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PRESS RELEASE

**Europe Facing New Economic and Geopolitical Challenges: Event Held
within the Framework of the Aristotle Innovation Forum**

Thessaloniki, 12/5/2026

The Alumni Association of the Aristotle University is organizing an event within the framework of the Aristotle Innovation Forum, titled: “Europe in an Uncertain Economic and Geopolitical Environment,” on Friday, 22 May 2026, from 19:00 to 20:30, at the “Emilios Riadis” Hall of the Thessaloniki International Fair.

The Rector of the Aristotle University, **Professor Kyriakos Anastasiadis**, will deliver a welcome address at the event.

Former European Union Commissioner for Employment and Social Rights **Anna Diamantopoulou**, former Prime Minister and former President of the Court of Audit Ioannis Sarmas, Group Chief Economist of Piraeus Bank **Ilias Lekkos**, and the Dean of the Law School of the Aristotle University, Professor **Panagiotis Glavinis**, will speak at the event.

The discussion will be moderated by the President of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association, Lieutenant General (ret.) **George Chatzitheofanous**.

The Aristotle Innovation Forum — one of the most dynamic innovation forums in Southeastern Europe — is organized by the Aristotle University from 17 to 23 May 2026.

The AIF is held under the auspices of His Excellency the President of the Hellenic Republic, Konstantinos An. Tasoulas, and is supported by the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, the Municipality of Thessaloniki, and the Region of Central Macedonia, while the Thessaloniki International Fair serves as a strategic partner. Major sponsors include Public Power Corporation and Piraeus Bank.

The event is open to the public.

More information: [Aristotle Innovation Forum](#)

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