



**Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis in London (26-27 November 2023)**



Greece was re-elected to the International Maritime Organization Council for 2024-2025 receiving the highest number of votes and retaining the first place (1st December, 2023)



Minister of Tourism, Olga Kefalogianni, at the World Travel Market in London, highlighted the priorities of Greece's tourism strategy and the country's strong performance (6-8 November 2023)

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## Greek PM Kyriakos Mitsotakis visits London



As part of his visit to the UK and among other meetings and interviews, PM Kyriakos Mitsotakis participated on Monday, November 27, in the Greek Investment Conference co-organised by Morgan Stanley and Athens Exchange in London. Greek PM emphasized on the positive course of the Greek economy, the resilience of Greek companies, fiscal discipline and the maintenance of growth. He pointed out that the most important message he would like to send was his commitment to push forward with all the difficult reforms that need to be implemented, even those which may be considered politically "painful". Regarding tech ecosystem in Greece, he highlighted "how remarkable it is that so many start-ups are emerging", being himself very optimistic that "Greece will be able not just to consume technology, but also to develop innovative solutions, not just for the Greek market, but for the global market". As for Greece's geopolitical position, he underlined that there are very clear opportunities, e.g. investments in our ports and logistics infrastructure, for European and global investors. On policy issues, PM Mitsotakis said that the main focus should be on results and that Greek government is here "to solve problems".



On Monday evening the 27th of November, Greek PM honoured with his presence an event at the Hellenic Residence to mark the 60th anniversary, this year, of the Nobel Prize Award to George Seferis. Kyriakos Mitsotakis was given a tour of the permanent exhibition «George Seferis: the man, the poet, the diplomat», which is hosted in the "Seferis Office" where the leading poet lived and worked as Ambassador to the UK. Greek PM also visited the Reading Room, next to Seferis' Office, named after the British scholar «Roderick Beaton», for his long-lasting contribution to Greek literature and culture. *For more on George Seferis permanent exhibition, see page 6*

### Foreign Minister Gerapetritis @LSE Hellenic Observatory

Contemporary politics reveal that the problems humanity is facing are not just national or regional, but global. Nowadays, the need to revisit the current status and, perhaps, return to the basic seems more important than ever before. In this framework, Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs discussed with the Chair of Hellenic Observatory, Kevin Featherstone, on November 27, the challenges and the opportunities for Greek foreign policy .



## Greece re-elected to the International Maritime Organization Council, retaining the first place



Greece was re-elected in the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) under 'Category A' for 2024-2025, receiving the highest number of votes, along with Japan and Italy, and retaining the first place. Category "A" is reserved for countries with the greatest stakes in providing international shipping services. The successful outcome of the vote was held at the election process on December 1st, in the framework of the 33rd Assembly of IMO.

Christos Stylianides, Minister of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy, stated that "...It is an extremely important achievement of our country at a critical and difficult time for international shipping. It confirms in the most emphatic way Greece's trustworthiness and reliability, as well as our country's excellent cooperation with the Organization and its member States. At the same time, it seals Greece's dynamic and leading role in world maritime transport, as well as its decisive and long-term contribution to the formation of international maritime policy and legislation [...]"

### Greek Minister of Maritime Affairs & Insular Policy, Christos Stylianides, visits London



Greek Minister of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy, Christos Stylianides, paid a visit to London to meet with UK Minister for Aviation, Maritime and Security and participate in the 7th Greek-British Symposium. Meeting on October 16, Minister Stylianides and Minister for Aviation, Maritime and Security, Baroness Vere of Norbiton agreed to explore ways to deepen Greece-UK cooperation on the modern challenges faced by shipping, and reaffirmed the excellent cooperation between the two countries.

## The 7th Greek-British Symposium: Energy in focus



Energy security and sustainability in Europe was the focus of this year's 7th iteration of the Greek-British Symposium (GBS) that took place in London on October 15-17. Kicking off the Symposium's proceedings on October 16, Greek Ambassador Yannis Tsaousis, UK Ambassador Matthew Lodge, and GBS Co-Chair Costas Mitropoulos delivered opening remarks, while Greek Defence Minister Nikos Dendias and UK Minister for Energy Security and Net Zero Graham Stuart set the scene in their keynote speeches. During the 2-day Symposium more than 30 policymakers, media and business representatives, and experts from Greece and the UK engaged with participants in illuminating conversations about Energy Security & Sustainability in Europe, and how the two countries can work together to advance both. Minister Stylianides was the keynote speaker to the dinner in the framework of the event.

The Greek-British Symposium is an annual event delivered by the Delphi Economic Forum, in partnership with the Embassy of Greece in London and the British Embassy in Athens.

### Greek Minister of National Defence Nikos Dendias' visit to London



In October 2023, Defence Minister Nikos Dendias was on a 2-day visit to London, where he met with his UK counterpart Grant Shapps and participated as a keynote speaker at the 7th Greek-British Symposium. At their meeting, Defence Minister Dendias and Defence Secretary Shapps exchanged views on the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean, as well as the situation in Ukraine. Moreover, they discussed the strengthening of defence cooperation between Greece and UK's Armed Forces, as well as between the respective defence industry ecosystems.

## Minister of Tourism Olga Kefalogianni @World Travel Market in London



One of the largest travel and tourism events in the world, World Travel Market, took place in London, on November 6-8, where "Visit Greece" along with 72 co-exhibitors welcomed visitors and industry professionals to a "busy and buzzing" Greek Stand.

Minister of Tourism, Olga Kefalogianni, visited WTM to attend and hold meetings with policymakers, tourism industry and media representatives from the UK and around the world. In one of her meetings on the sidelines of WTM on November 6, Olga Kefalogianni discussed with her UK counterpart, John Whittingdale, the importance of the UK tourism market for Greek tourism and exchanged views on the development of a cooperation framework in the future.

After attending the "Ministers' Summit", Olga Kefalogianni spoke to the media about the key features and priorities of Greece's tourism strategy and highlighted the country's strong performance so far. Greece aims to maintain and elevate its position as a world leader in tourism while being at the forefront of global efforts to build a more sustainable and resilient travel sector.



## Sail Sustainability in Greece



Hosted at the Hellenic Residence on December 6th, the discussion on the 'Sustainable Sailing in Greece' reinforced the Greek commitment to 2 significant pillars, the Sustainability and Tourism, underlining the importance of preserving Greek seas and promoting responsible tourism. Greece continues to be a top tourism destination, welcoming British tourists and their charter sailing boats. During the event, all stakeholders, policy makers and sailing enthusiasts were called upon to collaborate on a shared vision of a sustainable and responsible future for Greek tourism.

### Luxury Greece : An Exclusive Networking event



The Embassy of Greece in London joined forces with the Greek National Tourism Organisation and Enterprise Greece to showcase Greece's luxurious real estate along with investment incentives in the sector. Ambassador Tsaousis highlighted the factors underpinning Greece's attractiveness, while Hilda Alisandratou from Enterprise Greece SA and Eleni Skarveli, Director of the GNTTO office in London shared their insights regarding the timeless "charm and modern sophistication" of Greece, making it an outstanding destination for property investments. The networking event was organised by Abode2 at Unit London in Mayfair.

## Ambassador Yannis Tsaousis meetings with UK political and State leadership



### Ambassador Tsaousis meets UK House of Commons Speaker Sir Lindsay Hoyle

Ambassador Yannis Tsaousis was received on the 29th of November by UK House of Commons Speaker Sir Lindsay Hoyle for a positive introductory meeting. Discussion focused on bilateral relations and ways to deepen interparliamentary cooperation between UK and Greece, Greece's efforts to address the challenges posed by climate change, as well as Ukraine and the situation in the Middle East in light of the Speaker's recent visit in the region.



### Ambassador Tsaousis meets UK Minister of State at the FCDO, Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon

Ambassador Yannis Tsaousis met on the 21st of November with UK Minister of State at the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon. They had substantive discussion on the strong UK-Greece relations, the cooperation between the two countries within the UN, including on the Women Peace Security Agenda and current crises, notably, the situation in the Middle East and Ukraine.

## Commemorative medal award ceremony in honour of the British Veterans at WW II



A commemorative medal award ceremony was held on December 20 at the Defence Attaché Office in the Greek Embassy in London in honour of the British Veterans at the World War II. The relatives of the British Veterans received the commemorative medals and diplomas, awarded by the Ambassador, Yannis Tsaousis, and the Defense Attaché, Nikolaos Filias, in an atmosphere of emotion & pride. All participants emphasized on the strong long-lasting ties between Greece and the UK that share common values & ideals, as well as on the importance of remembering those who lost their lives in Greece fighting for freedom and democracy.

## London Hellenic Prize 2022



At a ceremony held on the 10th of November at the Hellenic Centre, Greek Ambassador Yannis Tsaousis presented UK classicist and art historian, Professor Caroline Vout with the 2022 London Hellenic Prize for her book "Exposed: The Greek and Roman Body" - a highly acclaimed study on the body in antiquity. The London Hellenic Prize is awarded each year to an original work in English on a subject relating to Greek culture, literature and history. Ambassador Tsaousis congratulated Mr M. Moschos for his longstanding contribution on this award.

## Opening of the permanent exhibition of the Embassy of Greece in London "George Seferis: The man, the diplomat, the poet"



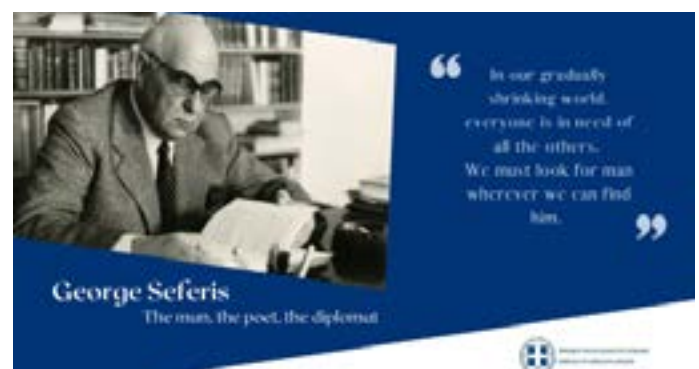
On the 60th anniversary of the announcement of the awarding of George Seferis with the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1963, the Greek Embassy in London launched the permanent exhibition "George Seferis: the man, the poet, the diplomat".

The exhibition will be housed permanently in the "Seferis Office", where the Greek poet and diplomat lived and worked during his service as Ambassador of Greece to the UK (1957-1962). Now acquiring characteristics of a "museum", this historic site will be open to visitors on specific dates, so that both the Greek, the British and the international audience of the UK get to know the emblematic Greek poet.

The permanent exhibition is an initiative by the President of the Hellenic Republic, Katerina Sakellariopoulou, who made possible the donation of 32 objects from the Anna Londou and Nikos Paisios collection to the Embassy of Greece in London. These formed the initial part of the exhibition now on display. Through a series of objects (photographs, personal items, paintings, official and personal correspondence, newspaper clippings, Greek and foreign editions of Seferis' works, etc.), the visitors will have the opportunity to come into contact with aspects of the work and life of the Greek poet.

Expressing his satisfaction that a project, which has been matter of priority for both himself and his predecessors, was brought to completion, the Greek Ambassador, Yannis Tsaousis, presented the main objectives of the exhibition. In his welcome remarks at the event, the Ambassador also announced the opening of a Reading Room in the adjacent to the Seferis Office space. The Reading Room will be named after "Roderick Beaton" in honour of the British academic and biographer of Seferis, Roderick Beaton, in recognition of his contribution to the dissemination of Modern Greek Studies.

Present at the event himself, Professor Beaton illuminated in his speech moments from the life of George Seferis. Reading Seferis in Italian, the Head of the Press and Cultural Affairs Office of the Italian Embassy in London, Aurora Russi, recited the poem "Last Station", which the poet wrote in Salerno in 1944, while the audience heard the poet himself reciting "Helen" in an audio excerpt from the ERT archive. Also, the audience had the chance to watch a small excerpt from the day of the announcement of the Nobel award to Seferis, as well as from the Nobel award ceremony at the Swedish Academy in 1963. The Swedish Ambassador to the UK, Stefan Gullgren, was among the distinguished guests of the event, representing the country whose Academy awarded the Nobel Prize to Seferis. At the end of the event, guests at the Hellenic Residence were given a guided tour to the permanent exhibition.



The exhibition was made possible thanks to the contributions of a series of individuals and institutions that provided material, objects and artworks from their collections and archives, including the Service of Diplomatic and Historical Archives (YDIA) of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Gennadius Library, the George Seferis Photographic Archive/National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation, the Louth Museum, and the artist Leda Kontogiannopoulou, who was also present at the event.

## "Maria Callas: Inspirations" : An event in honour of the Greek soprano at the Hellenic Residence



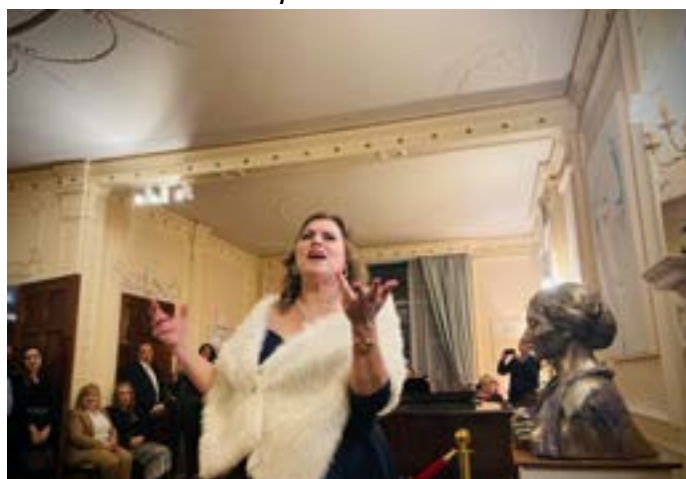
An event to honour Greek soprano Maria Callas was held at the Hellenic Residence in London on Saturday, December 2, 2023, on the occasion of the centenary of her birth and the 50th anniversary of her last performance in the UK.

Entitled "Maria Callas: Inspirations", the event featured artists who approached Maria Callas through different art forms, with the iconic soprano being a source of inspiration for their artistic expression. Portraits of Maria Callas, created by the Cypriot painter Alexandros Capraras, were exhibited at the Hellenic Residence as well as a bust of Maria Callas crafted by the Greek sculptor Nikos Floros. The well-known British author and television producer Daisy Goodwin, in a video message, explained how she was inspired by the lyric singer to write the book "DIVA" which is due to be released in the UK in March 2024. A copy of the book was offered to the Greek Embassy for the event by the British PR company Midas. Furthermore, the London-based actress and director Anastasia Revi, presented in a vivid way an excerpt from the Greek author Menis Koumantarea's book on Maria Callas, titled "I Remember Maria".

Finally, Dr Nikolaos Tsarouchas, specialising in neurology and clinical neurophysiology, in his analysis entitled "The Neuroscience of the Visual and Musical Arts - A Tribute to Maria Callas", described the life and work of Maria Callas with emphasis on the highlights of her career, while presenting the influence of art forms on the cognitive functions of human being.



At the closing of the event, Hungarian mezzo-soprano Elizabeth Sillo, accompanied on the piano by Csaba Gal, performed some of Maria Callas' most emblematic arias, as well as a Greek song. At the end of the presentations, a video was shown regarding the Greek soprano's performances at the Royal Festival Hall in London.



## The AI Revolution: Opportunities & Challenges in Greek Innovation Ecosystem



Greek Embassy, in association with the Hellenic Tech Network organized a discussion on "The AI Revolution: Opportunities & Challenges in Greek Innovation Ecosystem" at The Hellenic Centre, on November 14. All attendants emphasized on the ways artificial intelligence is forming the future of technology in Greece and the numerous business and other opportunities and challenges that come up within the Greek innovation ecosystem.

## EKOME @FOCUS - The Meeting Place for International Production



The National Center for Audiovisual Media & Communication EKOME and the Hellenic Film Commission took part in FOCUS - The Meeting Place for International Production, 5 -7 December 2023, at the Business Design Centre in London. The Greek stand presented to an audience of 6.000 participants and 1500 production companies from more than 100 countries the economic and fiscal incentives as well as all the comparative advantages that make Greece an ideal destination for audiovisual productions.



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