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ANNOUNCEMENT

**Decoration of the President of the School of Italian Language and
Literature of Aristotle University, Eleni Leontaridi**

Thessaloniki, 23 June 2026

The President of the School of Italian Language and Literature of Aristotle University, Professor Eleni Leontaridi, received the highest honorary distinction, the Cross of Officer of the Order of Civil Merit (Cruz de Oficial de la Orden del Mérito Civil), from His Majesty King Felipe VI of Spain, through the Ambassador of Spain to Athens, Jorge M. Domecq Fernández de Bobadilla.

The decoration officially recognizes Professor Leontaridi's longstanding contribution to promoting the Spanish language and culture in Greece and to strengthening cooperation ties between Greece and Spain.

The Decoration Ceremony took place on Tuesday, 16 June 2026, at the Embassy of Spain in Athens.

Brief Biography of the Honoree

Eleni Leontaridi serves as President of the School of Italian Language and Literature at Aristotle University and as Professor of Spanish Linguistics. She holds a doctoral degree from the University of Salamanca and was the first holder of a Chair in Spanish Linguistics in Greece.

Her research and teaching activities focus on theoretical and applied linguistics, with particular emphasis on the comparative study of the Greek and Spanish languages, as well as on the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language.

She maintains long-standing research collaborations with universities and research institutions abroad. In addition, she has developed extensive academic and research

activity in Greece and internationally, making a significant contribution to the promotion of the Spanish language and culture in Greece and to the strengthening of academic and cultural relations between Greece and Spain.

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