



Press Release

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Kostas Kostis, Head of the Alpha Bank Historical Archives, at the 6th Delphi Economic Forum 2021: *“A culture of collective effort and an educational system that will transform society are the ‘keys’ for our country’s successful future course”*

Alpha Bank had a powerful presence at the first day of the 6th Delphi Economic Forum, with the participation of Mr. Kostas Kostis, Advisor to the Bank’s Management and Head of its Historical Archives as well as Professor of Economic and Social History at the University of Athens, Department of Economics, in the academic discussions for the 200 years from the Greek Revolution.

Democracy and Greece’s presence in the core of the EU are the two greatest achievements of the Greek state in the 200 years of its existence

During the first section of the panel titled **“1821-2021: An Account of two centuries of existence”**, Kostas Kostis stressed that **the way we perceive the past defines our ability to understand the past as well as our efforts to predict the future.**

“In order to answer the question whether the course of the Greek state until today has been successful or not, we must, in our evaluation, take into account the goals that the state set for itself”, said Mr. Kostis, adding that **“we should not ignore the fact that Greece has been enjoying democracy, which was able to meet all the challenges of the past years, and that it is a core member of the European Union, achievements that it is impossible not to acknowledge”.**

The country’s successful future course demands constant fortification and ceaseless efforts

In his address during the second part of the discussion titled **“The Country’s Future”**, the Professor and Head of Alpha Bank’s Historical Archives highlighted that **the successes of the past do not necessarily guarantee the successes of the future**, adding that **“in order for Greece to respond to the difficulties of the current international environment, it must make harsh reforms in every aspect of its economic, social and political life”.**

Mr. Kostis talked about the challenges that Greece will face over the next few years and the views concerning the necessity to change the operational model of the Greek state. *“It is very difficult for a country or a social group to escape the reality in which it was nurtured over the past decades, and easily apply the dynamic of change and reforms. In order to achieve this, it is necessary to realize the extent of the problems, so as to face them in a context of conscious and collective efforts. It is now necessary more than ever, to adopt a culture of collective effort as well as an educational system that will offer that culture to the Greek people,”* said Mr. Kostis.

Alpha Bank’s presence at the 6th Delphi Economic Forum will continue throughout the conference, with the participation of the CEO Vassilios Psaltis and other Top Management Executives who will speak about the next day of the Greek Economy in the post-pandemic era, the sustainable development and digital transition.