

ATHENS ALITHEIA FORUM



“Confronting fake news
and toxic discourse”

InterContinental Athenaeum Athens

Tuesday 10 and Wednesday 11 March, 2026

Διοργάνωση



Γενική Γραμματεία Επικοινωνίας
και Ενημέρωσης



Conference programme

Tuesday, 10 March, 2026: «Toxicity and Public Discourse in Democracy»

09:30 – 10:15 | Registration and Welcome coffee

10:15 – 10:30 | Official opening

- Athinais Nega, Journalist, ACTION24, ALPHA RADIO 9.89
- Video screening
- Pavlos Marinakis, Deputy Minister to the Prime Minister and Government Spokeperson – Opening address

10:30 – 11:10 | «The evolution and quality of parliamentary debate over time»

Nikitas M. Kaklamanis, President of the Hellenic Parliament, discusses with:

- Dimitris Oikonomou, Journalist, SKAI TV
- Akis Pavlopoulos, Journalist, SKAI TV

11:10 – 12:00 | PANEL 1: «Public debate and its limits»

Moderator: Katerina Douka, Journalist ERT

Speakers:

- Paschos Mandravelis, Columnist, KATHIMERINI



- Ilias Kanellis, Journalist, TA NEA
- Akis Skertsos, Minister of State, Responsible for the coordination of Government Policies
- Vasilis Skouris, Journalist, DNEWS, PARAPOLITIKA

12:00 – 12:50 | PANEL 2: «From Bots to polarisation»

Moderator: Apostolos Magiriadis, main news bulletin anchorman, ERT

Speakers:

- Giannis Makrygiannis, Editor, topontiki.gr
- Nikos Evangelatos, Executive editor, newsit.gr, Journalist, MEGA
- Sia Kosioni, Journalist
- Dimitra Syriatou, Social Media and Communication

12:50 – 13:15 | PANEL 3: «Can the Press withstand digital noise?»

Moderator: Giorgos Evgenidis, Anchorman STAR Channel, Journalist, PROTO THEMA

Speakers:

- Alexis Papachelas, Director, KATHIMERINI
- Nikos Hatzinikolaou, President, Athens Daily Newspaper Publishers Association – Executive editor, Realnews

13:15 – 13:30 | «Addressing emerging challenges of today's media landscapes»

- Ambassador Jan Braathu, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media



13:30 - 14:20 | PANEL 4: «Creative freedom as a fundamental right»

Moderator: Laura Ioannou, News Bulletin Editor-in-Chief, ALPHA TV, and Political Commentator

Speakers:

- Manos Voularinos, Journalist, Columnist
- Giannis Zouganelis, Artist
- Christos Chomenidis, Author

14:20 - 14:40 | Fireside chat «Can a fake post create an international crisis?»

Moderator: Stavros Papantoniou, Political Editor, newspaper KATHIMERINI

- Georgios Gerapetritis, Professor of Constitutional Law at the Law School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), Minister of Foreign Affairs

14:40 - 15:00 | Presentation of Research - «Ecosystems of distrust; misinformation in a democracy under continuous crisis»

Moderator: Giorgos Siadimas, Journalist-Presenter, ERT, Journalist Mononews

- Lambrini Rori, Assistant Professor of Political Analysis at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- Antonis Kalogeropoulos, Associate Professor, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (Free University of Brussels)



15:00 - 15:20 | «To what extent are we vulnerable to fake news? How is this connected to our psychological profile?»

- Moderator: Kostas Giannakidis, Journalist
- Savvas Savopoulos, Psychiatrist - Psychoanalyst

15:20 - 16:05 | PANEL 5: «Fake news at the click of a button»

Moderator: Eleni Evagelodimou, Journalist, TA NEA

- Dimitris Papastergiou, Minister of Digital Governance and Artificial Intelligence
- Nikos Romanos, Director of Digital Communications for the Prime Minister
- Iakovos Sarmas, Lawyer, LL.M. (Columbia), Senior Associate, White & Case LLP
- Vasilis Chiotis, Director, SKAI 100.3
- With the participation of students

16:05 - 16:50 | PANEL 6 «Mechanisms and countermeasures against misinformation»

Moderator: Sofia Giannaka, Journalist, IEFIMERIDA

Speakers:

- Paolo Cesarini, Chair of the Executive Board of the European Digital Media Observatory and PT Professor at the European University Institute
- Elzbieta Drazkiewicz, Principal investigator, *Nordic Disinformation Resilience Network*
- Dimitris Kirmikiroglou, Secretary General for Communication and Information
- Thanos Dokos, Secretary General for National Security
- Aris Tziampiris, Chair of the Department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus
- Konstantinos Fotopoulos, Chair of the Board, Association of Private Radio Station Owners of Attica (E.I.I.R.A.)



Wednesday 11 March, 2026 «Restoring Trust in Information»

09:30 – 10:00 | Registration & Welcome coffee

10:00 – 10:05 | Peny Avramidi, Journalist iefimerida, newspaper Apogevmatini - Welcome address

10:05 - 10:20 | Kostis Hatzidakis, Vice President of the Government – Address

10:20- 10:25 | Kyriakos Pierrakakis, Minister of National Economy & Finance and Eurogroup President – Address - video

10:25-10:55 | Presentation of Research «Seeking the truth: what Greeks think about fake news»

Moderator: Giorgos Pierros, Journalist, ACTION 24, iefimerida

- Thomas Gerakis, Founder MARC SA



10:55-11:25 | «Institutions, transparency and tackling misinformation»

Pavlos Marinakis, Deputy Minister to the Prime Minister and Government Spokesperson, discusses with:

- Stamatis Zacharos, Journalist ONE, ATHENS VOICE
- Christina Korai, Journalist, MEGA, NEWSIT
- Nikos Panagiotopoulos, Journalist, Director, newpost.gr, Radio producer ALPHA RADIO 9.89, News Bulletin Presenter KONTRA
- Antonis Sroiter, Journalist, ALPHA TV

11:25-12:10 | PANEL 7: «Fact checkers vs the Meta truth»

Moderator: Makis Provatas, Journalist, Author

Speakers:

- Andreas Veglis, Professor and Director of the Media Informatics Applications Laboratory, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; Head of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki Research Team at the Mediterranean Digital Media Observatory (MedDMO)
- Elena Vatala, Misinformation Journalist & Communications Manager, Ellinika Hoaxes
- Despina Kontaraki, Editor, Eleftheros Typos
- Stelios Kouloglou, Journalist TVXS.gr
- Elena Papadimitriou, Journalist, Head of editorial fyi.news

12:10 – 13:10 | PANEL 8: «Can the law protect the truth?»

Moderator: Panagiotis Stathis, News, presenter, Journalist, Antenna, dikastiko.gr

Speakers:

- Michalis Dimitrakopoulos, Lawyer
- Ioanna Mandrou, Journalist, TO VIMA, MEGA
- Sakis Moumtzis, Author, Columnist
- Giorgos Floridis, Minister of Justice



13:10 - 13:55 | PANEL 9: «Spotting the lie: a matter of education»

Moderator: Elli Triantafyllou, Political Journalist

Speakers:

- Dr. Thanos E. Askitis, Professor of Psychiatry, E.U.C., President of the Institute of Mental & Sexual Health, Deputy Regional Governor for Health, Attica
- Dimitra Dimitrakopoulou, Principal Research Scientist, Head of Translational Research & Practice, Center for Constructive Communication, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Sofia Zacharaki, Minister of Education, Religious Affairs, and Sports
- Nikos Panagiotou, Professor, Director of International Peace of Journalism Laboratory, Head of “Critical Readers”
- Dimitris Stoumpos, Journalist
- With the participation of a student

13:55 - 14:40 | PANEL 10: «AI, Digital Security and the Protection of Information»

Moderator: Kostas Papachlimintzos, Journalist, ERTNEWS, PARAPOLITIKA

Speakers:

- Eliza Vozemberg, Member of the European Parliament, Head of the Greek Delegation of New Democracy, Chair of the Committee on Transport and Tourism of the European Parliament
- Penny Kalyva, President of the Hellenic Institute of Customer Service (EDIPT), Business News Magazine
- Kostas Karpouzis, Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Media, and Culture, Panteion University
- Michail Bletsas, Governor, National Cybersecurity Authority of Greece, Director of Computing, MIT Media Lab
- Sotiris Triantafyllou, President, Panhellenic Federation of Journalists’ Unions



14:40-15:20 | PANEL 11: «Is misinformation a timeless phenomenon? How is it shaped, and how does its influence differ over time?»

Moderator: Manos Niflis, News presenter, OPEN TV, Director, enikos.gr

Speakers:

- Angelos Moschovas, Editor-in-Chief Proto Thema / ERTNEWS
- Iordanis Chasapopoulos, Journalist- News presenter MEGA, Director, VRADINI
- Nikos Chasapopoulos, MONONEWS

15:20 – 16:10 | PANEL 12: «How political parties address misinformation»

Moderator: Penny Avramidi, Journalist iefimerida, newspaper Apogevmatini

Speakers:

- Alexandra Sdoukou, NEW DEMOCRACY Spokesperson
- Kostas Tsoukalas, PASOK-KINAL Spokesperson
- Dimos Thanasoulas, NIKI Spokesperson

16:10 - 17:00 | PANEL 13 «Regional media and misinformation: weak link or antidote?»

Moderator: Maria Tatzali, Star Central Greece

Speakers:

- Virginia Dimaresi, Editor-in-Chief of STATUS FM 107.7, Member of the Journalists' Union of Macedonia and Thrace (ESIEM-TH)
- Antonis Dimitriou, President & Managing Director KRITI TV and President of the Union of News Television Stations of the Greek Region
- Spyros Kampiotis, Owner and Managing Director of IONIAN TV
- Vice President of the Hellenic Association of Regional Television Stations (EETEP)
- Dimitris Plemmenos, ELEFThERIA Kalamata



- Stavros Fanfanis, Managing Editor- Director, O CHRONOS Komotini
- Antonis Pougarris, e-Ptolemaios Kozani and Radio

17:00 – 17:45 | PANEL 14 «Fake news seriously harms the economy»

Moderator: Nikos Filippidis, Journalist, SKAI & KATHIMERINI

Speakers:

- Tasos Anastasatos, Chairman of the Economic Analysis Coordination Committee of the Hellenic Bank Association
- Michalis Argyrou, Chief Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister
- Nikos Vettas, Director General of the Foundation for Economic and Industrial Research (IOBE) and Professor at the Athens University of Economics and Business (AUEB)

17:45 – 18:00 | Keynote speech by Pavlos Marinakis, Deputy Minister to the Prime Minister and Government Spokesperson

18:00 – 18:40 | «Choosing reality: The threat of misinformation»

Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis discusses with:

- Giannis Pretenteris, Managing editor, TO VIMA
- Giannis Theocharis, Professor of Digital Governance and holder of the chair of the same name at the Technical University of Munich