

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation organizes an International Conference on the role of philanthropic institutions during the economic crisis

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation, as a result of the European socio-economic crisis and emerging new challenges and strategies, is organizing, in collaboration with the European Foundation Centre (EFC), an international conference that will focus on the role of European and international philanthropic foundations, both within the current socio-economic environment, as well as within a broader context.

The Conference will take place in Athens, from July 5-6, 2012, and will bring together European and American foundations, as well as experts from both Greece and abroad, to discuss the ever-changing challenges in Europe and globally, as well as potential ways to address them.

Through a series of lectures and interactive workshops, the participants will examine the characteristics and the social impact of the current European and global crisis. In addition, they will debate the meaning of philanthropy, and will analyze the collaborative relationships between foundations and the state and between public organizations and the private sector, aiming to respond in an effective way to the crisis, and attempting to redefine the role and mission of philanthropic foundations. The discussion will concentrate on the Greek socio-economic crisis and the role of Greek non profits in addressing current social problems.

Andreas Dracopoulos, **Co-President of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation**, stated: *“Following on from the Foundation’s recent decision to make a grant of €100 (\$130) million to support efforts to respond to the crisis in Greece, it became clear to us that it is important to organize an international conference, which will examine the crisis in Europe and the rest of the world, and will redefine the role and the presence of philanthropic foundations during such times and circumstances. We hope that this Conference will become an international platform for European and international foundations, which will allow them to exchange views, experiences and know-how and to seek a new strategic framework for philanthropic foundations, with the ultimate goal of creating the right conditions for a better tomorrow”.*