



PRESS RELEASE

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Vasilios Bardis is the new Chairman of the HHA (SEK)

Mr. Vasilios Bardis, Chief Operating Officer at Athens Medical Group, was elected as the new Chairman of the Hellenic Hospital Association's Board of Directors. Mr. Bardis assumed the Association's presidency after the resignation of Mr. Andreas Kartapanis, due to increased workload.

Having a long and successful career in the field of Healthcare, Mr. Bardis takes over the reins of the Association during a critical period for the Private Healthcare Sector in Greece.

It is noteworthy that the new Chairman, along with his professional career, has held different posts in companies like Director of Coordination of the Central Office at the National Centre for Emergency HealthCare, Administrative Director at "Thriassion" Hospital, General Manager at "HYGEIA MELATHRON" Hospital, President and General Manager at Cretan Regional Systems of Health (PESY). Mr. Bardis has a graduate degree in Hospital Management and Public Administration, and holds a master's degree in Health Services Administration (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine). He has a wide experience in academic writing and teaching.

Former Chairman, Mr. Kartapanis, stated: *'Increased workload doesn't allow me to undertake the duties of the Chairman of the BoD anymore, with the dedication and time allocation that are required. Since 2012, when I was elected to this position, both me and the other members of the Board, did everything that was possible to keep "alive" the private health sector, a sector that directly employs more than 25,000 people, providing 30,000 additional*

work positions, through partnerships. I wish Mr. Bardis all the best in his future endeavours '.

The newly elected Chairman made the following statement: 'I receive the presidential baton during these difficult times for the Private Healthcare Sector. Viability of the private healthcare sector and the overall quality of healthcare services in our country, depend on the development of unresolved issues, such as EOPYY's past and new debts to Private Hospitals, Claw back and conditions of cooperation between EOPPY and Private Hospitals. I hope that my selection will be proved trustworthy according to the expectations of the members of the Association. On behalf of the BoD, I want to thank the outgoing Chairman for his valuable services and his contributions to SEK'.

SEK (HELLENIC HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION)

The Hellenic Hospital Association represents the largest private clinics which offer high-end healthcare services throughout the country. The members of SEK are among the largest employers in Greece and among the biggest contributors to the Greek economy, and are actively supporting the needs of the state healthcare system.

THE PRIVATE HEALTHCARE SECTOR IN GREECE

The private sector employs more than 25,000 workers, maintains more than 30,000 job positions through indirect collaborations and invests in the viable growth of new infrastructures, new medical protocols and new technologies. Covering 39% of the country's healthcare services, the private healthcare sector is averting the "brain drain" that's been plaguing our country during these times; by keeping valuable scientists here, it contributes significantly to the country's GDP and it is making Greece a destination for medical tourism. It supplements the public healthcare sector, but also performs hi-tech operations and medical procedures that the state is unable to provide, thus fulfilling a pivotal role in ensuring public health in Greece.