

Piraeus, May 27, 2024

Press Release

THE IF R ONLINE CONFERENCE WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, WITH GREAT SUCCESS, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE EBRD, ON THE TOPIC: ESG FOR BANKS, FIRMS AND INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS: ADVANCES AND CHALLENGES

The <u>Institute of Finance and Financial Regulation</u> (IF^FR) in collaboration with the <u>European Bank for Reconstruction and Development</u> (EBRD), successfully organized for the fourth consecutive year the international online conference "**ESG for Banks, Firms and Institutional Investors: Advances and Challenges 2024."** The conference was attended by representatives of institutional investors, banks, companies, supervisory authorities, and academics from more than 45 countries, representing over 450 organizations and companies.

Distinguished professionals and academics informed the participants about the importance of ESG and discussed the challenges arising from the implementation of ESG practices, proposing solutions.

In his opening remarks, **Professor George Skiadopoulos**, Director of IFFR and co-organizer (University of Piraeus and Queen Mary University of London), highlighted the significance and high quality of the conference, which has become one of the biggest in the world in the field of ESG. Subsequently, **Ms. Andreea Moraru** (Regional Director for Greece and Cyprus at EBRD) referred to the sustainable strategy in Greece and the role of EBRD.

Among the topics discussed at the conference were:

- ESG Practices for Corporates
- Challenges for Sustainable Investors
- Advances on ESG
- Implementation of EU Taxonomy in Loan Origination Activities
- Developments in the Legislative Framework

The conference concluded with a very interesting discussion between **Professor George Skiadopoulos** and the distinguished Financial Times journalist **Ms. Silvia Pavoni** regarding how investors, companies, and governments are addressing the risks of climate change.

The conference was generously sponsored by: <u>EY</u> (Platinum Sponsor), <u>Alpha Asset Management M.F.M.C</u>, <u>Grant Thornton</u>, <u>Prodea Investments</u>, <u>Piraeus Bank</u> (Gold Sponsors). Media Partners: <u>Athens-Macedonian News Agency</u>, <u>a8inea.com</u>, <u>Businessdaily.gr</u>, <u>Capital.gr</u>, <u>Euro2day.gr</u>, <u>Forbesgreece.gr</u> and <u>Nextdeal.gr</u>. Supporters: <u>University of Piraeus Research Centre</u>, <u>CFA Society Greece</u>. More information about the conference at https://iffr.gr/esg/may-2024/

Videos of the speeches will be available soon at www.iffr.gr