ATHENS SECURITY FORUM

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Athens Security Forum 2026

The New Geopolitics and the Rise of Strategic Technologies: Power, Security and the Future of International Order

Monday November 23 and Tuesday November 24, 2026

Stelios Foundation Conference Hall
(22 Kydathineon Street, Plaka)

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Co-organizer:

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DRAFT PROGRAM

DAY 1 – Monday, November 23, 2026

The New Geopolitics and the Technology Revolution

09:30-10:00 | Registration and Coffee

10:00-10:15 | Open Ceremony

- **Welcome Video by the Stelios Foundation**, Grand Sponsor of the Athens Security Forum
- **Welcome Address and Opening Remarks:**
  - **Vassilios Paipais**, Professor of International Political Theory, Panteion University; Director and President of the Board of IDIS
  - **Konstantinos Lavdas**, Professor of European and Comparative Politics; Chair of the Department of International and European Studies, Panteion University

10:15-11:00 | Keynote Address I

- **Evangelos Venizelos,** Former Deputy Prime Minister of Greece and former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of National Defence
  Enduring Strategic Challenges for Greek Foreign and Defence Policy in an Era of Geopolitical Fluidity and Technological Transformation

11:00-11:45 | Panel I - *The New Geopolitics and the Future of the International Order*

Moderator: TBA
Speakers:

- **Konstantinos Arvanitopoulos**, Professor of International Relations; Director of the Konstantinos Karamanlis Institute for Democracy; former Minister of Education
- **Manos Karagiannis**, Professor of International Security, King's College London and University of Macedonia
- **Spyridon N. Litsas,** Professor of International Relations Theory; Jean Monnet Chair "EU ARGOS"; Vice-Rector of the University of Macedonia.

11:45-12:30 | Keynote Address II

- **Josh Huck**, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim, U.S. Embassy in Athens
  Pillar of Stability, Provider of Security: The U.S.-Greece Partnership Delivers

12:30-13:15 | Panel II –
European Security, NATO and the Future of the Transatlantic Alliance

Moderator: TBA
Speakers:

- **Nicolas Kassianides,** Ambassador of France to Greece
- **Konstantinos Lavdas,** Professor of European and Comparative Politics; Chair of the Department of International and European Studies, Panteion University
- **TBA**

13:15-14:15 | Lunch Break

14:15-15:00 | Keynote address III

- **Stavros Papastavrou,** Minister of Environment and Energy, Hellenic Republic

15:00-15:45 | Panel III
The Eastern Mediterranean: Energy Security, Critical Infrastructure and Strategic Competition

Moderator: TBA
Speakers:

- **Stavros Avgoustides**, Ambassador of Cyprus to Greece
- **Angelos Syrigos**, Member of the Hellenic Parliament and Professor of International Law and Foreign Policy, Panteion University
- **Shay Gal**, Founder & Principal, Line of State; Defence and Security Analyst.

15:45-16:00 | Coffee Break

16:00-16:45 | Panel IV
Maritime Security and Naval Power in a Contested Geopolitical Environment

Moderator: TBA
Speakers:

- **Vasileios Martzoukos**, Retired Vice-Admiral, Hellenic Navy
- **Harry Papasotiriou**, Professor of International Relations, Panteion University
- **Petros Liacouras**, Professor of Public International Law, University of Piraeus

16:45-17:30 | Panel V
Cyber Warfare, Defence Innovation and the Future of Military Technology

Moderator: TBA
Speakers:

- **Stelios Fenekos**, Rear Admiral, HN, (ret), President of Scientific Institute INAP, and Secretary-General of RIEAS
- **Dimitris Kottas**, Founder and CEO, Delian Alliance Industries
- **Andreas Liaropoulos**, Associate Professor of International Relations and Strategic Studies, Department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus

17:30-18:30 | Fireside Conversations
Greece in a Changing International Order: Leadership, Strategy and the Future of Europe

- **Costas Karamanlis**, Former Prime Minister of Greece (TBC)
- **Moderator** (TBC)

DAY 2 – Tuesday, November 24, 2026

The Indo-Pacific, China and the Future of Global Security

10:30-11:30 | Keynote Address

- **Neysun A. Mahboubi**, University of Pennsylvania
  The Future of U.S.–China Relations: Competition, Coexistence and the Changing International Order

11:30-12:30 | Panel I
Order and Disorder in the Indo-Pacific: Strategic Competition, IMEC and the War in Iran

Moderator:

- **Konstantinos Lavdas,** Professor of European and Comparative Politics; Chair of the Department of International and European Studies, Panteion University

Speakers:

- **Sreeram Sundar Chaulia**, Jindal School of International Affairs
- **Swasti Rao**, Jindal School of International Affairs

12:30-12:45 | Coffee Break

12:45-13:30 | Fireside Conversation
Europe, China and the New Trade Wars: Economic Security, Strategic Rivalry and the Future of Global Order

- **Reinhard Bütikofer**, Senior Fellow, Democratic Resilience Program, Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA); former Member of the European Parliament (2009–2024) and former Co-Chair of the European Green Party
- **Marilena Koppa**, Professor of Comparative Politics, Panteion University; former Member of the European Parliament (2007–2014)

13:30-14:30 | Lunch Break

14:30-15:30 | Panel II

Japan and the Asia-Pacific: Maritime Security, Deterrence and Regional Stability

Moderator:

- **Plamen Tonchev,** Head of the Asia Unit, Institute of International Economic Relations (IIER).

Speakers:

- **Chisako Masuo**, Kyushu University
- **Drake Long,** China Warfighting Initiative, Marine Corps War College

15:30-16:30 | Panel III

Global China: From Development to Global Power and Influence

Moderator:

- **Konstantinos Tsimonis**, Assistant Professor of Chinese Politics; Deputy Director, Institute of International Relations (IDIS); Academic Lead, IDIS China Programme, Panteion University.

Speakers:

- **Hirono Miwa**, Ritsumeikan University
- **Marina Rudyak**, Heidelberg University

16:30-17:30 | Panel IV

The Middle East in Transition: Regional Rivalries, Strategic Realignments and the Future of Regional Security.

Moderator: TBA

Speakers:

- **Dimitris Kairidis**, Member of the Hellenic Parliament (New Democracy), Parliamentary Spokesperson for New Democracy, and Professor of International Relations at Panteion University
- **Panayotis J. Tsakonas,** Professor of International Relations, Security Studies and Foreign Policy Analysis, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; Head, Program on Security and Foreign Policy, ELIAMEP
- **Middle East Expert**, specialising in regional power dynamics, conflict and diplomacy, (invited by Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung)