Alpha bank

Press Release

Athens, November 19 2026

D. Tsitsiragos: Greece has the opportunity to become a connectivity hub between Europe, Africa and Asia

The Chair of the Board of Directors of Alpha Bank spoke of the prerequisites that will enable the country to become a regional hub for energy, trade, data, and investments.

The opportunity for Greece to enhance its role as a connectivity hub between Europe, Asia and Africa, at a time when energy flows, supply chains, and international investment corridors are being redefined, was at the focus of the issues highlighted by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Alpha Bank, Mr. Dimitris Tsitsiragos, who participated in the 5th Naftemporiki Economic Conference.

He stressed that the country is not required to choose its role as an energy hub, a logistics hub or a gateway for investments. On the contrary, it has the characteristics to serve as a hub for energy, goods, data, capital, and people, capitalizing on its location at the crossroads of three continents, its membership of the European Union and the Euro area, and its human resources.

Referring to global developments, he noted that geopolitical uncertainty and the restructuring of supply chains are creating new challenges, but also significant opportunities for countries that offer stability and predictability. According to Mr. Tsitsiragos, *"new opportunities are emerging, as energy flows are being reallocated, supply chains are being redesigned and alliances are shifting".* As he pointed out, Greece currently finds itself in an advantageous position, as the last few years have witnessed significant successful investments in critical transport, energy and connectivity infrastructure projects, all of which enhance the country's appeal. *"All these investments help us and better prepare us to attract investments and strengthen the presence of foreign companies in Greece."*

He also emphasized that the country should also explore new sectors with growth potential, concentrating on innovative technologies and on Greece's potential for becoming a digital gateway to Southeastern Europe. *"We must not focus on energy or trade only. We must also look at technology and at other sectors in which Greece has potential for expansion."*

Reliability, speed and the scale of investments

The Chair of the Board of Directors of Alpha Bank singled out three factors—namely credibility, speed and scale—which, as he said, will determine the country's ability to capitalize on the opportunities that are currently emerging. As he noted, *"maintaining a stable and fair institutional and regulatory environment, ensuring the swift administration of justice, and improving the speed regarding the issuing of permits and the planning process, are crucial prerequisites for the country's sustained growth. As far as the issue of scale is concerned, we can no longer view investments as individual projects; we have to view them as regional ones, as parts of broader transport, energy and connectivity networks that strengthen Greece's role in its wider geographical region."*

The challenge is not the projects' funding, but their maturity

Speaking about funding options, Mr. Tsitsiragos noted that the Greek banking system currently has the capacity and the capital to support the new generation of investments, yet he also pointed out that large-scale projects require a combination of funding sources. "*The Greek banking system is fully capable of supporting business and investment plans. At the same time, however, as the projects have grown in scale, a combination of funding sources is required. What is needed is a mix of public funds, private*

capital and bank financing is needed."

However, he underlined that the greatest challenge is not the sourcing of funds, but the effort to ensure that the projects are mature enough to justify investing in them. Adequate preparation, studies, permits, coordination between the entities involved and the availability of viable business plans are often the critical factors unlocking the implementation potential of major investments, he noted.

He went on to add that the role of banks is not limited to the provision of financing but extends to the development of viable and fundable investment plans, by working together with public bodies, investors, technical advisers and European organizations. *"Our role as banks is to bring the various project stakeholders together around the same table and to work out a solution that is fair and viable,"* he said.

In concluding, Mr. Tsitsiragos said once again that the country has a major opportunity ahead of it, but he also stressed the following: *"We need credibility. We need a stable regulatory framework and more swift administration of justice. But we also need speed in decision-making and in approvals. And we also need large-scale investments. In my view, these three principles will make the difference and will help not only Greece, but all other EU countries too, to position themselves more effectively in the current geopolitical situation."*

As part of its strategy to support the sustainable growth of the Greek economy, Alpha Bank is actively involved in the financing of investments that enhance the country's competitiveness, international expansion, and connectivity. By supporting infrastructure, energy and technology projects, alongside business ventures that promote innovation and the creation of quality jobs, the Bank helps establish the prerequisites for a more resilient, productive, and globally connected Greek economy.