

Event Recap

2nd Maritime Security Conference Threats to maritime trade and maritime infrastructure

02 April, 2025

EUGENIDES Foundation

Purpose & Goals

1 Promote Awareness of Maritime Security Challenges

2 Strengthen International Collaboration for Freedom of Navigation

3 Inspire the Next Generation of Maritime Professionals

In cooperation with



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Conference Overview

The **Council for International Relations – Greece (CfIR-GR)**, the **Propeller Club, Port of Piraeus**, and the **Foreign Affairs Institute (FAINST)**, in cooperation with the **University of Piraeus School of Maritime and Industrial Studies** and the **Mackinder Forum**, organized the **2nd International Maritime Security Conference on Wednesday, April 2, 2025**, at the **Eugenides Foundation, Athens**.

Building on the inaugural 2024 edition, the conference convened high-level experts, policymakers, naval officials, and industry leaders to address the growing spectrum of threats facing global maritime trade and critical infrastructure. The event provided a platform for exchanging scientific, operational, and institutional perspectives at a time of heightened instability in key maritime corridors.

Key message

The conference examined multifaceted risks threatening maritime transport, supply chains, undersea infrastructure, and the Greek shipping industry, while exploring the geopolitical and technological dynamics reshaping global maritime security. It underscored the need for coordinated international responses to safeguard freedom of navigation, protect critical infrastructure, and uphold the maritime legal order.

The Conference in numbers



340+
Attendees



31
Speakers



140+
**Representatives of Government, Academia,
Maritime Industry, Policy Think Tanks**

Conference Highlights

(in terms of appearance)



Dimitrios Avramopoulos,
Former European Commissioner,
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs



Vice Admiral Dimitrios Kataras,
Chief,
Hellenic Navy General Staff



Punit Oza,
President at Institute of Chartered
Shipbrokers



Vassilis Kikilias,
Minister of Maritime Affairs &
Insular Policy



Rodger Baker,
Executive Director
Stratfor Center for Applied Geopolitics/RANE



Conference Speakers

(in terms of appearance)

Opening Remarks

- **Konstantina Botsiou**, Director, CfIR, Professor, Department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus
- **Loukas Katsonis**, Foreign Affairs Institute, Chairman
- **Costis J. Frangoulis**, President of the International Propeller Club of the United States, Port of Piraeus, 1st Vice President of the International Propeller Club, President & CEO of Franman
- **Aggelos Pantouvakis**, Professor, Dean of School of Maritime and Industrial Studies, University of Piraeus

Welcome Addresses

- **Dimitrios Avramopoulos**, f. European Commissioner, f. Minister of Foreign Affairs
- **Vice Admiral Dimitrios-Eleftherios Kataras**, Chief, Hellenic Navy General Staff
- **Ambassador Maria Theofili**, Head of Task Force for the United Nations Security Council
- **Leonidas Dimitriades-Eugenides**, President, Eugenides Foundation Managing Committee, IMO Good Will Ambassador

Session 1: Risks to maritime transport and global supply chains

- **Athanasios Platias**, Professor of Strategy, Department of International and European Studies, University of Piraeus, President, CfIR
- **Efthimios Mitropoulos**, IMO Secretary-General Emeritus
- **Dominick Donald**, Director Autolycus Advisory, United Kingdom
- **Punit Oza**, President at Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers
- **Theodore Pelagidis**, Professor, Department of Maritime Studies, University of Piraeus, Deputy Governor of Bank of Greece

Session 2: Risks to maritime Infrastructure

- **Athanasios Pallis**, Professor, Department of Maritime Studies, University of Piraeus
- **Konstantinos Michanetzis**, Naval Engineer MSc, CEO Seeders
- **Nikos Georgopoulos**, Chief Business Development Officer, Diaplous Group
- **Stavros Hatzigrigoris**, Director of Technical, Zodiac Maritime Limited

Session 3: Risks to Greek maritime industry

- **Dr. George Pateras**, Deputy Chairman, Contships Management Inc.
- **Admiral Giannis Pavlopoulos**, President, Sea Guardian
- **Stamatis Tsantanis**, CEO, Seanergy Maritime Holdings Corp & United Maritime Corp
- **Danae Bezantakou**, 1st Vice President of the International Propeller Club of the United States, Port of Piraeus
- **Basil Sakellis**, CEO, Alassia NewShips Management Inc.
- **George Konstantakos**, Global Head of Commercial, Avin International Ltd
- **Nigel Lowry**, Athens Correspondent, Lloyd's List Intelligence

Keynote Speaker

- **Vassilis Kikilias**, Minister of Maritime Affairs & Insular Policy

Session 5: Geopolitical and technological trends influencing maritime security*

- **Rodger Baker**, Executive Director Stratfor Center for Applied Geopolitics/RANE
- **Chris Parry**, Rear Admiral CBE PhD, Visiting Fellow, University of Reading and MD of Middlemarch Enterprises
- **Guillaume Furgolle**, Commander, French Navy, Defense Research Unit, Military Fellow, French Institute of International Relations (IFRI)
- **Efstathios Kyriakidis**, Rear Admiral (ret) f. NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre (NMIOTC) Commander
- **Michael Hochberg**, Mackinder Forum
- **Leonard Hochberg**, Mackinder Forum

*Panel organized in cooperation with Mackinder Forum