

**PROGRAMME – 7<sup>th</sup> GREEK-BRITISH SYMPOSIUM 2023  
SUNDAY 15 – TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2023, LONDON, UK**

***Energy Security and Sustainability in Europe***

**DAY 1 – SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER, evening only**

*Greek Ambassador's in London Residence*

**19.00** - Welcome drinks

**DAY 2 – MONDAY 16 OCTOBER**

*Allen & Overy Auditorium*

**10.00-10.30** Welcome

**10.30-11.00 OPENING PLENARY**

*Energy security came to the forefront because of the Russian invasion in the Ukraine whilst sustainability remains a major global objective. A new landscape is emerging, where both Greece and the UK have to establish their position. Europe is trying to secure its energy and reduce CO2 emissions across the board. The UK is currently a nuclear, fossil fuels and renewables energy producer with interconnection needs. Greece, on the other hand, is a renewables player and aspires to become a major energy hub, connecting the south and east with Europe. Security requirements, geopolitics, environmental considerations and technology are bound to be critical in crafting the new arrangements.*

**11.00-11.30** Coffee Break

**11.30-13.00 Session 1: THE CHANGING ENERGY LANDSCAPE**

*The last two years changed our perception about energy. After decades of peace in Europe, for the first time the war in Ukraine, in conjunction with the uneven economic recovery of major countries from the pandemic, raised the issue of security of energy supply for Europe. Together with the national net zero commitments on energy production and consumption, they are setting out a new landscape, dominated by electricity and supplied by renewables, non-secure gas and oil and nuclear energy. Both Greece and the UK, sitting at the extremities of Europe, will be affected by this major rebalancing, which of course presents new opportunities, but also demands difficult and expensive decisions. In such a challenging and dynamic energy scene, Greece and the UK must draw up their own individual approaches but also work together as part of Europe to find joint solutions to currently intractable problems.*

**13.00-14.30** Informal lunch & networking

**14.30-16.00 Session 2: ENERGY SECURITY AND GEOPOLITICS**

*Russia has throttled natural gas flows to Europe. In response, EU sanctioned Russian oil and capped gas prices. Energy prices went up, but benign weather and ample LNG supplies brought them down. Demand for gas, currently the main transition fuel, is bound to grow globally before its long-term decline. Russia will remain a major gas producer and oil supplies will continue being manipulated by OPEC+. Europe will need to import gas from new alternative natural gas sources which may prove slow to develop and will affect the geopolitical dynamics. In such a context, is there room for individual country arrangements or should there be a firm European framework for dealing with energy security. And furthermore, should Europe approach security of supply on its own, or as part of a broader energy and environment-based alliance?*

**16.00-16.30 Coffee Break****16.30-18.00 Session 3: SUSTAINABILITY AND TECHNOLOGY (streamed session)**

*The move to a net zero economy presupposes that electricity will become the dominant final energy form. Non-emitting electricity generation, enough gas to transit to renewables as the main energy supply, and extremely versatile and interconnected networks are key to achieving sustainability. The question of nuclear energy needs also to be addressed and conclusively answered. Five huge technology application areas have emerged in the energy sustainability space: electricity storage, CO2 capture and storage, hydrogen production, nuclear energy, and electricity/gas transmission/transportation. Innovative approaches are being discussed and developed, aiming at visibly reducing CO2 either directly or by eliminating fossil fuels from the production side. European countries must adjust their views and coordinate on priorities and transition facilitation to be effective in securing ample energy whilst reducing CO2 emissions.*

**19.00-20.00 Pre-dinner drinks****20.00-22.00 FORMAL DINNER (Locarno Suite)****DAY 3 – TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER****10.00-11.30 Session 4: COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES IN ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

*Self-sufficiency in energy under broad geopolitical assumptions creates and fast convergence to net zero generate new opportunities for investment and cooperation. Re-establishing secure energy supply lines and multiple entry points in Europe, strongly interconnecting Europe in gas and electricity, investing in renewables and nuclear and hydrogen production and securing the stability of the forthcoming huge electricity grids are some of the opportunities areas. Greece and the UK may have different starting points, but they must work together across the energy security and sustainability spaces and play their constructive role as parts of broader Europe.*

**11.30-12.00 Coffee Break****12.00-12.30 The Symposium Speech****12.30-13.00 Closing Remarks****13.00-14.30 Lunch (optional)**