροφίμων. Είναι επίσης συμπρόεδρος του Intergroup για τη βιώσιμη ανάπτυξη και την κλιματική αλλαγή.

Στην παρούσα θητεία αξιολογήθηκε πρώτη μεταξύ των 21 Ελλήνων ευρωβουλευτών για το κοινοβουλευτικό της έργο σύμφωνα με τον δείκτη BCW, δεύτερη Ελληνίδα στην επιρροή στην Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση και μεταξύ των 20 πιο επιδραστικών πολιτικών για το περιβάλλον στην Ένωση, σύμφωνα με το δείκτη EUmatrix. Το 2019 ανακηρύχθηκε ευρωβουλευτής της χρονιάς για την ενέργεια, την έρευνα και την καινοτομία.

Η Μαρία Σπυράκη εργάστηκε 22 χρόνια ως δημοσιογράφος. Σπούδασε χημικός στο Αριστοτέλειο Πανεπιστήμιο Θεσσαλονίκης. Είναι κάτοχος μεταπτυχιακού στη νομοθεσία της Ενέργειας του Διεθνούς Πανεπιστημίου Ελλάδος. Επίσης αποφοίτησε από θερινά σχολεία διπλωματίας, διαπραγματεύσεων και στρατηγικής στο Κολλέγιο της Ευρώπης και στο Harvard Business School.

Μιλάει Αγγλικά και Γαλλικά. Είναι παντρεμένη με τον καθηγητή του ΑΠΘ, Στράτο Στυλιανίδη και έχουν δύο παιδιά.



Irene Mihai

Irene is the Policy Officer of the Romanian Photovoltaic Industry Association (RPIA). With an extensive background in International Relations, Political Science, and European Studies, her work focuses on EU regulations and the national energy transition. Irene is preoccupied with policies and initiatives to accelerate the efficient development of solar power and the associated value chain. By fostering collaborations and dialogues with key stakeholders, she is at the forefront of advocating for policies that support the growth of solar energy, ensuring that the industry's development is both economically viable and environmentally responsible. Her efforts contribute significantly to the advancement of solar power, not just as a source of clean energy but as a driver of economic growth and job creation in the region.



Costis Stambolis,

Chairman and Executive Director, IENE, Greece

Mr. Costis Stambolis who is the current Chairman and Executive Director of IENE, has a background in Physics and Architecture having studied at the University of London, and the Architectural Association in London from where he holds a Graduate Diploma in Architecture and Energy Studies (AA Dip. Grad). He also holds a professional practice license from the Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE), and a Masters Degree from the Said Business School, University of Oxford, where he studied "Strategy and Innovation".



Costis has carried out numerous studies and projects on Renewable Energy Sources in developing countries. He has consulted widely on solar building applications for both private and institutional clients in various European countries. He has worked as a consultant and strategy advisor on natural gas, oil markets and energy security issues for large multinational companies, international organizations and governments.

Costis has lectured widely on energy issues and has organised several national, regional and international conferences, seminars and workshops. He has published several books, conference proceedings, research papers and studies on energy policy, solar energy, RES and energy markets. Among others he is the editor of the "S.E. Europe Energy Outlook (2011,2017, 2022)", which is considered a basic reference on energy for SE Europe.

Since 2001 he supervises and edits Greece's foremost energy site www.energia.gr and he is a founding partner of the Institute of Energy for South East Europe (IENE). He is a member of the Energy Institute (UK), the International Passive House Association (IPHA), The Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE). Since 2018 he also serves as a full member of the Greek government's standing committee on Energy and Climate Change (NECP).