Imagine you and your colleagues are walking on one of the most beautiful pedestrian streets in the world, Dionysiou Areopagitou Pedestrian Street. The afternoon sun is setting down and on your right, you see the hill of Acropolis and the reddish Parthenon marbles under the sun’s light. On your right a natural pathway among greek plants leads you up to some big stairs towards Herodes Atticus Theatre, also known as the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, or simply Herodion. Herodes built this Odeon in 161 A.D. in the memory of his beloved wife Aspasia Regilla who died in 160 AD. You enter the theatre, you take a seat. You are now sitting in the same seat an ancient Athenian was sitting 2000 years ago, attending an ancient tragedy or comedy. The sky is turning darker, it is full of stars and a breeze is coming from the Aegean Sea. In front of you is the stage. The original wall of the stage stood three storeys high and was decorated with marbles and ceramic pieces while it stands renovated with marble today. A cedar-wooden roof covered the theatre in the ancient times. Behind you on the left, the Parthenon and the rest of the Acropolis temples are lighted. You are about to have a marvellous acoustic experience in one of the most famous theatres of the world. The opening ceremony of EuroMedLab Athens 2017 is about to begin. Would you miss this opportunity?

Katherina Psarra
GSCC-CB President

OPENING CEREMONY
Herodes Atticus Theatre (Herodion)
June 11th 2017

Scientific Program Updates

The Scientific Program of EuroMedLab Athens 2017 has now been finalized. It was a long journey that is now close to an end. Many new sessions have been added, either on subjects that became important lately, or proposed by scientific societies and organizations interested in our Congress. Inevitably, some sessions previously announced in the Preliminary Scientific Program (July 2106) have been modified and some speakers have been replaced. In the next pages we summarize the major additions and changes to the scientific program of EuroMedLab Athens 2017.

Alexander Haliassos,
EuroMedLab Athens 2017 Congress President

What is EuroMedLab news?

EuroMedLab news is issued periodically to report on developments in scientific program and organization of the Congress. EuroMedLab news is a handy tool to get in touch with Athens and the forthcoming Congress in real time. EuroMedLab news will be sent to IFCC National Representatives, to all Officers involved in IFCC or EFLM, to IFCC Corporate Members, to IVD companies, and to anyone who has shown interest in the Congress; EuroMedLab News may be freely quoted in journals or newsletters and even photocopied, provided that the editor (EuroMedLab Athens 2017 Organizing Secretariat, Milan, Italy) is mentioned.

www.athens2017.org

Deadline for reduced registration fees: April 30, 2017
OPENING CEREMONY
Herodes Atticus Theatre (Herodion)
June 11th, 2017, 20:15

Delegates and accompanying persons in order to attend the opening ceremony must wear their badges or bring with them the invitation they will receive by email few days before the congress.

CONGRESS COMMITTEES

CONGRESS PRESIDENT
Dr. Alexander Haliassos

CONGRESS ORGANISING COMMITTEE
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Dr. Efi Mpoutoula Treasurer
Prof. Christos Kroupis Scientific Committee Liaison
Dr. Aggeliki Ferderigou Social Events
Dr. Nota Spyropoulou Social Events
Dr. Katherina Psarra Public Relations
Dr. Irene Leimoni Executive Manager
Dr. Bernard Gouget EuroMedLab 2015 Liaison
Dr. Angelos Evangelopoulos Corporate Members Representative
Prof. Tomáš Zima IFCC Representative
Prof. Grazyna Sypniewska EFLM Representative

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE
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Prof. Maurizio Ferrari
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Dr. Konstantinos Makris
Prof. Paraskevi Moutsatsou
Prof. Mauro Panteghini
Prof. Demetrios Rizos
Prof. Andreas Scorilas
Prof. Georgia Sotiropoulou
Prof. Christos Tsatsanis

SAVE THE DATE!
April 30, 2017
Deadline for reduced registration fees
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Scientific Program of EuroMedLab Athens 2017 has now been finalized. Since we started planning, about two years ago, many new sessions have been added either on rapidly emerging fields (such as antimicrobial resistance and population migration) or they were proposed by scientific societies and other organizations. Also, we replaced some speakers who could not finally make it.

The final Scientific Program consists of:

• the opening presentation,
• four plenary lectures,
• four debates (open to the general public),
• one President’s Invited Speaker,
• thirty-three symposia,
• six “meet the expert” sessions,
• one workshop on how to write a scientific paper,
• thirty-five industry-sponsored workshops and
• one workshop developed by the Association of laboratory specialists and organizations of the Russian Federation.

In short, the daily program will have seven parallel scientific presentations. Below, we summarize the major changes to the scientific program. In this issue of EuroMedLab News, you will find as an insert the updated timetable and the corresponding rooms.

The President’s Invited Speaker is Professor George Malliaras from the Department of Bioelectronics at the “Ecole des Mines” of St. Etienne (France) who will talk about "New technologies for interfacing electronics with the brain". This technology promises to deliver new tools for diagnosis and treatment of pathologies such as epilepsy and neurodegeneration. Tuesday afternoon

Below, we describe the new symposia in chronological order:

A Symposium on “New perspectives in clinical flow cytometry” developed in cooperation with the European Society for Clinical Cell Analysis (ESCCA), chaired by Katherina Psarra and Ulrich Sack. Monday afternoon.

A symposium entitled “Implementing and Maintaining Standardization in Laboratory Medicine - Making the Pieces Work Together to improve patient care and public health” in cooperation with Center for Disease Control (CDC, USA). This symposium is chaired by Hubert W. Vesper and Christa Cobbaert. Tuesday morning

A symposium entitled “New perspectives on pharmacogenetics and pharmacogenomics” co-developed by the Hellenic Society of Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Diagnosis and Therapy (EE-PHARM) and the European Society of Pharmacogenomics and Therapy (ESPT), chaired by Nikos Drakoulis and Sanja Stankovic. Tuesday morning

A symposium entitled “The Microbiome: Present and future challenges in Laboratory Medicine” chaired by Georgi Sotiropoulou and Juan Ortelando. Tuesday morning

A symposium describing the challenges and implications of analyzing large datasets in Laboratory Medicine, entitled “Big Data in the Era of Personalized Medicine” chaired by Emmanuel Dermitzakis and Marc Delpech. Tuesday afternoon

A symposium entitled “Antibodies and Microarrays for the analysis of Biomarkers” in cooperation with the Quality Assessment and Standardization Committee of the International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS), chaired by Michael Kirschfink and Fatima Ferreira-Briza. Wednesday morning
A symposium on the emerging topic of the antimicrobial resistance and the population migration entitled "Infection, antimicrobial resistance and migration" describing trends in infections and antimicrobial resistance and the implications for screening of migrants and the challenges in the management of antimicrobial resistance in hospitals. This symposium is chaired by Mariam Klouche and Juana Ortellado de Canese. Wednesday afternoon

A symposium on the issue of the availability of accurate reference values, stratified by key covariates such as age and sex. This symposium is entitled "Reference Intervals in Clinical Chemistry" and is chaired by Helen Martin and Eleftherios Diamandis. Wednesday afternoon

A symposium organized by the Fédération Internationale Francophone de Biologie et de Médecine de Laboratoire (FIFBCML) entitled "The FIFBCML: a Mediterranean-leading platform for collaboration and innovation in Laboratory Medicine", chaired by Marc Antoine Zablith and Bernard Gouget. Thursday afternoon

Moreover, on Monday afternoon, Anthony Newman, publisher at Elsevier and Mario Plebani editor of "Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM)" will present a two hour scientific workshop on "How to Write a Great Research Paper, and Get it Accepted by a Good Journal".

Finally, on Wednesday afternoon the Association of laboratory specialists and organizations "Federation of laboratory medicine" of the Russian Federation will present an educational workshop entitled "Laboratory Service in reforming stage" chaired by Andrey Ivanov. This workshop will be in Russian but it will be simultaneously translated in English.

The final program also contains information on some new speakers and moderators who replaced those who could not finally make it. Every effort was made to find speakers of the same or higher caliber. Please see the program for details at www.athens2017.org.

Finally, an Interesting event co-organized with the IFCC Task Force of Young Scientists (TF-YS) and the International Society of Enzymology (ISE) will combine a scientific presentation by Dr. Nader Rifai, Editor of "Clinical Chemistry", entitled "Career Opportunities for Young Scientists" and a musical performance of the well-known Mikis Theodorakis Orchestra. There will be a dinner, while overlooking the Acropolis and the Parthenon and the evening will conclude with a dance party. For more information the Young Scientists can write to the GSCC-CB secretariat to book a free ticket (info@eekx-kb.gr). This event is also open to all other delegates but they need to purchase a ticket (80 euros per person) by writing to Amanda Goddard (amanda.goddard@sinaiehealthsystem.ca). Space is limited and tickets will be sold on a first-come first-served basis.
EuroMedLab news

Congress Venue
Megaron Athens International Conference Center

Opening Ceremony
Herodes Atticus Theatre (Herodion)

Congress Headquarters Hotel
Athens Hilton

New Acropolis Museum

Congress Hotels
Athens is easily accessed by air, sea and land (road and railroad) as it is the Greece’s capital and one of the major cities of the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean area. Moreover, moving around the city is a real pleasure. Athens public transportation system connects the city center and Megaron - Athens International Conference Center, the Congress Venue, with all surrounding areas through a modern network combining many lines of metro, suburban railway, train, buses, trolleys and trams. The road system has been modernized in recently with new highways. The capital is connected with other parts of the mainland through a network of railways, buses and coaches. Furthermore, Athens has direct connections to all Greek islands through the ports of Piraeus, Lavrio and Rafina.

**BY AIR**
The new award-winning “Eleftherios Venizelos” Athens International Airport, has been serving the Greek capital since its opening to the public on March 28th, 2001. Its exciting design has, according to surveys, made it one of the world’s leading airports in overall passenger satisfaction for the last four years and Europe’s fastest growing airport. At the crossroads of Europe, Africa and the Middle East, Athens is a city that is easily accessible from virtually any point of the world. Flights from major airport hubs in London, Frankfurt, Paris, Berlin, Zurich, Milan, Rome, Istanbul, New York, Larnaca and Dubai come in at least once per day. Located 33 km (20 miles) southeast of Athens, it is easily accessible via Attiki Odos, a major highway part of the Athens City Ring Road. Public transport to Athens and the port of Piraeus is provided by the new metro system, express airport bus connections, taxi and high-speed rail.

**BY ROAD**
Athens can be reached by road via the Western Balkan countries, Bulgaria, Albania and Turkey.

**BY RAILROAD**
The main railway network of Greece currently provides links between Athens and Northern and Southern Greece and the rest of Europe through the Western Balkan countries and Bulgaria.

**BY SEA**
There are daily ferryboat connections from Italy (Ancona, Bari and Brindisi, Venice and Trieste) to Patras the second largest port of entry to Greece; approximately 220 km (135 miles) from Athens. The Middle East is accessible via the port of Volos located 300km (180 miles) from Athens.

**FREE SHUTTLE**
A free shared shuttle service will be offered to you from and to Athens international airport and Megaron Convention Center from June 10, 2017

- Saturday 10 June 8am-8pm
- Sunday 11 June 8am-8pm
- Monday 12 June 10am-6pm
- Tuesday 13 June 10am-6pm
- Wednesday 14 June 10am-6pm
- Thursday 15 June 8am-15pm

The detailed timetable and frequency will be available soon at [www.athens2017.org](http://www.athens2017.org)

The service is kindly offered by Mindray
The EuroMedLab Athens 2017 Congress will be held at the Megaron Athens International Conference Center, one of the finest and technologically advanced conference venues in Europe. The center offers an impressive environment of beauty, cutting edge facilities and unrivalled client service.

**MEGARON**

**ATHENS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER**

Vassilisis Sophias Ave. & Kokkali Str.
Athens GR-115 21, Greece
Phone: +30 2107282000

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**EuroMedLab news**

**Congress Venue**

The EuroMedLab Athens 2017 Congress will be held at the Megaron Athens International Conference Center, one of the finest and technologically advanced conference venues in Europe. The center offers an impressive environment of beauty, cutting edge facilities and unrivalled client service.

**MEGARON**

**ATHENS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER**

Vassilisis Sophias Ave. & Kokkali Str.
Athens GR-115 21, Greece
Phone: +30 2107282000
The on-line system for registration is available at [www.athens2017.org](http://www.athens2017.org)

### REGISTRATION FEES
All delegates must register to the congress, in order to have access to the lecture rooms.

#### BEFORE APRIL 30, 2017

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<th>Registration Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full Registration</td>
<td>€680 (€548 + 24% VAT)</td>
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<td>Young Registration (≤35 years)</td>
<td>€340 (€274 + 24% VAT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day Registration except Thursday</td>
<td>€310 (€250 + 24% VAT)</td>
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#### AFTER APRIL 30, 2017

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<td>Young Registration (≤35 years)</td>
<td>€460 (€370,96 + 24% VAT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day Registration except Thursday</td>
<td>€370 (€298,38 + 24% VAT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Thursday Registration</td>
<td>€250 (€202 + 24% VAT)</td>
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**On-line registration available till May 28th, 2017**

**May 29 - June 10 Registration closed**

### ON-SITE REGISTRATIONS

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<th>Registration Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Registration (≤35 years)</td>
<td>€495 (€399,19 + 24% VAT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day Registration except Thursday</td>
<td>€430 (€346,77 + 24% VAT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Thursday Registration</td>
<td>€300 (€242 + 24% VAT)</td>
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**On-site registration starting from Sunday, June 11th, 2017**

The full registration and young registration fees include:

1. Entrance to plenary lectures, symposia, industry-sponsored workshops, posters sessions and exhibition
2. Possibility to submit abstracts
3. Certificate of attendance
4. Shuttle busses from airport to Athens and vice-versa
5. Coffee and tea service during morning intermissions
6. Opening Ceremony and Welcome Party (Sunday, June 11th 2017)
7. Closing Ceremony (Thursday, June 15th 2017)

The day registration fee includes, for the day of registration only:

1. Entrance to plenary lectures, symposia, industry-sponsored workshops, posters sessions and exhibition
2. Certificate of attendance
3. Coffee and tea service during morning intermissions
Social event Ticket

**Wednesday, June 14th 2017**

Delegates **€45** (€36.29 + 24% VAT) Accompanying persons **€85** (€68.55 + 24% VAT)

Remittance

Registration fees shall be paid by credit card or bank transfer through the on-line system available on the congress web site.

When paying by bank transfer, a copy of the transfer receipt must be sent at registrations@athens2017.org. Registrations without proof of payment will not be accepted.

On-site registrations may be paid only by credit card or cash. Cheques will not be accepted.

The organising secretariat will send registration receipt upon receipt of payment, via e-mail. Be sure your e-mail address is filled in correctly.

Personal invitation for visa purposes

To facilitate congress attendance a personal invitation can be sent on request. This invitation does not exempt the recipient from registering and paying the proper congress fee. Please inform the congress secretariat if you need a personal invitation letter.

Currency

Registration fees and charges for all events related to the EuroMedLab Athens 2017 Congress as well as hotel cost must be paid in euros.

Cancellation and refund

Cancellations must be sent in writing to registrations@athens2017.org. The amount equal to 80% of the fee paid will be refunded for cancellations received by April 30th 2017. Until May, 31st 2017 a refund of 50% of the fee will be granted. After May, 31st 2017 no refunds will be issued. All refunds will be paid in euros after the congress.

Cancellation of the congress

The congress secretariat reserves the right to cancel the congress, shift venue, or change dates without notice, in case of “force majeure”. Neither MZ Congressi nor the Congress Organising Committee shall be liable for any damage claims.

**On-line registration is available on the congress website** www.athens2017.org

**Registration can be submitted on-line only.**

### SATELLITE MEETING REGISTRATION FEES

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<th>Registration Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full Registration</td>
<td>€200 (€161 + 24% VAT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Young Registration (≤35 years)</td>
<td>€60 (€48 + 24% VAT)</td>
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<td>EuroMedLab Registrant Full Registration</td>
<td>€140 (€113 + 24% VAT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EuroMedLab Registrant Young Registration (≤35 years)</td>
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SATELLITE MEETING ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT & HOTEL RESERVATION

ERA Ltd, Official Partner of EuroMedLab Athens 2017 offers customized services for your hotel reservations and related services.

**ERA LTD**

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Tel.: +30 210 3634944, Fax: +30 210 3631690
E-mails: euromedlab2017@era.gr | info@era.gr
Website: www.era.gr
The Congress Organizing Committee and the Scientific Program Committee together with the Organizing Secretariat wish you

Happy Easter