

COURTESY TRANSLATION

Athens, January 14, 2016

Dear Colleague,

Tourism is a key sector of European economy as producing -directly or indirectly- more than 10% of EU GDP and providing employment for about 10 million people working in 1, 8 million businesses. Europe, presenting a high density and variety of tourist attractions and sites, is the first tourist destination worldwide. Tourism offers the opportunity to visitors of European destinations to become acquainted with our continent's beautiful natural environment, but also with our values and our major cultural heritage. Tourism also contributes to our peoples' mutual understanding, promoting intercultural dialogue and building the European identity.

It is our duty as legislators to exchange best practices and at the same time establish an appropriate framework for upgrading and enhancing all tourist services offered, thus aiming at boosting employment, supporting entrepreneurship and spread tourist surplus across society, always respecting the Environment and Cultural heritage.

In this spirit and firmly believing in parliamentary dialogue's value, the Hellenic Parliament will host on May 15-17 2016, a Conference with subject "365 day - multi-destinations' tourism", focusing in two main thematic lines/ subject areas:

- ✦ Maritime and coastal tourism
- ✦ Alternative forms of tourism

The first day of the Conference shall be devoted to proceedings-debates to take place in the Hellenic Parliament's Senate Hall, while the second day participants will enjoy a guided touring programme.

You will receive shortly a draft programme together with all relevant Conference information and documents (registration, accommodation, practical information etc.), sent by the Hellenic Parliament.

Dear friend and colleague,

Confident that your participation will valuably contribute to a better understanding and cooperation between our national parliaments,

Awaiting to see you in Greece this coming May,

Please accept my friendly regards and best wishes for a fruitful and eventful year.

Chara Kafantari



HELLENIC PARLIAMENT

EUROPEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE
“365 days! Multi – destination tourism”

15-17 May 2016
Athens, Greece

DRAFT PROGRAMME (17/3/2016)

Sunday, May 15

Until 18.00	Arrival and check in and at the hotels.
20.00	Departure by bus to the Acropolis Museum.
20.15 - 21.00	Guided tour of the Acropolis Museum.
21.00 - 23.00	Official dinner hosted by Ms Chara KAFANTARI , Chair of the Committee on Production and Trade of the Hellenic Parliament at the Acropolis Museum restaurant.
23.00	Departure by bus to the hotels

Monday, May 16

8.00 - 9.00	Registration (Senate Hall, 1st floor, Hellenic Parliament).
9.00 - 9.45	<u>Opening Session:</u> - Welcome address by Mr. Nikolaos VOUTSIS , Speaker of the Hellenic Parliament. - Opening addresses by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chair of the Conference, Ms Chara KAFANTARI, Chair of the Committee on Production and Trade of the Hellenic Parliament.• Ms Elena KOUNTOURA, Alternate Minister of Tourism of the Hellenic Republic.• Ms Rena DOUROU, Governor, Region of Attica.

09.45 - 11.15

Session 1: European coastline and maritime tourism: Challenges and prospects.

- Keynote speakers:

- **Mr. Branko GRČIĆ**, Chair of the Committee on Tourism of the *Croatian Chamber of Deputies*.
- **Mr. Georgios TZIALLAS**, Secretary General for Tourism Policy and Development
- **Mr. Thanos PALLIS**, Secretary General, Association of *Mediterranean Cruise Ports*, (MedCruise).

- Debate

11.15 – 11.30

- Coffee break.

11.30 – 13.00

Session 1A: Connectivity of destinations: Improving accessibility and transport.

- Keynote speakers:

- **Ms. Isabella DE MONTE**, MEP, Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN), *European Parliament*.
- **Mr. Carlos VOGELER**, Director/Executive Secretary of Member Relations, *World Tourism Organization* (UNWTO).
- **Mr. Alain DUPEYRAS**, Head of the Tourism Unit, *OECD*.

- Debate

13.00 – 14.30

- Lunch.

14.30 – 16.30

Session 2: "Alternative forms of tourism"

- Keynote speakers:

- **Mr. Gerasimos ZACHARATOS**, Deputy Secretary General of Tourism.
- **Ms. Magali FERRAND**, Head of Service in Tourism Investment, *Regional Council of Languedoc-Roussillon*.
- **Ms. Barbara AVDIS**, Chairman of the Board, *Historic Hotels of Europe*.

- Debate

- 16.30** **Closing remarks**, by the Chair of the Conference, **Chara KAFANTARI**, Chair of the Committee on Production and Trade of the Hellenic Parliament.
- 20.15** Departure from the hotels by bus.
- 20.30** Official dinner hosted by Ms **Elena KOUNTOURA**, Alternate Minister of Tourism of the Hellenic Republic.
- 22.30** Departure by bus to the hotels.

Tuesday, May 17

Saronic Gulf day cruise (End of the daily cruise approximately at 19.30)

(The full programme of the day will be announced within the next days).



HELLENIC PARLIAMENT

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

***EUROPEAN INTERPARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE
ON TOURISM***

ATHENS, MAY 15-17, 2016

Date/venue The meeting will be held at the Senate Hall of the Hellenic Parliament on May 16, 2016. From **08.00 to 09.00**, participants can access the building from the Amalias avenue entrance, (at the corner with Vas. Sofias avenue). After 09.00 only the main entrance on 2, Vassilissis Sofias avenue will be used.

Hellenic Parliament
Syntagma Square
100 21, Athens, Greece

On line registration Participants are kindly requested to fill in the registration form which is available at <http://icta2016.parliament.gr/> no later than **April 22, 2016**.

Registration Registration (8.00 till 9.00) will take place at the Hellenic Parliament premises.
Badges, documents and other material regarding the meeting shall be collected from these desks upon registration. For security reasons, all participants are kindly requested to wear their badges at all times.

The colours of the badges correspond to the following categories:

Red	Parliamentarians
Yellow	Staff

**Arrival/
Departure**

All participants are kindly requested to make the necessary arrangements for their transportation from and to the airport. Approximate transportation costs range as follows:

Taxi: 38-54€,

Metro: (line 3 – blue). **Ticket price:** 10.00€ (one way).

Route duration: 40'

Bus: No X95. **Ticket price:** 6.00€ (one way). **Route duration:** 40-60'.

Transportation

Participants may reach the Parliament building on foot (2' walk from the suggested hotels). For social events transportation by bus will be provided by the organizers.

Accommodation

Block reservations at preferential rates have been made by the Hellenic Parliament at the following hotels, located opposite the Parliament building.

N.J.V. Athens Plaza

Constitution Square (Syntagma)

105 64, Athens, Greece

Tel : +30 210 3352400

Fax : +30 210 3235856

www.njvathensplaza.gr

Please note: Reservations for this hotel must be made before April 19, 2016. All reservations received after April 19, 2016, will be accepted subject to availability at the best rate available at that time.

Room type	Rate
Single room	150€
Twin room	160€

Hotel Grande Bretagne

Constitution Square (Syntagma)

105 64, Athens, Greece

Tel : +30 210 3330000

Fax : +30 210 3228034

www.grandebretagne.gr

Please note: Reservations for this hotel must be made before April 25, 2016. All reservations received after April 25, 2016, will be accepted subject to availability at the best rate available at that time.

Room type	Rate
Classic single, double room	240€
Classic double	250€

All participants are kindly requested to make all necessary arrangements for their accommodation. Reservation forms are available at <http://icta2016.parliament.gr/> and **should be sent directly to the hotels before the above mentioned dates.**

Preferential rates shall not apply for booking requests received after the above deadlines. **Accommodation costs are covered by the participants.**

Interpretation Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Greek, English and French. Delegations accompanied by their own interpreters wishing to use an interpretation booth **are kindly requested to notify the organizers in advance.**

Documents The updated agenda of the meeting, as well as other relevant documents are available at <http://icta2016.parliament.gr/>.

Requests to take the floor Participants wishing to take the floor are kindly requested to fill in the relevant card received upon registration. These cards are coloured and correspond to each agenda item. Based on the requests to take the floor, a list will be drawn up. Participants can deliver their speeches from their seats.

Services All participants will have access to a working station equipped with computers, printers, fax and internet access. Wi-Fi service shall be available in selected areas.

Medical service	Medical services will be available during the meeting.
Smoking policy	Smoking is prohibited in all areas of the Parliament building.
Currency/Bank	The national currency of Greece is the Euro. At the ground floor of the Parliament building there is a National Bank of Greece branch and an ATM.
Weather	In May, the average lowest temperature is 15°C and the highest is 24°C
Local time	Local time in Greece is GMT+2
Secretariat	<p>Mrs. Anastasia Frangou Head of the Directorate for European Affairs Tel: +30 210 373 3542, +30 210 373 3858</p> <p>Mrs. Eleni Konstantinidou Head of the Department for European Union Tel: +30 210 373 3538, +30 210 373 3539</p> <p>Mr. George Chondronassios Tel: +30 210 373 3446</p> <p>Mr. Alexis Markopoulos Tel: +30 210 373 3589</p> <p>Mr. Yiannis Tsagadopoulos Tel: +30 210 3733591</p> <p>Fax: +30 210 373 3548 E-mail: ereo@parliament.gr</p>