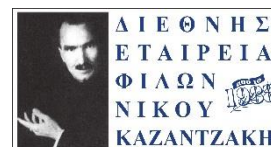




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PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis: From the Heraklion of Yesterday to the Europe of Today and Tomorrow

HERAKLION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

22–25 October 2026

The European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis (P.E.K.), as part of their ongoing efforts to join the Council of Europe's Cultural Routes programme, will organise an International Scientific Conference in Heraklion, Crete, Greece, from 22 to 25 October 2026, entitled "European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis: From the Heraklion of Yesterday to the Europe of Today and Tomorrow".

The conference will be held under the auspices of the Hellenic Ministry of Culture, the UNESCO Chair at Ionian University, the Interdepartmental Postgraduate Programme in "Management and Technologies in Cultural Heritage" at the University of the Peloponnese, the Municipality of Heraklion and the Municipality of Archanes-Asterousia.

It is supported by the Region of Crete, the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis (SIANK), the Nikos Kazantzakis Museum (Myrtia, Heraklion), the Heraklion Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Institute of Computer Science of the Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH).

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The conference focuses on exploring the European dimension of the thought and work of the Cretan thinker and writer, while also highlighting new approaches to reading and interpreting Kazantzakis's work through contemporary theoretical frameworks and interdisciplinary tools.

In line with the priorities of the Council of Europe's Cultural Routes Programme, the conference aims to promote a European and interdisciplinary approach to Kazantzakis's work and highlight its enduring relevance to issues of cultural identity, freedom, otherness, sustainability and innovation.

The conference will take place in a hybrid format, welcoming both in-person attendees and online participants via Zoom, in the Kastellaki Hall of the Heraklion Chamber of Commerce and Industry, at 9 Koroneou Street, Heraklion.

The conference has attracted considerable interest from researchers and academics representing universities and research institutions across the world. Speakers from 20 countries will participate addressing the full range of the conference themes.

In alphabetical order, the participating countries are: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

The conference organising committee and the boards of the International Society of Friends of Nikos Kazantzakis and the European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis extend their warmest thanks to everyone who has contributed to the conference.

INFORMATION

The conference secretariat will open at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, 22 October 2026, and will remain available throughout the conference.

The conference will also be streamed on YouTube via the European Routes of Nikos Kazantzakis channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@EuropeanRoutes.NikosKazantzaki>

The conference poster and programme are attached in Greek, French and English. They can also be accessed via the following link: <https://amis-kazantzaki.gr/europeanroutes/>

Katerina Zofragistou

President of the ISFNK – Vice-President and Executive Director of P.E.K.