

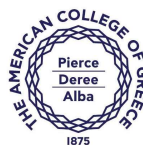


Energy Transition

Future Leaders Academy

May 15-18, 2024, Athens

Organized by:



Center of Excellence
in Logistics, Shipping
& Transportation

Under the auspices of

Ministry of the Environment and Energy,
Hellenic Republic

The US Embassy in Greece



Supported by



Academy Boosters

The 3rd Energy Transition Future Leaders Academy would not be possible without the support of these **forward-thinking energy companies**

that believe in the value of strengthening the **knowledge** regarding the energy transition, its benefits for the society, and the young people interested in the energy sector.

We are grateful to our Academy Boosters for their support:



About the Organizers

The Greek Energy Forum founded and headquartered in London since 2013 and currently featuring branch offices in Brussels, Athens, Nicosia, Dubai, and Washington DC is an international energy think tank consisting of Greek energy professionals holding international corporate posts and sharing a common interest in the broader energy industry in Greece and Southeastern Europe. The members of the Greek Energy Forum hold international corporate posts and their expertise spans across the energy industry spectrum, benefiting the Greek Energy Forum with a multi-disciplinary skill set and a holistic approach to its field.

The American College of Greece (ACG) is the oldest and largest U.S., accredited, nonprofit educational institution in Europe. Guided by its mission to add distinctive and sustainable value to our students, Greece, American education, Hellenic heritage, and the global community through transformative teaching, scholarship, and service, ACG has grown into an independent, comprehensive educational institution enrolling more than 7,000 students from Greece and more than 65 other countries. ACG's educational activities span across all educational levels separated in three divisions including Pierce (2,400+ students in grades kindergarten and elementary to high school), Deree (4,200+ undergraduate and graduate students), and Alba (500+ graduate business students plus Executive Education).

The Center of Excellence in Logistics, Shipping & Transportation (CoELST) at ACG exploits the intellectual and pedagogical resources of ACG as well as the talents of leading scholars, fellows, and businesspeople in order to promote the creation and adoption of innovative practices and policies designed to foster excellence in transportation-related, supply chain and energy fields and thus to assist in transcending the current economic challenges in Greece. The CoELST seeks to foster innovative applied research, teaching and public outreach to help propel Greece's economic growth by means of academic programs, fellowships, internships, lectures, policy papers, media productions, symposia and conferences.

Agenda

DAY 1 (Wednesday, 15th of May 2024) - Opening Ceremony

Hotel Brown Acropol - King Minos II meeting room / 1, Panagi Tsaldari (Pireos) Str., 105 52, Athens

17:30 – 18:00 Registrations

18:00 – 18:15 Welcome speeches

- Stergios Zacharakis - President, Greek Energy Forum
- Panos Vlachopoulos – ACG Vice President of Academic Affairs

18:15 – 18:30 Keynote Speech

- Alexandra Sdoukou - Deputy Minister of Environment and Energy of Greece

18:30 – 19:30 Ambassadors' circle

- George J. Tsunis - U.S. Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic
- Matthew Lodge - His Majesty's Ambassador to the Hellenic Republic, UK government
- Johan Borgstam - Ambassador of Sweden to Greece
- chair: Michalis Mathioulakis - Academic Director, Greek Energy Forum

19:30 – 20:10 Academy boosters

- Aristofanis Stefatos - CEO at Hellenic Hydrocarbon & Energy Resources Management S.A.
- Katerina Sardi - Managing Director & Country Manager in Greece, Energean
- Loan K. Tran - Greenhouse Gas Policy Manager, Strategic Planning, Exxon Mobil Corporation
- Costas Baslis - Energy Management Director, Heron & Chairman Of BoD, Optimus Energy

20:10 – 21:00 Presentation of the Academy / Meet the delegates

- Panos Mavroeidis-Kamperis – Treasurer / MoB, Greek Energy Forum
- Giorgos Kokosalakis - Executive Director, Center of Excellence L.S.T. at ACG

21:00 – 22:30 Cocktail party – at the Rooftop Bar of Brown Acropol

DAY 2 (Thursday, 16th of May 2024) - Session 1 - Energy Security, Strategy & Geopolitics

American College of Greece Plaka Building, Ipitou 17b, Athens

09:00 – 11:00 Lectures

- **09:00 – 09:30 Lecture A:** *Security of supply & regional cooperation through electricity interconnectors*
Lecturer: Nikos Tsafos - Chief Energy Adviser to the Prime Minister of Greece
- **09:30 – 10:00 Lecture B:** *Security of supply in the oil & gas sector in Europe*
Lecturer: Katerina Sardi - Managing Director & Country Manager in Greece, Energean
- **10:00 – 10:30 Lecture C:** *Geopolitical challenges & energy cooperation in the Balkans & Mediterranean*
Lecturer : Maria Gavouneli - Director General, Hellenic Foundation for European & Foreign Policy
- **10:30 – 11:00 Lecture D:** *Strategic value of energy projects and assessment of regional energy hubs*
Lecturer: Michalis Mathioulakis - Academic Director, Greek Energy Forum

11:00 – 12:00 Debates

- Debate 1 : Team A vs Team B
Do we need to focus our efforts on regional cooperation or autonomy through Renewables to optimize security of supply for member states and the EU?
- Debate 2: Team C vs Team D
Are European policies on decarbonization in collision with policies on European energy security throughout the transition period or not?

12:00 – 13:00 Discussion

All teams

13:00 – 14:00 Networking & Interviews

Delegates + Lecturers + Company representatives

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch Break

DAY 2 (Thursday, 16th of May 2024) – Session 2 - Internal Market & Regional Energy Markets

American College of Greece Plaka Building, Ipitou 17b, Athens

15:00 – 17:00 Lectures

- **15:00 – 15:30 Lecture A:** *Key elements of the internal energy market*
Lecturer: Dimitris Chatzigiannis - Applied R&D Manager, Heron
- **15:30 – 16:00 Lecture B:** *SEE Regional Gas Market Integration and Market Development*
Lecturer: Yuliya Vergilova Georgieva-Kirilova, Gas Origination and Trading Manager at Overgas
- **16:00 – 16:30 Lecture C:** *Energy consumer protection, participation and information policies*
Lecturer: Loukas Daoutsis - Power Supply Officer at Fysiko Aerio Ellados
- **16:30 – 17:00 Lecture D:** *The evolution of European Net zero strategies & its effects on Low Carbon Solutions*
Lecturer: Loan K. Tran - Greenhouse Gas Policy Manager, Strategic Planning - Exxon Mobil

17:00 – 18:00 Debates

- Debate 1 : Team A vs Team D
Did the energy crisis of 2021-22 revealed serious disfunctions of the European energy markets, so the whole framework of European internal energy market needs to be redesigned with more control over the transactions, contracts, and pricing by the EU authorities and the member states, or not?
- Debate 2: Team B vs Team C
Should the investments in infrastructure needed for better integration and interconnection between member states' energy markets be financed primarily through socialization of costs (regulated costs) or through state-sponsored subsidies?

18:00 – 19:00 Discussion

All teams

19:00 – 20:00 Networking & Interviews

Delegates + Lecturers + Company representatives

21:00 Social event

Delegates + Lecturers + Company representatives

DAY 3 (Friday, 17th of May 2024) – Session 3 – Decarbonization & Energy Efficiency

American College of Greece Plaka Building, Ipitou 17b, Athens

09:00 – 11:00 Lectures

- **09:00 – 09:30 Lecture A:** *Global development of sustainability projects*
Lecturer: Panayiotis-Peter Contis - Vice President, Ameresco, USA
- **09:30 – 10:00 Lecture B:** *Energy intensity, efficiency, and RES shares, in the EU industry sector*
Lecturer: Spyros Kiartzis - Manager New Technologies & Alternative Energy Sources, HelleniQ Energy Group
- **10:00 – 10:30 Lecture C:** *Technology evolution and new trends in Renewable Energy*
Lecturer: Stella Zacharia - CEO Optimus Energy / Head of Energy Assessment, Policy & Regulation, Terna Energy
- **10:30 – 11:00 Lecture D:** *Battery Energy Storage Systems: Trends and Challenges*
Lecturer: Mary Mavrokapnidou - Commercial Project Manager | Battery storage project developer, BayWa r.e. EMEA

11:00 – 12:00 Debates

- Debate 1: Team A vs Team C
Do we need to focus our policy and financing efforts on specific Renewable technologies that have already proven to work, or should we keep equal support for all potential renewable technologies options and pathways?
- Debate 2: Team B vs Team D
During the energy transition period towards 2050, should the European energy system rely for its stability solely on renewable energy storage solutions, or also include low-emitting base load production by e.g. nuclear, natural gas, and carbon capture systems?

12:00 – 13:00 Discussion

All teams

13:00 – 14:00 Networking & Interviews

Delegates + Lecturers + Company representatives

14:00 – 15:00 Lunch Break

DAY 3 (Friday, 17th of May 2024) - Session 4 – Renewable Gases & Transport

American College of Greece Plaka Building, Ipitou 17b, Athens

15:00 – 17:00 Lectures

- **15:00 – 15:30 Lecture A:** *The compliance roadmap to 2050 for Shipping*
Lecturer: Stergios Stergiou - Green Shipping & Sustainability Director, Capital Ship Management Corp
- **15:30 – 16:00 Lecture B:** *Biomethane production and supply chains*
Lecturer: Odysseas Rigopoulos - East Europe Director, Heygaz
- **16:00 – 16:30 Lecture C:** *Hydrogen fundamentals and its value chain*
Lecturer: Spyros Economou - Director for Hydrogen, Eunice
- **16:30 – 17:00 Lecture D:** *Achieving net-zero in Road Transport via Renewable Gases*
Lecturer: Alexandros Lagakos - Managing Director, Blue Grid / Molgas Group

17:00 – 18:00 Debates

- Debate 1 : Team C vs Team B

Should European policies on hydrogen, biomethane, ammonia, and other green or renewable gases, focus on supporting their use on transportation or as supportive storage solutions for the complete electrification of the energy system?

- Debate 2: Team D vs Team A

Should the investments in green gases infrastructure for transportation be financed primarily through socialization of costs (regulated costs) or primarily through private investments on the most cost-effective, solutions adapted by the transportation industry?

18:00 – 19:00 Discussion

All teams

19:00 – 20:00 Networking & Interviews

Delegates + Lecturers + Company representatives

DAY 4 (Saturday, 18th of May 2024) – **Session 5** – **The future of energy in Europe**

American College of Greece Plaka Building, Ipitou 17b, Athens

09:00 – 11:00 Lectures

- **09:00 – 09:30 Lecture A:** *The future of CO2 storage systems in Europe*
Lecturer: Paschalia Kiomourtzi, Prinos Subsurface Lead, Energean
- **09:30 – 10:00 Lecture B:** *The future of transportation & distribution networks in Europe*
Lecturer: Dane Inglis - Management Consultant, Rystad Energy
- **10:00 – 10:30 Lecture C:** *The future of energy markets and systems in Europe*
Lecturer: Vito Turitto – Commodities Quantitative Strategist, S&P Global Commodity Insights
- **10:30 – 11:00 Lecture D:** *Establishing an Energy Market in small and remote systems: the case of Cyprus*
Lecturer: Dimitris Papapolyviou - Lawyer / Board member, Natural Gas Public Company of Cyprus

11:00 – 12:00 Debates

- Debate 1 : Team A vs Team C

Should Europe keep focusing on being a pioneer and a lighthouse regarding decarbonization, sustainability and green economy policies, or switch focus towards addressing the competition challenges arising from China, the US and other powers in the energy sector?

- Debate 2: Team B vs Team D

Should Europe spend more money in the future supporting new research and innovation in the energy sector, or on support schemes for established green technologies that are still struggling to be economically viable?

12:00 – 13:00 Discussion

All teams

13:00 – 13:30 Networking & Interviews

Delegates + Lecturers + Company representatives

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch break

DAY 4 (*Saturday, 18th of May 2024*) – **Session 6 – Choices for the future of energy**

American College of Greece Plaka Building, Ipitou 17b, Athens

14:30 – 16:30 Lectures

- **14:30 – 15:00 Lecture A:** *Choices for the future of Renewable energy*
Lecturer: Stergios Zacharakis - Energy Transition & Climate Senior Specialist at S&P Global
- **15:00 – 15:30 Lecture B:** *Choices for the future of Hydrocarbons' exploration*
Lecturer: Efthimios Tartaras - Head of Geoscience & Advisor to the CEO, Hellenic Hydrocarbons & Energy Resources Management Company
- **15:30 – 16:00 Lecture C:** *Choices for the future of wind off shore licensing*
Lecturer: Flora Karathanasi - Offshore Wind Programme Lead, Hellenic Hydrocarbons & Energy Resources Management Company
- **16:00 – 16:30 Lecture D:** *Choices for the future of Energy Management Systems*
Lecturer: Leonidas Spiliopoulos - Head of Product, Wattstor

16:30 – 17:30 Discussion

How do you vision the fundamental form, shape, characteristics, and functions of the energy sector in Europe, in order to deliver solid, realistic solutions for climate protection and energy security.

20:30 – 23:00 Closing Ceremony & Party

Academy Concept and Syllabus

General Information

Organizers : Greek Energy Forum & The American College of Greece
Duration : 4 days
Location : Athens
Venue : American College of Greece Plaka Building, Ipitou 17b, Athens
Lecturers : 24
Delegates : 50
Guest students : up to 10

Description & Purpose

The objective of the Energy Transition Future Leaders Academy program is to identify high-caliber university students and young professionals with proven, genuine interest in the energy sector and educate them on key elements of the EU's Energy Transition policies.

Our purpose is to offer these promising young individuals an intensive, challenging and rewarding course on the *structure* that makes EU's Energy Transition an essential part of the European Union. During the course of the Academy we examine the fundamental principles that shape the European Energy Transition, we analyze the benefits, evaluate the goals, identify the vulnerabilities, and suggest improvements for EU's energy transition policy.

The Academy aspires to create a recurring, small, but valuable core of young energy experts equipped with specialized knowledge to understand, defend, promote, and enrich the EU's Energy Transition.

The academic program consists of six sessions covering four vital EU Energy Transition policy areas: Decarbonization & Energy Efficiency, the Internal Energy Market, Energy Security & Strategy, and Renewable Gases & Transport, as well as two sessions exploring the future of the energy transition and the challenges for the energy sector.

Learning Goals

- Understand the key structural elements of core EU Energy Transition policies.
- Evaluate the drives behind each of the core policy areas.
- Review the critique and vulnerabilities of these policies.
- Analyze the benefits for the member states.
- Explore alternative policies for the EU's Energy Transition objectives.
- Identify the critical benchmarks that determine the future of EU's energy transition.
- Develop a mindset for innovative, out-of-the-box problem-solving for the energy transition.

Thematic areas

- Current affairs on energy security and international cooperation : Session 1
- Current affairs on markets, regulation, trading and consumer issues : Session 2
- Current affairs on the transition to green, circular solutions : Sessions 3 & 4
- Future pathways for the energy transition : Session 5
- Future challenges for the energy sector : Session 6

Sessions Structure

- Lectures

Each session starts with four, back to back lectures with a duration of 30 minutes each. The four lectures in each session cover four different aspects of one policy area. Lectures are conducted by industry executives, academics and policy makers.

- Debates

After the lectures, a debate takes place between different teams of delegates coached by the lecturers. The teams are assigned to defend or attack certain aspects of the policy area presented in the session. The subject of the debate, the teams and the offence-defence sides are assigned two weeks before the Academy program starts in order for the delegates to prepare accordingly.

- Discussion

Following the debate, an open 30-minute discussion between the lecturers and the delegates takes place. During the discussion, all the issues arising from the debate as well as the lectures are evaluated and analyzed.

- Workshop

The delegates have the option to work in small teams in order to produce a short paper on one of the issues presented, debated and discussed during the session. The full body of the paper is delivered within a period of four weeks after the end of the Academy program. Selected papers will be considered by the Organizers for a collective publication volume.

- Networking

At the end of each session there is a networking meeting where the delegates get to meet and talk with the lecturers of the session. Delegates also have a 10-minute interview and discussion with one of the lecturers of their choice where they get the opportunity to present themselves, their work and interests.

Course Policies and Deadlines

Delegates

- The delegates selected to participate in the Academy are expected to participate in a total of 10 hours of lectures and 5 hours of group work during the course of the Academy in order to successfully complete the program.
- Before attending the Academy, all delegates are expected to study and prepare arguments on the subject of the debate for each of the five sessions of the program. The subject of each debate will be sent to each delegate two weeks before the start of the program.
- Delegates who fulfil all the Learning & Study Hours demands (see below) will be considered to have successfully complete the program and are awarded an Academy Diploma from GEF.

Guest Students

- Guest participants are expected to have followed a minimum of 10 out of 12 hours of lectures in order to receive an Attendance Certificate from the Academy.
- Guest students can attend but not participate in the debates but are encouraged to actively participate in the discussion section of each session.
- Guest students cannot participate in the workshops and interview sections but are encouraged to participate in networking events with the lecturers and delegates.

Reading Material

- Before attending the Academy, delegates will receive a bibliography list including scientific articles, books and internet sources relevant to the subjects taught in each of the lectures during the five sessions of the Academy.
- During the course, delegates will have access to notes for all the lectures in each session.

Learning & Study Hours

Lectures : 12 hours

Group work : 6 hours

Self-study : 12 hours

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the Academy program delegates will be able to:

- Master specialized knowledge on the function and development of core EU's energy transition areas.
- Defend and promote the core energy transition policies of the EU.
- Recognize turning points and benchmarks in the future of the energy sector in Europe.
- Contribute to the development of corporate or public-policy level action plans affected by EU's core energy transition policies.