

Sophia Zacharaki is the Minister of Education, Religious Affairs & Sports since March 2025. Previously, she served as Minister of Social Cohesion and Family Affairs, Deputy Minister of Tourism and Deputy Minister of Education and Religious Affairs. She has also worked as a teacher in both private and public schools, as well as in the Ministry of Education, in the European Union department and in the Secretariat for Lifelong Learning and Youth.



Sophia Zacharaki

Minister of Education,
Religious Affairs & Sports



**Maria Luís
Albuquerque**

Commissioner- Financial Services and
the Savings and Investments Union

Maria Luís Albuquerque is currently the European Commissioner for Financial Services and the Savings and Investments Union. She is a highly experienced Portuguese economist and politician, best known for her role as Minister of Finance in Portugal from 2013 to 2015. During her tenure, she played a critical role in managing the country's financial crisis. Prior to her position as finance minister, Albuquerque held various key positions in the public sector, including Head of Issuing and Markets at the Portuguese Treasury and Debt Management Agency. After leaving politics, she continued her career in the private sector, contributing her expertise in finance and economic policy to international organizations and advisory roles. Her professional experience reflects a deep understanding of fiscal management, economic reform, and European financial systems.

Theoni Alampasi holds the position of the Secretary-General for Financial Sector & Private Debt Management at the Hellenic Ministry of Economy and Finance since July 2023 and former Special Secretary for Private Debt Management, since January 2023. She is a lawyer, with a master's degree in Commercial Law from National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. In October 2022, she joined the "INSOL/World Bank Group Legislative & Regulatory Colloquium" Committee, a global standards setter for the design and implementation of insolvency frameworks. Ms Alampasi is a member of the BoD of the Deposit & Investment Guarantee Fund and has actively participated in the drafting of legislation (L.4738/2020, Bridge Programs, L.4469/2017, L.3869/2010, etc.), as well as in law-making committees. She has a long-standing career in Public Administration, holding positions of responsibility and positions as an advisor to government officials, especially in insolvency and private debt management policies, while she has prior experience in the private sector. She speaks English, French, and Italian.



Theoni Alampasi

Secretary General for Financial Sector and Private Debt Management, Ministry of Economy and Finance Greece



Ioannis Tsakiris

**Vice President,
European Investment Bank (EIB)**

Yannis Tsakiris is a Vice President in the European Investment Bank. From 2019 to 2023 he was Deputy Minister for Development and Investments in Greece, responsible primarily for the public investment programme, the European funds and the national development bank. He was also Alternate Governor of the EBRD and the World Bank and in the Board of Directors of the Black Sea Trade and development Bank. Until 2019, he held several senior positions in the European Investment Fund, involved in European venture capital markets that were under development phase, in particular in the South-eastern Europe and EU Neighbouring Countries, where he had also set-up and developed several investment and financing initiatives and platforms.

He holds a BSc and an MSc in Mining Engineering from the National Technical University of Athens and an MBA degree from the Management School of the Imperial College in London.

Vassiliki Lazarakou is Chair of the Hellenic Capital Market Commission since September 2019. She is also a Member of the Board of Supervisors of the European Securities and Markets Authority. She is a member of the Board of the International Organisation of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) and was elected as the Chair of the Diversity Network of IOSCO. She has been also appointed as a Member of Women Climate Leaders Network of the European Investment Bank Group and a member of the Bureau of the Corporate Governance Committee of the OECD.



Vassiliki Lazarakou

Chair of the Hellenic
Capital Market Commission



Vasilis Panagiotidis

Senior Director,
Hellenic Bank Association

Vasilis Panagiotidis joined the Hellenic Bank Association in October 2000. He is Senior Director and Head of the payment systems, regulatory compliance affairs, financial crime combating and physical security departments. He is also Head of the Hellenic Banking Institute, the training body of the Hellenic Bank Association. He represents the HBAs member-banks in committees and working groups of the European Banking Federation and the European Payments Council.

A graduate of the Department of Mathematics, University of Athens, Katerina Spyrou also holds an MBA International from the Athens University of Economics & Business. She started her career as a math tutor and in November 1990 joined the Bank of Greece, initially working with the HR and IT Directorates, to become afterwards Director of the Communications Unit. As of May 2024, she is Director of the Centre for Culture, Research and Documentation of the Bank.



Katerina Spyrou

Director, Centre for Culture, Research & Documentation, Bank of Greece



Eva Polyzogopoulou

Managing Director of ActionAid Hellas

Eva is an experienced senior professional in the non-profit organizations' and charitable foundations' sector, in Greece and abroad, currently serving as the Managing Director of ActionAid Hellas. Previously, she was the Co-Deputy Chief Programs Officer at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and having been responsible for the design and implementation of some of the SNF's major strategic initiatives, as well as the evaluation of funding applications, she has collaborated with hundreds of non-profits, worldwide, in a variety of fields. Her career path also includes a series of public and private organizations such as the General State Archives in Athens, Greece and the Royal Academy of Arts in London, UK. Eva specializes in strategic planning, grant-making and organizational development. She is a member of the BMW Foundation's Responsible Leaders Network, an Advisory Council Member of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center, an Advisory Board Member of New Agriculture New Generation and a Board Member at WHEN. She has studied Business Administration at the American College of Greece, Library Management and Information Systems at the University of West Attica and she holds a Master's Degree in Cultural & Creative Industries from King's College London.

Roeland Monasch is the CEO of Aflatoun. Aflatoun International is a Social Franchise delivering Social and Financial Education through a network of 300+ partner organizations.

Until June 2015 Roeland was the UNICEF Representative in Sierra Leone. He also worked as UNICEF Representative in Georgia (2009-2012) focusing on the de-institutionalization of all children living in large orphanages established during the Soviet Union era. He served as UNICEF Representative in Zimbabwe during the Humanitarian Crisis (2008-2009)

Previously, Roeland worked in the Strategic Information Unit in UNICEF/HQ on Monitoring the Situation of Children around the World (1998-2004). From 1993-1998 he worked for the World Health Organization (Strengthening of Health Systems Department & Department of Emerging and other Communicable Diseases – Switzerland & Lesotho). Before joining the UN he worked in Pakistan, Zambia and Bhutan.

Roeland is a national of the Netherlands, holds a Masters' degree in Sociology (University of Groningen) and has an additional degree in Development Economics.



Roeland Monasch

CEO, Aflatoun International



Makis Drakopoulos

Director of Programmes & Institutional
Fundraising, ActionAid Hellas

Makis Drakopoulos is the Director of Programs and Institutional Fundraising at ActionAid Hellas, where he leads the organization's programmatic work in Greece, including two Community Centers in Athens and Thessaloniki, as well as nationwide educational initiatives. Through his role, he has led the design and implementation of financial education initiatives in Greece and Cyprus since 2019 and he represents ActionAid Hellas in the OECD International Network on Financial Education as well as in the Thematic Committee on Primary and Secondary Education of the National Financial Literacy Strategy in Greece. Over the past 12 years, he has been involved in the design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of a wide range of social programs in the fields of social policy, diversity and inclusion, and poverty and social exclusion. He has contributed to the development and review of social strategies in Greece, providing technical expertise to government officials through his work as a social development consultant. His expertise includes in-depth knowledge of EU funding instruments and mechanisms related to social programming. In the past, he worked as a researcher on social and economic affairs at Gold Mercury International, a London-based think tank. He studied Sociology at Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences and at Université Paris 5 (Sorbonne), and holds an MSc in Culture and Society from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Dr. Leonore Riitsalu is passionate about behavioural insights and financial well-being. She works as a behavioural policy researcher at the University of Tartu and a consultant for multiple policymakers, financial sector institutions, and financial education providers in Europe and elsewhere. Her research has been published in high-ranking academic journals, and she recently concluded a unique financial well-being research project "Human-centred approach for increasing financial well-being of individuals and societies", conducted in partnership between ERSTE Foundation and the University of Tartu.



Dr. Leonore Riitsalu

Project Lead and Researcher,
University of Tartu



Edina Csanyi

Senior Social Programme Officer,
European Investment Bank (EIB) Institute

Dr Edina Csanyi designs and implements the social resilience initiatives at the European Investment Bank Institute, focusing on building resilient and inclusive communities through financial literacy, disaster preparedness, responsible citizenship, and humanitarian relief. She is particularly committed to advancing financial literacy and has collaborated on numerous projects across the EU to ensure that financial education is prioritised and actively developed. Guided by the belief that the EIB's greatest investment is in people, she works to make finance a tool for empowerment, collaboration, and positive social impact.

Letizia Lupini is a Communication Officer in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union (DG FISMA), where she is responsible for the communication aspects of the Savings and Investments Union. She is also part of the project team behind the Commission's financial literacy strategy presented on 30 September 2025. Before joining DG FISMA, Letizia served as a Press Officer in the Commission's Spokesperson's Service and previously worked at the European Banking Authority in London, as well as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in Beijing. She also has private-sector experience in both Spain and Italy and holds an academic background in European studies.



Letizia Lupini

Communication Officer,
Directorate-General for Financial Stability,
Financial Services and Capital Markets
Union (DG FISMA), European Commission;



Édouard Gomet

Policy Officer, Banque de France

Édouard Gomet is Policy Officer and International Relations Officer in the Financial Education Directorate in Banque de France since October 2024. Between May 2021 and September 2024, he was Policy Officer in the Financial Sector and Access to Finance unit in DG REFORM within the European Commission. He mainly dealt with technical assistance projects in banking supervision, Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML-CFT), financial literacy and sustainable finance to the benefit of various EU Member States. He was previously on-site banking supervisor in the ACPR. He graduated from HEC Paris and the University of Paris-Dauphine.

A sociologist and a writer, Chair of the Board of ActionAid Hellas since 2023 and Board member since 2017. Founder and Managing Director of QED social and market research for the last 27 years. 40 years of experience in social and market research and extensive collaborations with Greek and international civic society organizations, the public and the private sector.



Christina Karambela

Managing Director QED,
Chair of ActionAid Hellas Board



Philip List

Managing Director Financial Life Park
FLiP & Erste Social Finance Holding

In April 2023 Philip List has been appointed as managing director of Erste Social Finance Holding (FLiP has been incorporated as a non profit limited company). In October 2015 he has been appointed director of the Erste Financial Life Park (FLiP). FLiP main objective is to promote the responsible handling of money, as well as knowledge about financial & economical coherencies. Fighting youth indebtness is one of the key motives.

FLiP is one of the biggest financial education initiatives in the CEE region. Philip has gained a lot of experience in the past few years in diverse lead management positions within Erste Group. From 2009 to October 2015 he was CMO of Erste Group Bank AG. Philip has a degree in law from Karl-Franzens University in Graz Austria.

Philippa Michali is the Chairwoman of the Board of Directors and CEO of NN Hellas, with more than 25 years of experience both in private insurance and the broader financial sector. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Insurance Companies of Greece and Chairwoman of its Life & Pensions Committee, while in June 2024, she was elected member of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises.



Philippa Michali

Chairwoman of the Board of
Directors and CEO of NN Hellas



Georgios Michalopoulos

Chief Wealth Management Officer,
Alpha Bank

He studied Mathematics at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and holds an MBA in Finance from City, University of London (Bayes Business School). He started his career at Alpha Bank in 1994 and worked in the Treasury functions in Athens and London. He has served as Group Treasurer and Manager of the Planning and Trading and the Financial Markets Divisions. He has been a Member of the Board of Directors of various Group Companies in the banking, finance and insurance sectors in Greece and abroad for a number of years. On 4.5.2016 he was appointed Executive General Manager of Treasury Management and on 20.5.2022 he was appointed Chief Wealth Management Officer.

Kirsten Theuns is the Director of Strategic Partnerships & Development at Aflatoun International, a global network delivering Social and Financial Education to millions of children and young people through 400+ partner organisations in over 100 countries. She leads the organisation's worldwide partnership strategy, building cross-sector collaborations that equip young people with the skills to participate in the economy, make informed financial decisions, and contribute to more inclusive growth. Kirsten has over 20 years' experience in international development, working in Asia, Africa, and Europe, partnering with governments, financial institutions, and the private sector to deliver measurable, sustainable impact.



Kirsten Theuns

Director of Strategic Partnerships & Development, Aflatoun International



Christian Meijer

Head of MoneyWise,
Ministry of Finance, Netherlands;

Christian Meijer is head of the Money Wise Platform at the Ministry of Finance in the Netherlands since the beginning of 2022. In that capacity he leads a team of 15 professionals that work on financial health. The Money Wise Platform is a public-private collaboration: half of the budget stems from the representative bodies of banks, insurers and pension funds. Prior to serving in his current position, Christian served as deputy Head of the Payments and Integrity Unit of the Financial Markets Policy Directorate. Christian also served as a teacher at the University of Amsterdam and he holds a Master's degree in International Economics and Finance from Tilburg University.

Kalypso Apergi, PhD(c), MA, serves as a School Principal, with 32 years' experience in education, with academic backgrounds in Educational Administration, Educational Leadership, and Performing Arts. She is a member of the STEAME Teacher Facilitators Academy and has been a National Expert for the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor since 2016. For ten years, she coordinated national in-service training programmes on Entrepreneurship Education and School Leadership at the Cyprus Pedagogical Institute. She has also served as Educational Advisor for Music in Secondary Education. She has contributed to national committees on student assessment, social entrepreneurship, and the entrepreneurial ecosystem. She has additionally been involved in national curriculum redesign processes.



Kalypso Apergi

School Principal, Ministry of Education,
Sport and Youth, Cyprus



Sophia Ziakou

Chair of the Financial Education Project
Group (FEPG), the European
Banking Federation (Brussels),
Head of the Hellenic Banking Institute
and Financial Literacy,
Hellenic Bank Association (Greece)

Sophia Ziakou is Head of the Hellenic Banking Institute & Financial Literacy of the Hellenic Bank Association (HBA) in Athens, Greece, a position she has held since 2021. She has a long history with the HBA, having joined in 2006 and previously serving in roles within the General Secretariat and as a Special Advisor. In her capacity at the HBA, she holds several prominent international and domestic positions: Chairwoman of the Financial Education Project Group of the European Banking Federation (EBF), Vice President of the European Banking and Financial Services Training Association (EBTN) and Chairwoman of the Accreditation Committee of EBT, Member of the Financial Literacy Stakeholders Committees for the Implementation of the Hellenic Financial Literacy Strategy, Secretary General at IEPAS (Greek Institute of Vocational Guidance and Career). Dr. Ziakou holds a Ph.D. in European Integration Policies from the Panteion University of Social and Political Studies of Athens, complemented by an MA in European Policy and Administration from the same institution. She actively participates in various European research programs, focusing her research on financial literacy, banking and finance, economic governance, European law, and lifelong learning.

Erika Szabóová is a Project Manager at Škola dokorán - Wide Open School n.o., Slovakia, where she drives initiatives in socio-financial education. With over a decade of experience in the field, she is a dedicated trainer, focusing on educating teachers and specialists. Erika possesses extensive hands-on expertise from direct implementation, specializing in delivering educational programs in marginalized Roma communities. Her work involves teaching not only children but also entire families, aiming for holistic socio-economic empowerment.



Erika Szabóová

Project Manager, Škola dokorán - Wide Open School n.o



Tímea Sófalvi

Csoport-téka Association

Founder of Csoport-téka Association in 2001, The Association has accredited teachers' and social workers' training adapted from the Aflatoun materials and has run financial awareness and social skill development trainings for them for years now. We have launched the adaptation to an easy language version too, for disabled youngsters. Timi is one of the experienced trainers who is responsible for the adaptation process too, especially for youngsters with special needs.

Marina is a Project Manager at ActionAid Hellas, with fourteen years of experience leading complex, multi-stakeholder projects across the corporate and development sectors. She began her career at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in London, working on large-scale research initiatives and macroeconomic analysis. Over the following decade, she worked across the finance, energy, and fintech sectors, most recently at QUALCO, where she specialized in strategy design and implementation, investor relations, and data-driven reporting frameworks. She holds an MSc in International Political Economy from the London School of Economics and a BA in Economics and Politics from the University of Essex.



Marina Kaloumenou

Project Manager
ActionAid Hellas