

ATHENS
GLOBAL
CENTER

+ Thinking
Doing
Columbia
Global


COLUMBIA
ENGINEERING


NATIONAL TECHNICAL
UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

endeavor

HELLENIC INSTITUTE
of ADVANCED STUDIES

Columbia
Business
School

Lab to Market

Bridging Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Launch Event

January 16th, 2026

Location: Ceremonial Hall, Central
Administration Building, NTUA
Zografou Campus

Supported by

BLAVATNIK
FAMILY FOUNDATION



4:30 - 5:00 pm

Doors Open - Registration

5:00-5:15 pm

Opening Remarks

- **Niki Kerameus**, Minister of Labor and Social Security
- **Stavros Kalafatis**, Deputy Minister of Development responsible for Research and Innovation
- **Ioannis K. Chatjigeorgiou**, Rector of National Technical University of Athens
- **Shih-Fu Chang**, Dean of Columbia School of Engineering and Applied Science
- **Stefanos Gandolfo**, Director, Columbia Global Center Athens
- **Peter Thorén**, Executive Vice President, Access Industries, Inc. and Blavatnik Family Foundation

5:15-5:35 pm

Panel Discussion: Initiative Partners

- **George Deodatis**, Vice Dean for Research of SEAS; Professor of Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics
- **Elisa Konofagou**, Robert and Margaret Hariri Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Professor of Radiology, Professor of Neurosciences (in Neurosurgery), Columbia University, HIAS Board Member
- **John Kymissis**, Vice Dean of Infrastructure and Innovation of SEAS; Professor of Electrical Engineering
- **Costantza Sbokou Constantakopoulou**, Chairwoman at Endeavor Greece, Co-Owner & Chairwoman at Phaea
- **Emmanouil (Manos) Varvarigos**, Vice Rector for Research, Innovation and Extroversion of NTUA; Professor, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
- **Theodora (Dora) Varvarigou**, Professor, School of Electrical & Computer Engineering at NTUA, HIAS Board Member

Moderator: **Stefanos Gandolfo**, Director, Columbia Global Center Athens

5:35-5:50 pm

Mentor Fireside Chat

- **Apostolos Apostolakis**, Founder and Partner, VentureFriends

Moderator: **Panagiotis Karampinis**, Managing Director, Endeavor Greece

5:50-6:12 pm

Panel Discussion: Meeting the Participants

Moderator: **Ivy Schultz**, Senior Director of Innovation, Design, and Entrepreneurship, Columbia University

6:12-6:15 pm

Concluding Remarks

- **Emmanouil (Manos) Varvarigos**, Professor, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering; Vice Rector for Research, Innovation and Extroversion of NTUA

6:15-7:00 pm

Reception