

**CYPRUS MINISTER OF ENERGY, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY MICHAEL DAMIANOS
ADDRESSES PRODUCTIVE PSEKA CYPRUS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, DC**

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The *41st annual PSEKA Cyprus Conference* hosted by *PSEKA*, with the leadership of its president **Philip Christopher**, took place in Washington, DC on June 9-11. It was cosponsored by *AHEPA, AHI, HABA*, the *Cyprus-US Chamber of Commerce, FCAO, the Chian Federation*, and the *Pancyprian Association of America*, and coordinated by *Manatos & Manatos/Coordinated Effort of Hellenes*.



Hellenic Leaders gather for the 41st annual PSEKA Cyprus Conference

Cyprus Minister of Energy, Commerce and Industry **Michael Damianos** addressed the group on its opening day and attended the reception hosted in the home of the **H.E. Ambassador of Cyprus Evangelos Savva**, before travelling to Houston to participate with other cabinet members in the 3+1 meetings.



Minister Michael Damianos addresses the group



(left to right) Minister Michael Damianos, Philip Christopher, H.E. Ambassador Evangelos Savva, and Cyprus Government Spokesman Konstantinos Letymbiotis

Twenty-five US Members of Congress and six US Senators in positions key to the future of Cyprus and the Eastern Mediterranean addressed a robust group of over 80 Hellenes dedicated to Hellenic issues. The **Cyprus Government Spokesman Konstantinos Letymbiotis**, joined this year by his wife Irene, gave remarks as did of course **H.E. Ambassador Evangelos Savva** and **H.E. Ambassador of Greece Antonis Alexandridis**.



Cyprus Government Spokesman Konstantinos Letymbiotis

Some of the Senators and Members who addressed the group and gave strong remarks regarding Cyprus include: **Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Jim Risch (R-ID)**, who was presented an award by **Tom Katsilometes of Idaho**



Chairman Risch addresses the group



Chairman Risch with Hellenic Leaders

Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Gregory Meeks (D-NY), who was presented the *Sarbanes Freedom Award* by Dennis Mehiel of New York



Ranking Member Meeks and Dennis Mehiel



Ranking Member Meeks addresses the group

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY)



Senate Minority Leader Schumer addresses the group



The Grand Protopresbyter of the Great Church of Christ, Father Alex Karloutsos and Leader Schumer

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), who was introduced by Dennis Mehiel



House Minority Leader Jeffries addresses the group

Senate Minority Whip Richard Durbin (D-IL) was presented an award. He is greeted by two mayors from Cyprus who joined the conference this year, **Dr. Iosif Violaris of Kyrenia** and **Marios Zambakides of Kythrea**



Mayors from Cyprus (left to right) Dr. Iosif Violaris and Marios Zambakides present an award to Sen. Durbin



Sen. Durbin with Hellenic Leaders

Speaker Emerita of the House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), who was presented the first ever *Pelosi Democracy Award* by Dennis Mehiel and Andy Manatos



Speaker Emerita Pelosi with Hellenic Leaders along with HE the Ambassadors of Greece and Cyprus, the Cyprus Government Spokesman and the member of the European Parliament



Speaker Emerita Pelosi addresses the group

Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), member of the Senate Foreign Relations and Appropriations Committees



Sen. Van Hollen, seated next to Philip Christopher, is introduced by Andy Manatos

Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ), member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee



Sen. Booker addresses the group



Sen. Booker featured here with some of his New Jersey constituents and others

Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), member of the Senate Armed Services Committee



Sen. Blumenthal addresses the group

Ranking Member of the House Energy Committee Rep. Frank Pallone (D-NJ)



Rep. Pallone addresses the group

Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ), senior member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, who was introduced by Savas Tsivicos of New Jersey



Rep. Chris Smith addresses the group



(left to right) Kyriacos Papastylianou, Rep. Smith, Savas Tsivicos and Rep. Pallone

Our wonderful Greek-American delegation: **Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV), Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), Rep. Nicole Malliotakis (R-NY), Rep. Chris Pappas (D-NH), Rep. Maggie Goodlander (D-NH), Rep. Mike Haridopolos (R-FL), and Rep. Jimmy Patronis (R-FL)**



Rep. Dina Titus addresses the group



Rep. Bilirakis with Cyprus Government Spokesman Konstantinos Letymbiotis



Rep. Malliotakis addresses the group



Rep. Pappas with Hellenic Leaders, the Cyprus Government Spokesman, the Mayors visiting from Cyprus, and the member of the European Parliament



Rep. Goodlander and Philip Christopher



Rep. Haridopolos addresses the group



Rep. Patronis with Hellenic Leaders

Other members of the House of Representatives who addressed the group include **Vice Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee Gabe Amo (D-RI)**



Rep. Amo with Hellenic Leaders, including RI State Senator Lou Raptakis and European Parliament Member Geadis Geadis

Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and Chair of its CIA Subcommittee



Rep. Fitzpatrick with Mayors of Cyprus (left to right) Dr. Iosif Violaris and Mr. Marios Zambakides

Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY), member of the House Appropriations Committee



Rep. Meng and Philip Christopher

Rep. Brad Schneider (D-IL), member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee



Rep. Schneider with Hellenic Leaders, including Rep. Bilirakis

Rep. Donald Norcross (D-NJ), member of the House Armed Services Committee



Rep. Norcross and George Horiates

Ranking Member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Jim Himes (D-CT)



Rep. Himes with Rep. Bilirakis

Rep. Wesley Bell (D-MO), member of the House Armed Services Committee and newly appointed member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee



Rep. Bell addresses the group

Brad Sherman (D-CA), member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee



Rep. Sherman addresses the group

Rep. Jim Costa (D-CA), member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee

Rep. Mike Lawler (R-NY), member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee

Rep. Pat Ryan (D-NY), who was introduced by **Dennis Mehiel**



Rep. Ryan addresses the group

Rep. Ritchie Torres (D-NY)

Rep. Rob Menendez (D-NJ)



Rep. Menendez with Cyprus Government Spokesman Konstantinos Letymbiotis and his wife, Irene Letymbiotis



Rep. Menendez with Hellenic Leaders

The Hellenes also heard from **Julie Fishman Rayman**, Senior Vice President of the **American Jewish Committee**, **Aram Hamparian**, Executive Director of the **Armenian National Committee of America** and **John Kirakou**, former CIA agent and influencer who reaches tens of millions of listeners.



Julie Fishman Rayman addresses the group



Aram Hamparian addresses the group



John Kiriakou addresses the group

The evening banquet provided an opportunity for **Cyprus Government Spokesman Konstantinos Letymbiotis** to give a keynote address and for **Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy Michael Kratsios** to give remarks and be presented with a special award.



Andy Manatos presents Director Kratsios with his award



Director Kratsios with Hellenic Leaders



Director Kratsios with (left to right) Cyprus Government Spokesman Konstantinos Letymbiotis, H.E. Ambassador Evangelos Savva, Savas Tsivicos, and Homeland Security Deputy Under Secretary John Gountanis

Other special recognitions were given that evening to long time Hellenes:

Markos Marinakos, who was presented *the Livanos Award*

Andreas Comodromos, who was presented *the George Paraskevaides Award*

Tasos Zambas, who was presented *the Nikos Mouyiaris Award*



Honorees (left to right) Andreas Comodromos, Markos Marinakis, and Tasos Zambas

And a surprise presentation of *the Andy Athens Award* to **Father Alex Karloutsos, The Grand Protopresbyter of the Great Church of Christ**, who was joined by his wife, **Presbyteria Xanthi Karloutsos**.



Father Alex Karloutsos and his wife Xanthi Karloutsos with Hellenic Leaders



AHEPA Supreme President Chris Kaitson addresses the group



AHI President Nick Larigakis with Philip Christopher



Andrew and Mary Ann Constantinou



Stephen Kaiafas addresses the group

The two and a half day conference concluded with a stimulating panel discussion on Cyprus energy, commerce and trade led by **Demetrios Comodromos**, president of the Cyprus-US Chamber of Commerce with participation by **Nicolas Nicolaou**, founder of Kinisis Ventures and past president of the Cyprus-US Chamber of Commerce, Member of European Parliament **Geadis Geadis** and **Niovi Christophoulou**, Partner at AI.fund.





Photos thanks to Dimitrios Panagos