Press Release

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The Alpha Bank Numismatic Collection visits Cyprus for the first time

The exhibition "Messages on Metal. A Timeless Dialogue with Cyprus" is co-organized with the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia and features iconic coins reflecting the history of Cyprus

Alpha Bank is presenting for the first time in Cyprus part of its Numismatic Collection, with the temporary exhibition "Messages in Metal. A Timeless Dialogue with Cyprus", co-organized with the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia. The exhibition is hosted at the Museum from October 16, 2026, to January 10, 2027.

The exhibition brings together 136 coins from the Alpha Bank Numismatic Collection, the Collection of the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia and the Collection of the Leventis Art Gallery. Together, these three collections highlight Cyprus's long numismatic history and its place within the political, economic and cultural trajectories of the Eastern Mediterranean.

The silver tetradrachm of Demetrius Poliorcetes, minted in Salamis, Cyprus, holds pride of place in the exhibition, as it is directly linked to the island's history and symbolizes the way in which coins serve as carriers of political and historical messages. Also exhibited are the gold stater of Philip II, King of Macedonia, depicting his victory at the Olympic Games of 352 BC, the silver tetradrachm of Eucratides from Bactria, the present-day Afghanistan, as well as the silver gros of the last queen of the Medieval Kingdom of Cyprus, Catherine Cornaro.

The panel of the Press conference held in Nicosia, Cyprus, to present the exhibition, were the Director of the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia, Dr Jenny Lyberopoulou, the CEO of Alpha Bank Cyprus, Miltos Michaelas, the Mayor of Nicosia, Charalambos Prountzos, and the Curator of the Alpha Bank Numismatic Collection, Dr. Dimitra Tsangari.

The **Director of the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia, Dr. Jenny Lyberopoulou Savvidou**, said: *"Our collaboration with Alpha Bank gives us the opportunity to present for the first time a section of our Numismatic Collection in its own right, in dialogue with Alpha Bank's internationally renowned collection. The exhibition links two historical trajectories and offers to the public a different perspective on the history and cultural identity of Cyprus."*

The **CEO of Alpha Bank Cyprus, Miltos Michaelas**, remarked: *"It is a great honor for us to be presenting for the first time in Cyprus a significant section of the Alpha Bank Numismatic Collection. Through our collaboration with the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia, we offer to the public access to artefacts of significant historical and aesthetic value, and we are also contributing to the preservation of our collective memory and the promotion of our cultural heritage."*

Responsible for the overall coordination of the exhibition are Dr. Jenny Lyberopoulou Savvidou, Director of the Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia, and Dr Dimitra Tsangari, Curator of the Alpha Bank Numismatic Collection. The exhibition is accompanied by the bilingual publication "Messages in Metal. A Timeless Dialogue with Cyprus", which serves as its scholarly and interpretative supplement. Through texts and a wealth of photographic material, the publication presents the history of the exhibits, the evolution of Cypriot coinage and the role of the two Collections in showcasing cultural heritage.

A program of lectures and guided tours is also scheduled as part of the exhibition, together with educational program for families with children and for primary and secondary education schoolchildren.

A Numismatic Collection with a history spanning more than 50 years

The Alpha Bank Numismatic Collection has been systematically expanded since 1972 and today comprises more than 11,000 ancient coins from regions ranging from Britain to India and from Ukraine to Ethiopia, as well as 2,500 coins and banknotes of the modern Greek State. The issues of the Aegina mint, the first mint to operate in the Greek world during the first half of the 6th century BC, occupy a special place in the Collection. One of the mint's most distinctive early coins served as the inspiration for the logo adopted by Alpha Bank in 1972, the year that also marked the inception of the Bank's Numismatic Collection.