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**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Conference at the Aristotle University on the Occasion of the  
Presidency of the Council of the EU by the Republic of Cyprus**

Thessaloniki, April 22, 2026

On the occasion of the Republic of Cyprus assuming the Presidency of the Council of the European Union during the first half of 2026, the Chair of Cypriot Studies, in collaboration with the Law School of the Aristotle University and the Consulate of the Republic of Cyprus in Thessaloniki, is organizing a conference titled “Republic of Cyprus and European Union: Challenges and Achievements.”

The conference will take place on Saturday, April 25, 2026, from 10:00 to 18:30, in Room 212 of the Law School.

According to the organizers, “the conference aims to provide an opportunity for meaningful dialogue and assessment of Cyprus’s European course, as well as the challenges and priorities associated with holding the Presidency of the European Union, during a period of multiple crises and transformations for the EU. The event seeks to analyze, from different perspectives, Cyprus’s participation in the EU and will attempt to connect the European experience of the Republic of Cyprus with broader issues.”

The first part of the conference, titled “The Cypriot Presidency of the EU 2026: Challenges and Priorities,” includes 20-minute speeches by the Deputy Minister of Migration and Asylum of the Republic of Cyprus, Nikolas Ioannides, and the Cypriot European Commissioner, Kostas Kadis. The second part will feature the keynote address by Professor Symeon Symeonides.

Three sessions with 15-minute presentations will follow. In the first session, titled “Cyprus’s Participation in the EU: 20 Years Later,” former Cypriot European Commissioners Androulla Vassiliou and Christos Stylianides will participate, along with

Andreas Mavroyiannis. The next two sessions, titled “The European Union as a Factor of Transformation for Cyprus” and “The Republic of Cyprus as a Model/Precedent for ‘Small’ Acceding Countries,” will feature the following academics: Achilleas Emilianides, Marilena Koppa, Revekka Pedi, Dimitrios Kyriazis, Konstantina Georgaki, Dimitrios Kourtis, Kostas Rokas, Anna Maria Konsta, and Christos Papastylianou.

Participation in the conference is open to the public, and a certificate of attendance will be provided.

More information about the detailed program and the live streaming of the event is available at the following link:

<https://law.auth.gr/imerida-kypriaki-dimokratia-kai-evropaiki-enosi-prokliseis-kai-epitevgmata-25-apriliou-2026/>

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*We kindly request that this event be published, broadcast, and covered by the media.*