



INFO NOTE



1. VISA AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The 9th Our Ocean Conference is a conference of global scope with a very large number of participants from all over the world including countries from different continents. Participation in the event is by invitation only.

While VISAS are not required by citizens of Member-States of the Schengen Agreement, citizens from all other countries should ensure that they have necessary entry and/or transit visas available prior to their departure.

Participants who require a visa to enter Greece must obtain it well in advance of their departure and should contact, as soon as possible, the Greek Embassy / Consular Authority in their area of residence.

Please check if you need a visa for Greece at the following link: <https://www.mfa.gr/en/visas/visas-for-foreigners-traveling-to-greece/countries-requiring-or-not-requiring-visa.html>.

The list of Greek Missions abroad can be found at the following link: <https://www.mfa.gr/en/appendix/greece-bilateral-relations/a.html>. Please note that the Honorary Consular Authorities of Greece do not accept visa applications.

2. REGISTRATION

A personal registration is mandatory for all the participants and should be completed prior to the conference by filling in and submitting the online form at the link <https://ourocean2024.gov.gr/registration-form/> **by 29 February**. The process of online registration is required also for all recipients of invitations who have already announced their participation via e-mail, as indicated in the invitation received.

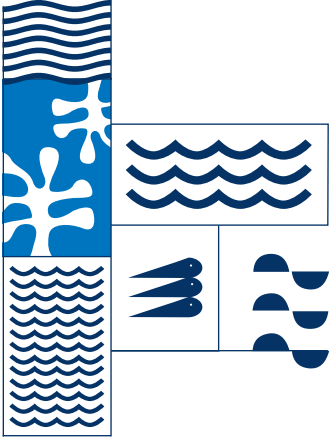
Recipients of invitations, depending on their representation type, may also be able to share their invitation with additional members of the same organization, provided that their name(s) and contact details are communicated, via email, to ooe_registrations@prv.ypeka.gr. The number of potential additional members is indicated below in section 2.1 and on the online form. This email message, announcing the names and details of additional participants from the same organization, should be uploaded by each additional participant, when filling in and submitting their respective online registration form.

Access to the venue is restricted to pre-registered participants who have received a confirmation email that their registration has been approved with a personalized QR code ticket required for picking up their personal accreditation badge upon arrival (see below).

Venue staff will be available to give you directions upon your arrival at the venue. Our Ocean signage has also been provided to help you navigate around the venue.

For all your planning needs at the venue, you can visit the Accreditation Desk (Lobby – Greek National Opera Building) or the Information Desk (Lobby – National Library Building). Assistance will be provided at both desks to help you with any queries and make your participation at the Conference seamless.





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2. REGISTRATION

2.1 Number of badges per representation type

Depending on the representation type the number of members of each representation is defined as follows:

REPRESENTATION TYPE	NUMBER OF BADGES
Country/Government delegations	As per note verbal or official letter.
Inter-Governmental Organizations	1+2
Non-Governmental Organizations	1+2
Philanthropy Organizations/Foundations	1+2
Private Sector	1+1
Academia	1
Media	1

2.2 Badge Issuance

You are advised to download the QR code given after the successful completion of your online registration, in PDF Format, and save it on your phone or tablet, as you will need it when picking up your Conference Accreditation / Badge. This QR Code has been generated for you to be your electronic ID throughout the Conference. You may collect your badge:

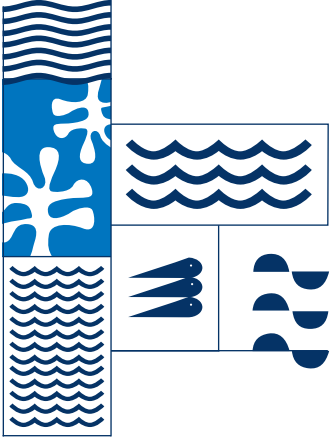
- At the Athens International Airport:** To facilitate a faster badge pick-up process, the Organizing Committee will place two welcome desks in Exit A (Schengen Zone) and Exit B (Non-Schengen Zone) of the Athens International Airport, operating from April 12th to April 16th, on 08:00 – 20:00. Upon arrival, you are encouraged to contact the Our Ocean Airport Welcome Desk, located in your respective arrival Exit, to receive your accreditation badge.
- At the Venue** within The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNF-CC, see section 3 below), where an **Accreditation Desk** and an **Information Desk** will operate as follows:

14 April	Information Desk	10:00 – 19:00
15 April	Information Desk	10:00 – 19:00
	Accreditation Desk	19:00 – 21:00
16 April	Accreditation Desk	19:00 – 21:00
17 April	Accreditation Desk	19:00 – 21:00

2.3 Accreditation and Security

You are kindly requested to wear your badge at all times in such a way that it is clearly visible. This will help to ensure a safe and secure environment for all attendees and assist in identifying individuals who are authorized to access restricted areas.





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3. VENUE OF THE MEETING

The venue of the meeting is located within the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC) which has been designed by the world-renowned architect Renzo Piano. It houses the Greek National Opera and the National Library of Greece and includes the Stavros Niarchos Park, one of the largest green areas in Athens, covering 21 hectares. SNFCC is where a multitude of cultural, educational, athletic, environmental, and recreational activities and events take place.

Sustainability, an integral component, and a priority of the SNFCC since its original inception, is currently reflected in every aspect of the SNFCC: construction, operation, and maintenance of public spaces and infrastructures. Worth noting are its water management system aiming at maintaining self-sufficiency, its energy efficiency initiatives, including a large energy canopy above the National Opera Building, its commitment to sustainable mobility, its established recycling processes, its LEED Platinum certification, and the dedicated environment management unit to promote environmental management of the SNFCC.

More information on the venue can be found at its website <https://www.snfcc.org/en>.

Governmental officials and their teams, including from their respective Embassies, will have an opportunity to conduct a site visit of the venue before the Conference on a designated Advance Visit Day. The relevant communication regarding the schedule of the site visit will be dispatched a few weeks before the Conference. This will enable the officials to get acquainted with the location and make necessary preparations for the Conference.

4. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE & INTERPRETATION

The official language of the Conference is English, and no interpretation will be available at the plenary sessions.

5. CONFERENCE SUPPORT SERVICES

The Conference venue has provisions for a limited number of side events, bilateral meeting rooms and communication facilities including a special studio for the recording of commitments and press interviews. Regarding booking bilateral meeting rooms or in case you need a recording studio room, additional information will be communicated to you in due time.

Catering: During the Conference, there will be running coffee breaks as well as coffee breaks between plenaries, as indicated in the agenda, where light snacks will be offered. Lunch will be offered to all registered participants during Lunch breaks throughout the Conference and the Youth Leadership Summit. Furthermore, the restaurant in the SNFCC will be open throughout the day for personal arrangements. More information regarding this restaurant can be found here: <https://www.snfcc.org/en/simeia-estiasis/agora-n/211>.

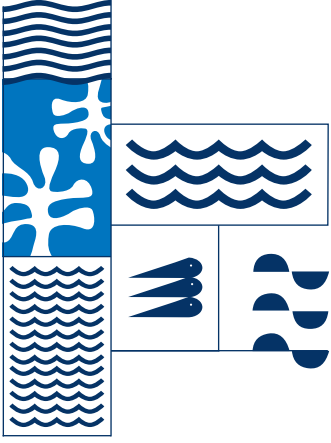
Live broadcasting will be available through the YouTube Our Ocean Conference channel (@OurOceanGreece), in the Media Center as well as in additional rooms in the Venue to be announced in due time.

Internet – Wi Fi: Wireless internet access will be available throughout the venue.

Healthcare arrangements: There will be two medical stations at the venue that will be staffed with certified nurses. Additionally, an ambulance will be present at the venue. In case of any incident, the attending physician will assess the situation and, if required, arrange for transport to the nearest on-call hospital.

Lost and Found: For lost items, please visit the lost and found desk at the Information Desk located on the ground floor of the Greek National Library.





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6. ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

Participants are encouraged to make their own accommodation arrangements **as early as possible**. To facilitate this, special rates for OOC-9 participants, for a limited number of rooms, have been negotiated in hotels in proximity to the Venue; their details can currently be found via this [link](#), which will also be made available during your online registration process.

7. TRANSPORT AND ACCESS FROM THE ATHENS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

To reduce the overall carbon footprint of the event, please be aware that participants are encouraged to use public transportation to access the venue, including to and from the airport.

Public transport

1. The EXPRESS bus X96 will take you from the airport directly to the SNFCC (stop Tzitzifies). At the airport, all buses set down passengers at the Departures Level and depart from the Arrivals Level, between Exits 4 and 5. Tickets cost 5,50€ per person, full price.
2. From the airport, SNFCC can also be accessed using a metro-bus combination: take metro line M3 (blue line, direction "dimotiko teatro") to the "Mega-ro Mousikis" station, walk to the "Ilisia" bus stop, and from there take either:
 - trolley bus 10 up to "Epaminonda" station, or
 - bus 550 up to "Onassio" station, requiring 12 minutes of walk to reach the main entrance of the venue. Note that Metro tickets from and to the airport cost 9,00€ full price.

A three-day ticket for all means of public transport costs 20,00€. It also includes a 2-way travel from and to the Athens International Airport by the Metro or the respective EXPRESS bus lines.

To view options on how to access by public transport points of interest in Athens, including the conference venue SNFCC, depending on your point of departure, please check: <https://www.oasa.gr/en/visit-athens/access-to-points-of-interest-in-athens/>

For further information, please check <https://www.oasa.gr/en/> or call **11 185** or from abroad (+30) 210 8202900.

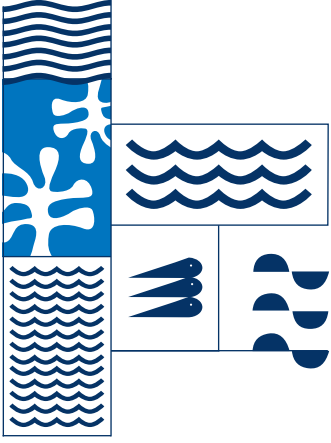
Also note that SNFCC provides a shuttle service free of charge, from the Syntagma Station to the venue. For the bus schedule, please see: <https://www.snfcc.org/en/shuttle-bus-service>

Taxis and other personalized transport

At the airport, Taxis are available at the designated Taxi Waiting Area located at Exit 3 of Arrivals Level. Taxi fares are based on a combination of distance traveled and waiting time. Taxi drivers should provide a receipt for the amount paid for transportation services.

A flat fare to/from the airport from/to Athens city center inner ring is available, of 40€ (05:00 - 24:00) or 55€ (00:00 - 05:00), determined by the time of arrival at destination and includes all applicable surcharges and extras.





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7. TRANSPORT AND ACCESS FROM THE ATHENS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Pre-booked taxis are available upon request. For further information, please contact the Taxi Union Association (SATA) at tel.: +30 210 5239524 or at email syndikatotaxi@gmail.com. The websites of several radio taxi companies can also be accessed through <https://www.thisisathens.org/getting-around/taxis-cabs>

Free Now & Uber Taxi Service platforms are available in Greece and can be accessed via their respective phone applications.

Limousines to and from the airport are available upon request at the inner curbside of the Arrivals Level, between Exits 3 and 4. For further information, please contact the Limousine Association at tel.: 6944320050 and 6932205853.

Note also that many hotels offer or can arrange airport shuttle services.

8. OTHER INFORMATION

Climate

Greece has a Mediterranean climate. In April, daytime temperatures can reach 20°C with an average of 13 hours of sunshine per day.

For a weather forecast at the center of Athens please consult: https://www.meteo.gr/cf-en.cfm?city_id=12

Time Zone

The current time zone is UTC/GMT + 2 hours (EEST – Eastern European Summer Time)

Currency

The currency in Greece is the Euro (€, EUR). Local currency can be obtained at exchange offices or ATMs at the airport, banks, and the venue.

Power Supply

The power supply is 220/240 volt/60 Hertz. Plugs and sockets are of standard European type.

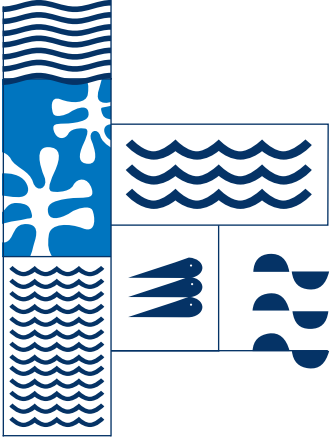
9. TOURISM INFORMATION

We are happy to welcome you to Athens, the historical capital of Europe and the birthplace of democracy, arts, science, and philosophy. Home to legendary figures, Athens is one of the world's oldest cities, with a history spanning 3.400 years. Today, the city's contemporary urban landscape reflects its exciting history and multicultural personality, all under the shadow of the magnificent Parthenon.

Athens is an ideal year-round city break destination due to its perfect Mediterranean climate, a unique combination of history and modern innovation, natural beauty, high-standard accommodations, modern transportation, vibrant culture, shopping, dining, and nightlife. Parthenon is an open-air museum, with a 3 km pedestrian zone leading to major archaeological sites. The 'Grande Promenade' around the Acropolis is an unforgettable journey through history, on foot or by bike.

In addition to visiting the historical parts of the city, it's worth exploring the different neighborhoods. For high-end shopping, check out the areas around Syntagma, Voukourestiou, Panepistimiou Streets, and Kolonaki. If you're interested in trying some ethnic cuisine, head to Apollonos Street in Syntagma. For mainstream cafes, you can explore Exarchia, Pagkrati, and Koukaki.





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9. TOURISM INFORMATION

Whether you're a fan of Michelin-starred fine dining with a view of the Parthenon, or you prefer gourmet seafood restaurants or even French or Japanese cuisine, Athens has it all. You can try traditional tavernas, new-wave Greek restaurants, and waterfront ouzeri featuring fresh seafood. The city of Athens, Piraeus, and the Athenian Riviera offer endless opportunities to taste the best of Greek cuisine.

Museums to visit:

[National Archaeological Museum](#)
[Acropolis Museum](#)
[Byzantine & Christian Museum](#)
[National Gallery – Alexandros Soutsos Museum](#)
[The National Museum of Contemporary Art Athens \(EMST\)](#)
[Museum of Cycladic Art](#)
[Panathenaic Stadium](#)
[Basil & Elise Goulandris Foundation, Athens](#)
[Benaki Museum](#)
[Benaki Museum of Islamic Art](#)

Explore the following website for detailed information and ideas:

<https://www.visitgreece.gr/mainland/attica/athens/>
<https://www.thisisathens.org/>
<https://cultureisathens.gr/en/>

During your visit to Athens, you have a wonderful opportunity to explore the surrounding areas. To help you with this, we have partnered with Kyvernitis Travel Agency to suggest some exciting daily excursions. You can review the excursions by visiting this [link](#) to OCC Excursions Google Drive. Kindly book your chosen excursion directly with their team.

10. CONTACT INFORMATION

Hellenic Republic
Ministry of Environment and Energy
Our Ocean Conference 2024 Organizing Committee: oocgreece@prv.ypeka.gr
[Our Ocean Conference Webpage: https://ourocean2024.gov.gr/](https://ourocean2024.gov.gr/)

10. SOCIAL MEDIA

Regular updates regarding the conference may be found on social media:

X: [@OurOceanGreece](#)
Facebook: [@OurOceanConference](#)
Instagram: [@ourocean2024](#)
LinkedIn: [@ouroceangreece](#)



We would like to inform you that a further updated version, containing more detailed information, will be sent out shortly.

