

Έτος ίδρυσης: 1981
Αρ. Μητρώου: 10686

Εθνικός εκπρόσωπος Εθνικός εκπρόσωπος
από το 2007 από το 2007

ΘΕΜΑ: Χαιρετισμός προέδρου ΠΕΤΕΤ στο 7th International Congress on Food Science Technology . Αθήνα 8/11/2025

Ladies and gentlemen, good morning

We are delighted and honored to host...the 7th International Congress on Food Science & Technology, over the next 2 days, in Athens.

I wish to extend a warm welcome to fellow delegates from the various countries.

I trust that you are fully dedicated to the sessions that will follow. On the other hand, I hope you find some time to explore fascinating Athens with its historical settings, friendly people and renowned cuisine.

We are pleased that as much as **300** delegates are in attendance - coming from 18 different Countries.

We are also pleased to welcome our **invited speakers**, experts in food science and technology, who are present to **impart** their expertise to the Conference.

The conference is organized by the Hellenic Association of Food Scientists and Technologists, which I have the honour to steer for the past **10** years, in close scientific collaboration with of Departments of Food Science & Technology at the **Hellenic International University** and **University of West Attica**.

A **sin cere** 'thank you' goes to the chairs of Scientific committee Professors: Maria Papageorgiou, Panagiotis Zoumpoulakis, Eleni Kalogianni, Efstathia Tsakali, to all the members of the **Scientific Steering**, as well as to the International and the National committees for their in-valuable support and contri butions towards a successful conference. Their work is highly appreciated.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I would also like to express our heart-felt thanks to the Hellenic Food Authority (E.F.E.T.), the National Contact Point of the European Food Safety Authority (E.F.S.A.), for supporting the Conference .

Furthermore, allow me to take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude to all the endorsers of the present conference namely:

- The Ministry of **Rural Development** & food
- The Federation of Hellenic Food Industries (SEVT) ,
- The Association of the Greek manufactures of Packaging & materials (AGMPM),
- The Greek Cold Storage & Logistics Association.
- The ELGO DHMHTRA

➤ The Universities of Patras and Peloponnese.

I would further like to extend my heart-felt thanks to the conference secretariat FORUM S.A. and all volunteers for their diligence.

The various sponsors and **contributors** are also greatly acknowledged.

It was merely not a coincidence, but rather an **informed choice** to couple our Conference with the International exhibition, FOODTECH **with over 300 exhibitors all around the globe**.

I urge all participants to take the opportunity and go around the stands **connecting** with high level professionals but also exploring new co-operations.

At this point, let me wear **the hat of the president** of the Hellenic Association of Food Scientists & Technologists, and give you some details for our Association....I promise to be brief.

Our association was founded in 1981, in Athens, serving the **interests** of food scientists and technologists in Greece.

There have been more than 3,000 active members who are involved not only in the food industry, which is our natural space, but also in

- Public authorities, as controllers.
- Commercial enterprises, in sales technical support.
- Across all levels of education.
- As independent consultants on food safety and production process issues.

Since 2007, we have joined the European Federation of Food Scientists and Technologists as an official member, as well as the international union of food science and technology.

But ...what is the purpose of our association existence?

Let me mention some of our main goals :

- The creation and development of safe conditions, in every step of food handling from the field to the shelf.
- Co-operation with other Scientific and professional Associations in order to carry out common programs and promote common aims.
- Contribution to the advancement of science and technology for the productive restructuring of Greek agricultural economy.
- Communication with public and informing society about nutritional issues.
- Last but not least, our members receive high quality training via seminars, workshops or conferences which are organized throughout the year.

Overall, we participate in all major events of the food sector in Greece, either exhibitions or conferences. During these events, we bring together people who **have something important to say** with those

who are thirsty to learn and acquire new skills.

This is the reason that we re-vived the series of international conferences by organizing the **7th** International Congress on Food Science and Technology.

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The theme of the Conference “**Innovation and sustainability challenges**” places emphasis on the **modern scientific** and technological achievements and attempts to approach, in a **creative way**, future of industrial applications.

The **sessions** of the congress are:

- Food Safety Culture and Food reformulation
- Emerging Technologies in Food Production: Adaptation to Industry 4.0 and A.I
- Novel Foods and Sustainable Development
- Packaging Materials in a Circular Economy Environment

Thus, the **7th International Congress on Food Science and Technology** aims to focus on **identifying new ways** of thinking, **effective resolution** of technological problems, in the food sector and **intensify possible solutions** through inter-**disciplinary** scientific collaboration for **dispersion** of knowledge, expertise and technology.

Traditional methods have been applied in Greece since time immemorial to produce olive oil products, famous wines, dairy products (*especially different types of cheeses and yogurts*) as well as processed meat and fish. In this Conference, our objective is to combine this traditional knowledge with innovative, safe and modern technologies.

I wish all the participants a very fruitful and productive Conference and with that,

I hereby declare the 7th International Congress on Food Science and Technology open.

Ioannis Smarnakis,

President of the Organizing Committee