

## Press Release

### Academic Meeting in Thessaloniki by the Alpha Bank Historical Archives and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

*The refugees of 1922: A critical element of 20<sup>th</sup> century Modern Greek History*

On the occasion of the **100th anniversary of the Asia Minor Catastrophe**, the Alpha Bank Historical Archives and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) jointly organize an Academic Meeting, titled “***The refugees of 1922: A crucial element of 20th century Modern Greek History***”.

The Meeting will be hosted at the Teloglion Arts Foundation of AUTH in Thessaloniki, from **Thursday, December 8 to Saturday, December 10, 2022**. The opening ceremony will take place on Thursday, December 8, 2022, at 17:30. Present at the opening ceremony will be the **Chairman of the Board of Directors of Alpha Bank, Vasileios Rapanos** and the **Rector of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Professor Nikolaos Papaioannou**, who will deliver short addresses to the participants.

The Academic Meeting will focus its activities on **the investigation of the effects of the settlement of refugee populations** in Greece on every area of the country’s political, social, and cultural life, as well as on the international dimension of the exchange of populations that followed World War I. The Meeting also aims to undertake a **realistic and scientific assessment of the consequences of the Asia Minor Catastrophe on all aspects of Greek public life**, free from all sentimentality and political bias, thus complementing the significant corpus of related research available in Greek historiography.

The Meeting’s participants include **distinguished historians and researchers in humanitarian and social sciences**. The keynote speaker will be the distinguished British historian and diplomat **Sir Michael Llewellyn-Smith**, who served as UK Ambassador to Greece from 1996 to 1999.

The Academic Meeting will be broadcast live on [Alpha Bank’s YouTube channel](#).