A R I S T O T L E U N I V E R S I T Y O F T H E S S A L O N I K I
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PRESS RELEASE

Message from the Rectorate of Aristotle University on the 53rd Anniversary of the Polytechnic Uprising

Thessaloniki, 13/11/2026

The Polytechnic uprising remains, across time, the supreme symbol of the struggle for freedom, democracy and human dignity. It was a historic act of courage whose protagonists were young people who refused to compromise with oppression.

Its message remains ever relevant. Democracy is not a given achievement. It demands constant vigilance, respect for institutions and personal responsibility. Particularly today, in a world that changes rapidly and unpredictably, freedom of thought and expression, democratic dialogue and a sound critical stance toward reality take on even greater importance.

The public University bears a distinct responsibility to defend these values. It must be a space for the free circulation of ideas, creative dialogue and respect for differing views. It must shape not only scientists with knowledge and skills, but also citizens with judgment, ethos and social conscience.

Aristotle University, having completed a century of service, remains committed to this mission.

Because truly honoring the Polytechnic struggle does not end with remembering the past. Our stance in the present and our responsibility for the future express it.

We kindly ask you to publish or broadcast this message.