



PRESS RELEASE

Keynote Address & “Capital Link's 2015 Capital Link CSR Leadership Award to:

Mr. C. Dean Metropoulos, Chairman & CEO of Metropoulos & Company, for his valuable contribution to Greece and Hellenism

On **Thursday June 25, 2015** - an extremely difficult day for our country as the Eurogroup meeting was taking place and Greece was the main topic of discussion - the 5th Annual **Capital Link “CSRinGreece”**- Corporate Social Responsibility - Forum entitled “**Entrepreneurship - Innovation – Society**” was held at the **Athens Hilton Hotel** and was a **huge success boasting more than 600 participants and distinguished speakers.**

The Conference was a **glimmer of hope and pride not only for all the distinguished Greek Americans Business Leaders but also for the important executives from Greek Companies who presented at the Forum.**

The Forum aimed to showcase how the Greek Economy can be reinforced by supporting Entrepreneurship and Innovation and to provide a practical guide to entrepreneurs on where and how they can get support for their business ventures.

Capitalizing on our 20-year track record with the organization of uniquely successful investment conferences, Capital Link has pioneered a series of CSR-focused forums in London, Athens and New York. This Forum, as all Capital Link’s forums, combines unique informational and networking opportunities.

The Keynote Speaker at this year’s event, Mr. C. Dean Metropoulos, Chairman & CEO of Metropoulos & Company, was the recipient of Capital Link’s 2015 CSR Leadership Award. Mr. Metropoulos was presented by the Mayor of Athens, Mr. Yorgos Kaminis.

Mr. Metropoulos delivered a warm, motivational speech, bestowing his trust and confidence on the energy and resourcefulness of the Greeks to overcome the adversities of the crisis. **Characteristically, he said that Greece could become the “Miami” of all of Europe. He went on to address several considerations of the audience. He also stated that: “The talent and capabilities of Greek business leaders in Greece and throughout the world, are unique and powerful opportunities that can transform Greece into a successful participant in this exciting generation of technology, international investments and globally transforming businesses. We all have a vested interest in helping our ancestral and beloved Greece as we encourage its transformation into this exciting generation of opportunities.”** He then went on to address several considerations of the audience.

Mr. Metropoulos, chairman of Metropoulos & Company is a highly recognized and respected private equity investor having earned consistent top tier investment returns across 82 acquisitions during a 28 year investment career. Highly sought after as a partner and co-investor by other international private equity firms, sovereign funds as well as international banks, his firm has acquired businesses in the U.S., Europe, Canada and Mexico. Mr. Metropoulos and his wife, Marianne, have been actively involved in supporting many Greek American organizations as well as numerous charities that support causes around the world. Metropoulos’ international reputation and well know Greek heritage act as a catalyst to attracting external investments in Greece and it is Mr. Metropoulos’ hope to promote and encourage changes in the transparency, the streamlining of the bureaucracy and legal system and the creation of “internationally modeled” valuations and partnerships in order to attract global capital and move Greece’s economy forward. According to Mr. Metropoulos, “the talent and capabilities of Greek business leaders in Greece and throughout the world, is a unique and powerful opportunity that can transform Greece into a successful participant in this exciting generation of technology, international investments and globally transforming businesses. We all have a vested interest in helping our ancestral and beloved Greece as we encourage its transformation into this exciting generation of opportunities.”

Mr. Kaminis was elected Mayor of Athens in November 2010 and re-elected to a second term in May 2014. Prior to his election as a Mayor of Athens, Mr. Kaminis served as Greek Ombudsman. From 1998 to May 2003, he was Deputy Ombudsman for Human Rights at the Greek Ombudsman. In 2003, he was unanimously elected Greek Ombudsman by the Greek Parliament, and he was re-elected for a second term in 2007. In August 2010, Mr. Kaminis resigned from the post of



the Greek Ombudsman in order to stand as an independent mayoral candidate for the City of Athens. In the 1990s Mr. Kaminis worked as a lecturer and assistant professor of constitutional law in the Faculty of Law at the University of Athens. Mr. Kaminis studied law at the University of Athens, and holds a doctoral degree (Doctorat d' Etat) from the University of Paris II. He was born in New York City and he has also lived in Osaka, Paris, Madrid and Heidelberg. In addition to his native Greek language, he speaks fluently English, French, Spanish and German. Mr. Kaminis is married and has two children.

ABOUT CAPITAL LINK

With its headquarters in New York, Capital Link has been active since 1995 in the field of Investor Relations and Financial Communication. (www.capitallink.com). It also organizes annually in New York, London and Athens a series of Investment Forums focusing on its main activity fields (www.capitallinkforum.com). Capital Link has a leading position globally in the area of Investor Relations with respect to shipping, as it cooperates with 25 shipping companies listed on the three US Stock Exchanges, as well as in London (LSE and AIM) and Milan. It also maintains a shipping portal with information on all UK and US Listed shipping Companies (www.capitallinkshipping.com). Since January 2011, Capital Link has expanded its activities in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility by creating an integrated and effective platform combining expertise and communication, with corporate social responsibility issues in all three countries where it operates. www.csringreece.gr. Our CSR mechanism achieves its goals through a series of initiatives and services:

- **The www.csringreece.gr portal** an integrated and effective platform combining expertise and communication, with corporate social responsibility issues aiming to support CSR initiatives and to bridge the communication between companies and NGOs. Among CSR members are corporations, NGOs, foundations, and associations from all over Greece. The "CSR in Greece"— CSR Knowledge Hub aims to:
 - provide information on current CSR issues and developments in Greece and abroad,
 - promote the actions of socially responsible Greek companies,
 - facilitate the access of business to non-governmental and non-profit organizations in a completely transparent frame
 - highlight the needs of society and the bodies representing it, achieving synergy between the two,
 - Constitute a communication bridge between all social and business groups.
- **The English portal www.maritimecsr.com** which provides data on the latest CSR measures and regulations affecting shipping internationally, and serves to inform and promote the actions of shipping companies that are advancing CSR in addition to any news and information related to CSR issues. The portal targets a wide audience comprised of government officials, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), industry associations, the investment and financial community, international shipping companies implementing CSR strategies, and their respective accounts.
- The weekly electronic newsletter which is distributed to a wide audience.
- The annual organization of conferences on corporate social responsibility spans across three major cities in three influential countries: Athens -Greece, London -UK, and New York - USA.

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