PRESS RELEASE

Aristotle University and Democritus University Win the 1st Digital Governance Award for the Innovative UniverSIS

Thessaloniki, 18/11/2025

Aristotle University and Democritus University of Thrace received the 1st Digital Governance Award in the category "Best Applied Idea," within the section "Education–Culture–Sports."

The distinction concerns UniverSIS, an open-source Electronic Secretariat information system created *by Universities for Universities*.

The competition was organized by the General Secretariat of Digital Governance of the Ministry of Digital Governance, with the aim of highlighting effective and innovative digitalization processes in the Public Sector.

Ten Institutions, 215,000 students, and 500,000+ digital signatures confirm the success of UniverSIS

UniverSIS is no longer just an idea but a fully operational solution that significantly impacts the daily operations of Institutions:

• 10 Institutions have adopted the solution nationwide.
• More than 215,000 active students are supported.
• More than 3,000 instructors use the system.
• Over 500,000 digitally signed certificates and 70,000 digitally signed grade reports have been issued.

The institutions that have already adopted UniverSIS include, among others, the Universities of the Aegean, the Peloponnese, Western Macedonia, the Technical University of Crete, and Harokopio University.

Open software, less bureaucracy & a unified digital study environment

UniverSIS began in 2018 as a collaborative project between the two Universities, aiming to enhance their autonomy. The proposal, titled "UniverSIS – An open-source Electronic Secretariat information system from Universities for Universities," was awarded as an integrated solution based on the following core pillars:

- **Open Software (Open Source):** It is based on open-source technologies, allowing other institutions to use and adapt it, promoting collaboration and resource savings (without the need to purchase licenses).

- **Process Automation:** It reduces bureaucracy by automating procedures such as registrations, course declarations, graduations, and the issuance of certificates with digital signatures.

- **Unified Environment:** It integrates all functions into a single platform, offering distinct applications for students, instructors, and secretariats.

- **Adaptability:** Its architecture is flexible and can be tailored to the different institutional frameworks and needs of each University.

- **Contribution to Digital Transformation:** It aligns with national goals, promoting interoperability with other public-sector systems (such as those of the Ministry of Education/ETHAAE).

The success is attributed to the close collaboration of the Digital Governance Units of Aristotle University and Democritus University of Thrace, as well as the support of the Institutions' secretariats, students, and the staff of the Quality Assurance Units.

More information is available at the following link:
https://it.auth.gr/announcements/digitalawardwinner/
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We kindly request that this event be published, broadcast, and covered by the media.