

*The President*

To  
Presidents / Secretary Generals  
of the National Associations of Chambers,  
members of EUROCHAMBRES

Athens the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2012  
Ref. Nr: 2119

Dear Mr. President/Secretary General,

I address myself to you personally and to the other colleagues in Eurochambres in order to request your contribution to a very critical issue affecting economic progress and businesses in my own country.

As you are aware, tourism is one of our most dynamic and productive sectors, contributing decisively to the growth of our GDP, the reduction of unemployment, and the expansion of tax revenues.

Recently, due to a series of irresponsible and misleading reports published in the international press, a fearful climate has been generated in many European countries leading to the cancellation of scheduled visits, and consequently to a substantial drop in tourist traffic in our country.

With this letter I would like to responsibly assure you, and through you the other members of Eurochambres, about the following:

- Despite the current economic difficulties and the complications in the formation of a powerful government –something which has also been observed in other countries–, Greece is an absolutely safe destination for all tourists. All tourists are always welcomed in a nation which, regardless of its problems, has never ceased to consider hospitality as one of the defining characteristics of its culture.
- Notwithstanding the disappointment that we have occasionally felt due to certain unacceptable comments made by some European politicians who ignore the reality of our country, and in spite of our concern over the insistence of the Union on certain ineffective policies, we Greeks are deeply grateful for the assistance that we are receiving from the other peoples of Europe and for their crucial contribution to our own progress and development.

We would like to ask, Mr. President/Secretary General, all Europeans to ignore any false rumours, undocumented reports, and irresponsible economic analyses, and to visit our country this year. They can rest assured that their safety, peace, and tranquility are absolutely guaranteed, and that they shall be able to fully enjoy their vacations in our historical land.

In any case, the Greek Chambers are here to assist all European tourists in order to make their stay in our country this year, as always, an unforgettable experience.



Sincerely yours,

Constantine Michalos