



**HELLENIC LINK–MIDWEST**  
A SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL LINK WITH GREECE  
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ  
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## **Greece: Recovering from Two Debt Crises and a Pandemic**

**On Sunday, November 15, Hellenic Link–Midwest presents Dr. Miranda Xafa in an online lecture titled "*Greece: Recovering from Two Debt Crises and a Pandemic*". Please note that this lecture will start at 2:00 pm U.S. Central Time. This lecture is supported by the Hellenic Foundation, Chicago. The support of the Foundation is greatly appreciated. Please click the link below to join the webinar:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84171967132>**

**The Webinar ID is 841 7196 7132. *Further Information on how to join this lecture is shown on page 2.***

The crisis that hit Greece in the aftermath of the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis ended a debt-financed consumer boom and triggered a deep recession. After two EU/IMF-funded adjustment programs and a massive debt restructuring in 2012, the Greek economy returned to growth and re-accessed capital markets in 2014. The disastrous negotiations with creditors conducted by the SYRIZA government in 2015 set back the adjustment effort and resulted in a third bailout agreement. With Greece and its creditors aligned in their desire to avoid a fourth bailout, Greece achieved a smooth exit from the program in August 2018, even though growth-enhancing reforms were not fully implemented. The New Democracy party returned to power in mid-2019 promising reforms to attract investment and spur growth, but its agenda was put on hold after the country was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. This lecture will assess (1) the state of the Greek economy in 2019; (2) the economic impact of the pandemic; (3) the policy measures adopted by the Greek government to soften its impact on companies and workers; (4) the EU response to the pandemic, including the €560bn “Recovery and Resilience Facility” (RRF); (5) the Pissaridis report on a roadmap for sustainable growth in Greece; (6) how Greece plans to use its €32bn share of the RRF [to be clarified in October]; and (7) the risks and uncertainties ahead.

*Dr. Miranda Xafa* started her career as an economist at the International Monetary Fund in Washington in 1980, and moved on to senior positions in government and in the financial sector. In 1991-1993 she served as chief economic advisor to Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis in Athens, and subsequently worked as a financial market strategist at Salomon Brothers/Citigroup in London. After serving as a member of the IMF’s Executive Board in 2004-2009, she is now a senior scholar at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI) and member of the academic board of the Greek Liberty Forum (KEFIM). She holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania and has taught economics at the Universities of Pennsylvania and Princeton.

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DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR JOINING HLM'S ONLINE LECTURE ON OCTOBER 18, 2020 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/84171967132>

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: 841 7196 7132

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

Once you have joined the webinar, familiarize yourself with the set of buttons above 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.