



HELLENIC LINK-MIDWEST
A SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL LINK WITH GREECE
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The Political Influence and Pressure of Industry on the EPA to Water Down Critical Protection Regulations

On Sunday, February 20, 2022, at 3:00 pm, Hellenic Link-Midwest presents *Dr. Evaggelos Valianatos*, former EPA employee, in an online lecture titled "*The Political Influence and Pressure of Industry on the EPA to Water Down Critical Protection Regulations.*".

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83200763383>

The Webinar ID is 832 0076 3383. Further information on how to join this webinar lecture is provided on page 2.

Dr. Valianatos worked at the US EPA for 25 years, 1979-2004. He worked as a program analyst at the Office of Pesticide Programs and he briefly served in the assistant administrator's office with a much broader jurisdiction.

He loved the idea of improving the health of the American people and the health of the natural world. EPA came into being in December 1970 to do exactly that. However, after the Agency banned DDT in 1972, the industry used its money and influence to undermine this country's environmental protection. Each administration used EPA slightly differently, but Republican administrations were more vociferous in deregulation, another name for weakening the country's environmental and public health laws and EPA's enforcement of these laws.

Observing these changes was distressing. Many of his colleagues felt the same way. They would pass on to him memoranda and briefings they authored, He created a small library with these documents highlighting political and scientific corruption and the often-dramatic decline of standards. He used these documents in writing his book, *Poison Spring*.

His presentation will summarize the evolution of both environmental protection and political corruption at the US EPA up to the present times of dramatic climate change.

Evaggelos Vallianatos studied zoology and ancient Greek and medieval Greek history at the University of Illinois. He earned a Ph.D. in European and Greek history from the University of Wisconsin, and did postdoctoral studies in the history of science at Harvard. He worked on Capitol Hill and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and has taught as lecturer and visiting professor at several universities.

He is the author of hundreds of articles and seven books, including *Poison Spring: The Secret History of Pollution and the EPA*, and *The Antikythera Mechanism: The Story Behind the Genius of the Greek Computer and its Demise*

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DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR JOINING HLM'S ONLINE LECTURE ON FEBRUARY 20, 2022 AT 3:00 PM ON EITHER ZOOM OR FACEBOOK.

1) If you already have the Zoom application ("Zoom Client") installed on your machine, then you go through the following steps:

A. Click on the webinar link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83200763383>

A small "Launch Application" screen will appear. The screen will show the following: "Choose Other Application" and "Open Link" and "Cancel"

B. Click "Open Link"

A new screen will appear asking for your **email and name**.

If the system asks you to also provide the **Webinar ID**, enter the following: **832 0076 3383**.

C. Once you enter the required information, click "Join Webinar"

Once you have joined the webinar, familiarize yourself with the set of buttons above or below the screen. One in particular, the "Q&A" button allows you to type questions for the speaker during or after the presentation.

2) If you don't have the Zoom application installed, clicking the above link will take you through an installation process first but since that is rather complicated, we recommend that you install Zoom first on your PC, laptop or tablet.

To **install Zoom** go to the following link:

<https://zoom.us/support/download>

Opening that link points to a download file (see down arrow pointing to the .exe file at the bottom of your screen) that you will have to accept (click on the "Keep" button) and then open (click on the file name) in order to download the Zoom client IF YOU ARE WORKING ON A PC OR LAPTOP.

IF YOU ARE WORKING ON A TABLET, the same page provides a link to **Apple Store** (button named "Download in App Store") for installation on iPad or to **Google Play** (for tablets other than iPad: in that case click on the "Download in Google Play" button)

Once you succeed installing Zoom (we recommend doing that before the event) then you can proceed with steps A, B, and C in the previous paragraph (1), right before the webinar, in order to attend.

3) If Zoom installation fails, either because you are running an old machine with an operating system that does not support Zoom (e.g. Windows Vista or any Windows OS earlier than Windows 7) or an earlier version of your browser, then you can instead attend the lecture that will also be **broadcast live on Facebook**. For that, please go to the Hellenic Link-Midwest Facebook page at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/helleniclinkmidwest>

at the scheduled time of the event and scroll down as needed until you see the live broadcast underway (it may be at the very top). In order to ask questions on Facebook enter them as a comment in the Comments section underneath or next to the live screen.