

> contents

Publisher

Alexandra C. Vovolini
vovolini@economia.gr

Founding Editor

Robert Mc Donald

Editor-in-chief

Philip Pangalos
ppangalos@economia.gr

Contributors

Vanessa Alexakis
David Glass
Kerin Hope
Maria Kagkelidou
Nick Papandreou
tulayev@gmail.com
Antonis D. Papagiannidis
adp@economia.gr

Copy Editor

Georgia Michá

Art & Design

Nomiki Bibliothiki

Photographs

Athens News Agency - Macedonian Press
Agency, ACE Images, Vovolini Archive

Printing

ALFAPACK



Distribution

At kiosks through
EUROPE-PRESS DISTRIBUTION AGENCY S.A.

Annual subscription

5 issues per year: €35
Student subscriptions: €17
e-subscriptions: €15
Overseas subscriptions: €45
Copies of the individual issues each: €5.00
e-magazine: €2,50
Back issues of Business File
are available at sales@economia.gr



Kerkyra Publications S.A.

Secretariat - Documentation -

Publication Coordinator

Efi Andrikopoulou
tekmirios@economia.gr

Communication & Marketing Manager

Katerina K. Pourmaropoulou
aikpouma@economia.gr
6-8, Vlahava Street-105 51, Athens-Greece
Tel.: +30-210-3314.714,
Fax: +30-210-3252.283
www.economia.gr
www.facebook.com/economiaigroup
www.youtube.com/economia

Εκδόσεις ΚΕΡΚΥΡΑ Α.Ε.

Βλαχάβα 6-8, 105 51 Αθήνα
Τηλ.: 210-3314.714, Fax: 210-3252.283
www.economia.gr

Εκδότρια - Διευθύντρια

Αλεξάνδρα Κ. Βοβολίνη

Sales



sales@economia.gr
www.economia.gr
τηλ.: 210 3314 714



vassilistr@nb.org
www.nb.org
τηλ.: 210 3678 989

NEWS AND VIEWS

03 Publisher's note

06 Editor's log

11 In Pictures

12 News-in-brief

COMMENTS

8 The ground is shaking – again

Antonis D. Papagiannidis says calls for effective implementation of reforms lead the Greek government to a new impasse

50 All freedoms are allowed except one

Economist and author Nick Papandreou asks what is behind Islamic State's motivations and says it is not by chance that an eruption of terrorist violence is occurring in the middle of the deepest crisis that capitalism has ever encountered since the Great Depression of 1929

ECONOMY AND BONDS

16 Doubts resurface over economic rebound

Doubts over the economy's ability to rebound have grown at the start of 2016, with the brake being put on two key foreign investments, a difficult pension reform ahead and continued uncertainty over the next review of the country's bailout

18 Economic recovery hinges on swift bailout review and implementation of reforms

Bank of Greece Governor Yannis Stournaras estimates that 2015 ended with a small contraction of the Greek economy, but sees scope for a rebound in the second half of this year if there is a speedy conclusion of the country's first bailout review and reforms are implemented

20 Greek bonds eye the review for direction

Deadlock in negotiations between the Greek government and official creditors has dented a months-long rally in bonds and sparked renewed political uncertainty, but a successful completion of the review could act as a catalyst for an eventual return to capital markets later this year

INTERVIEWS

24 Getting down to business

In an exclusive interview with *Business File*, Theodore Fessas, the Chairman of the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV), talks about pension reform, the challenges and opportunities facing the Greek economy and how to attract much-needed foreign investments
By *Antonis D. Papagiannidis*
and *Alexandra C. Vovolini*

FEATURES AND ANALYSIS

BANKING

22 Greek banks aim for a gradual return to profitability in 2016

Greece's four systemic banks were successfully recapitalised, resulting in an increase of private ownership across the sector

INVESTMENTS

26 State meddling remains obstacle to international investments

A daunting obstacle for international companies entering the Greek market is the Greek government's poor track record of interfering in corporate affairs whether or not the state is a shareholder
By *Kerin Hope*

SHIPPING

28 Union of Greek Shipowners fires warning shot at EU over taxation issues

The Union of Greek Shipowners says there is no effective distortion of competition in the maritime field in the EU and warns that any fundamental changes to the institutional and fiscal framework in which the Greek shipping community is presently operating would have unforeseeable consequences that could harm Greece and the rest of the EU
By *David Glass*



30 China's Cosco sole bidder for Piraeus Port stake

China's port giant Cosco Pacific emerged as the only bidder for the Greek government's 67 per cent stake up for sale in the Piraeus Port Authority, but obstacles remain
By David Glass

34 Classification societies target Greek shipping

A growing number of leading international ship classification societies are focusing on the Greek-owned fleet
By David Glass

36 Greek owners outspend competitors in S&P market

Greek shipowners outspend competitors by a long way, committing over \$7.13 billion on a confirmed 287 ships, accounting for over 21 per cent of ships sold in 2015 and over 25 per cent of money invested
By David Glass

38 Capital controls hit inflow of foreign currency from Greek shipping

The Bank of Greece has reported a sharp drop in the inflow of foreign currency into Greece from shipping primarily as a result of capital controls and the poor freight markets
By David Glass

40 Greek shipping still top of the world

A number of Greek shipowners may be considering relocating abroad for tax reasons, but the Athens/Piraeus shipping cluster is still the most valuable in the world
By David Glass

42 Greek shipping's shining stars

The 12th annual *Lloyd's List* Greek Shipping Awards recognised and rewarded achievement and meritorious activity in the Greek shipping industry, as well as promoting Greece's status as a maritime centre

TOURISM

44 Optimism that 2016 will be another record year for tourism

Greece hopes for another record number of tourists in 2016, benefiting from the projected rise in global tourism, as well as more potential visitors who are concerned about upheaval and security concerns in other popular tourism destinations in Northern Africa and Turkey

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

48 Greek youth and entrepreneurship: something is changing

The vast majority of university students now have a positive view of entrepreneurship. Many want to start their own business but are realistic about its prospects and the business environment
By Maria Kagkelidou

Is it Monday?
Keep Calm
and read Antonis D. Papagiannidis' post at
www.economia.gr/en

Visit our site www.economia.gr/en
Follow us:
 www.facebook.com/businessfile

The January-February-March issue of Business File went to press on January 26, 2016. Our next issue of Business File will be out at the end of March, 2016