

JOINT PRESS RELEASE**Memorandum of Understanding between the Hellenic Capital Market Commission (HCMC) and UNIC Athens**

Joint initiatives for financial literacy, research and vocational training

Athens, 30 September 2026

The Hellenic Capital Market Commission (HCMC) and UNIC Athens, the academic and research hub of the University of Nicosia in Greece, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at developing joint initiatives in the fields of education, research, vocational training, and knowledge dissemination relating to financial markets, capital market regulation, and financial innovation.

The Memorandum was signed by Dr **Vasiliki Lazarakou**, Chair of the Hellenic Capital Market Commission, and Dr **Alexandros Antonaras**, Campus Director, UNIC Athens, in the presence of Mr **Michail Fekkas**, Vice Chair of the Hellenic Capital Market Commission, Ms **Eleftheria Apostolidou**, Director of Research of the Hellenic Capital Market Commission, Professor Dr **Petros Lois**, Chair of the Department of Accounting, Economics and Finance of the University of Nicosia, and professor Dr **Nikolaos Antonakakis**, Director of the School of Business Administration at UNIC Athens.

This partnership bridges academic knowledge with the supervisory authority's expertise and establishes a framework for educational and research initiatives benefiting students, professionals, financial sector executives, and society at large.

Areas of cooperation

- Exchange of expertise and best practices between the Parties.
- Development of educational programmes and lifelong learning initiatives for students, professionals, and financial sector executives.
- Collaboration on research initiatives concerning the functioning, regulation, and supervision of financial markets.
- Joint organisation of events focusing on entrepreneurship, innovation, and financial education.
- Mentoring activities, exploration of internship opportunities, and participation of Hellenic Capital Market Commission executives as guest speakers, delivering presentations within the framework of courses offered by UNIC Athens.

Statements

The Chair of the HCMC, Dr Vasiliki Lazarakou, stated:

“Enhancing financial literacy is a fundamental prerequisite for the meaningful participation of citizens in financial markets and for fostering a responsible investment culture. Our collaboration with UNIC Athens brings together supervisory expertise and academic knowledge. Through educational and research initiatives, as well as the exchange of expertise, we strengthen the knowledge and skills of students and professionals, while promoting informed dialogue on regulation, innovation, and investor protection.”

Dr Alexandros Antonaras, Campus Director of UNIC Athens, stated:

“Our collaboration with the Hellenic Capital Market Commission strengthens the connection between academic education and research and the real-world developments and needs of the financial sector. Through joint initiatives, we seek to provide students and professionals with meaningful learning opportunities, develop new areas of research, and contribute to a deeper understanding of the changes shaping modern financial markets. This Memorandum marks the beginning of a collaboration that will deliver a meaningful educational, scientific, and social impact.”

The Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of the last signature and shall remain in effect for a period of three years, with the possibility of extension upon the written agreement of both parties.

By signing the Memorandum, the Hellenic Capital Market Commission and UNIC Athens lay the foundations for a long-term partnership that connects academic knowledge with the capital markets ecosystem for the benefit of students, professionals, and investors.

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More information

About the Hellenic Capital Market Commission

The **Hellenic Capital Market Commission (HCMC)** is the competent authority responsible for supervising compliance with capital markets legislation in Greece. It was established as a Legal Entity Governed by Public Law pursuant to Law 1969/1991 and began operating in its current form under Law 2324/1995. The HCMC is entrusted with the supervision and development of the Greek capital market, the protection of investors, and the safeguarding of the orderly functioning of the Greek capital market. It also promotes financial literacy and innovation within the financial sector.

It is also a member of and cooperates with national, European, and international supervisory authorities and organisations, contributing, specifically, to the work of the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) and the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO). Within this framework, the HCMC monitors relevant developments and actively contributes to the shaping of the institutional and regulatory framework at national, European, and international level.

Website: <http://www.hcmc.gr/>

About UNIC Athens

UNIC Athens offers academic programmes in Medicine, Law, Pharmacy, Psychology, Business Administration, Accounting, Marketing Management, Computer Science, and Data Science. Since Autumn 2025, it has operated from a purpose-built 12,500 sq.m. campus, certified LEED Gold, featuring state-of-the-art teaching and research facilities, with a particular emphasis on life and health sciences, as well as the development of clinical skills. UNIC Athens is the only university campus to be established within The Ellinikon, Europe's largest urban regeneration project. The campus is planned to expand with an additional

150,000 sq.m. of academic, research, and student accommodation facilities. These facilities will incorporate artificial intelligence, robotics, and wellbeing technologies. The first phase of the campus development within The Ellinikon is expected to be completed in 2028.

Website: <https://www.unic.ac.cy/el/athens/>