



ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Βαλαωρίτου 8, Κολωνάκι, 10671 Αθήνα - 8 Valaoritou Str., Kolonaki, 10671 Athens, Greece.
Τηλ./Tel.: 210-36.34.210 Φαξ/ Fax: 210-36.34.209 Email: info@atiner.gr URL: www.atiner.gr

Athens, 1 April 2015

PRESS RELEASE

RE: 8th Annual International Conference on Mediterranean Studies, 30-31 March & 1-2 April 2015, Athens, Greece, at St George Lycabettus Hotel, 2 Kleomenous Street, Kolonaki.

The [Athens Institute for Education and Research](http://www.atiner.gr) organized its 8th Annual International Conference on **Mediterranean Studies**, on **Monday 30 March 2015** and **Tuesday 31 March 2015** at St George Lycabettus Hotel, 2 Kleomenous Street, Kolonaki. The Opening Speech and Welcome Remarks of the conference were given on **Monday 30 March 2015**, at **8:30 a.m.**, by **Dr. George Poulos**, Vice-President of Research, ATINER & Emeritus Professor, University of South Africa, South Africa and **Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos**, President of the Institute, with an opening speech on “[Military Spending, International Trade and Economic Growth in the Mediterranean Basin](#)”.

During the first two days of the conference, 49 papers were presented by 52 academics and researchers from 24 different countries (**Bahrain, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Spain, Turkey, UK and USA**).

The conference was organized into 15 sessions on the following themes: Political and Economic Issues, Topics in Education and Society, Literature, Arts, Cultural and Historical Matters, Issues on Classical & Southeastern European Studies, and Sciences. The conference’s program is available on <http://www.atiner.gr/2015/2015PRO-MDT.pdf>.

As part of this conference, [A Round-Table Discussion on Energy Security and Policy in the South European Peninsula and the Mediterranean Basin](#) took place, on Monday 30 March 2015, between 15:00-16:20. Dr. George Poulos, Vice President of Research, ATINER & Emeritus Professor, University of South Africa, South Africa chaired this discussion and the speakers were:

1. Gregory T. Papanikos, Honorary Professor, University of Stirling, UK & President, ATINER.
2. Yannis Maniatis, ex-Minister of Environment, Energy & Climate Change, Greece & Associate Professor University of Piraeus, Greece.
3. Irit Ben-Abba, Ambassador, Embassy of Israel, Athens, Greece.
4. Lucian Fatu, Ambassador, Embassy of Romania, Athens, Greece.
5. Dashnor Dervishi, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Albania, Athens, Greece.
6. Vladimir Panasyuk, First Secretary, Embassy of the Russian Federation, Athens, Greece.

This was the second of the 80 Annual International Conferences that ATINER is organizing in 2015. More than 2000 professors and researchers from over 100 countries are expected to participate in all our conferences. All conferences take place on an annual basis and are always held in Athens. The list of the 2015 conferences is available on: <http://www.atiner.gr/2015Conferences.htm>.

For further information, please contact Ms. Celia Sakka or Ms Stavroula Kyritsi at +30 210 3634210 or by email: info@atiner.gr.