

Bid for hosting

**ICDAR 2024**

**in Athens, GREECE**

18th ICDAR - coming of age

**6-11 September 2024**

# Table of Contents

<b>1. Organizing Committee</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 Experience of the General and PC Chairs in Organizing Research Events	3
<b>2. Venue</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 Hosting city	4
2.2 Conference hall	5
2.3 Dates	8
<b>3. ACCESSIBILITY</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1 How to get to Athens	9
3.2 Arriving to the Athens airport	9
3.3 Visa requirements	9
3.4 Getting around	9
<b>4. PROGRAM AND MILESTONES SCHEDULE</b>	<b>11</b>
4.1 Conference tentative program	12
4.2 Planned submission process	12
4.3 Prizes and Awards	13
4.4 Key milestones schedule	13
<b>5. ACCOMODATION</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>6. BUDGET</b>	<b>17</b>
6.1 Estimated expenses	17
6.2 Estimated income	18
6.3 Estimated financial result	19
6.4 Proposed registration fees	21
<b>7. EXPERIENCE OF PROPOSERS</b>	<b>21</b>
7.1 Conference general chairs	22
7.2 Other key personnel	23

# 1. Organizing Committee

Honorary Chair	To be filled up
Conference Chairs	Basilis Gatos Vassilis Katsouros Foteini Simistira Liwicki
Program Chairs	Elisa Barney Smith Marcus Liwicki Liangrui Peng
Workshops Chairs	To be filled up
Competitions Chairs	To be filled up
Doctoral Consortium Chairs	To be filled up
Publicity Chairs	To be filled up
Publicity Chairs	To be filled up
Local Organizing Chairs	Vassilis Papavassiliou George Sfikas
Finance Chair	Tassos Patrikakos
Secretariat	Eleni Sotiropoulou

## 1.1 Experience of the General and PC Chairs in Organizing Research Events

The general chairs and PC chairs (who also committed to generally advise the general chairs) build on a strong experience in organizing previous IAPR events:

- IGS 2013 (Marcus Liwicki, general chair)
- DAS 2014 (Marcus Liwicki, general chair)
- ICFHR 2014 (Basilis Gatos and Vassilis Katsouros, general chair)
- DAS 2016 (Basilis Gatos, general chair)
- ICFHR 2020 (Marcus Liwicki, general chair; Elisa Barney Smith, PC chair)
- ICDAR 2021 (Foteini Simistira Liwicki, competition chair; Marcus Liwicki, general chair; Elisa Barney Smith, workshop chair; Liangrui Peng, publication chair)

Furthermore, the current proposal strives toward gender balance by introducing equal representatives of both genders in the organization committee - this time even on all levels (including the 6 major chairs)

## 2. Venue

### 2.1 Hosting city

Athens, the City with its many ancient and modern theatres, is able to offer a variety of ideas and venues, ideal for the Opening and Closing Ceremony, the Gala dinner, the Cocktail party or any other special event of the ICDAR 2024. We are proud to present you three of the most important and beautiful sites in Athens where delegates will enjoy a unique and memorable event!



Situated at the foot of the Acropolis, The Odeion of Herodes Atticus, was built in AD 161 by Tiberius Atticus Herodes, an important figure of his time. He has built this roofed Odeion for musical performances to honour the memory of his wife Rigilla. Today, the Athens Festival takes place there every summer. It stages ancient and modern Greek plays, concerts, ballets and modern dance performances. All delegates will discover, it is quite an unforgettable experience to sit in a

marble theatre dating back to roman times, under a starlit sky and enjoy the congress events.

A wide variety of contemporary performances are staged every summer in the modern open-air theatre located at the top of Lycavittos Hill. Delegates can enjoy a breathtaking view of the whole city spreading all the way to the sea. The beauty of the hill covered with pine trees, combined with the cool breeze of the Athenian summer nights, guarantee unforgettable events.



Dora Stratou, a lady who dedicated her life to researching and preserving Greek folk culture, founded this dance theatre 35 years ago. The dancers are dressed in traditional Greek costumes from various regions in the country and perform songs and dances, which have been performed by Greeks for 2.500 years. This theatre is an excellent idea for any congress event, combined with an exceptional show of Dora Stratou's dancers. Delegates can also have an exceptional view, on the Hill of Philopappou, a stone's throw from the Acropolis.

## 2.2 Conference hall

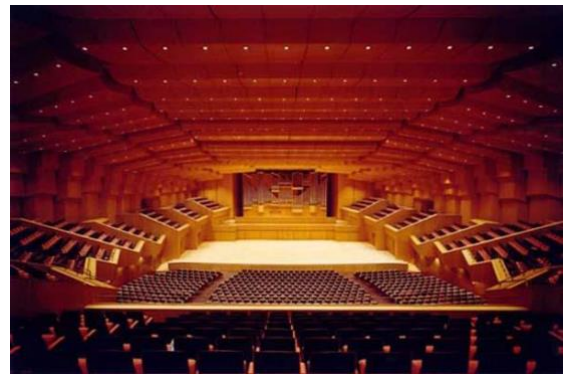
### MEGARON, ATHENS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER



The Megaron, Athens International Conference Center completed in 1991, is one of the world's finest Conference Venues. Specialist companies and consultants from throughout Europe were brought together, as a team, to create a Cultural Center to match the high standards of the world's leading orchestras and to create a Conference Center with technical abilities unrivalled by most other European venues. Conceived, designed and constructed as a complete cultural center, able to house concerts, opera, ballet and theater as well as conferences, the Megaron, Athens International Conference Center offers exceptional convention technology. Easily accessible and closed to the very heart of Athens, the Megaron, Athens International Conference Center has all the space, flexibility and services you require to make your next conference a complete success.

The **Hall of the Friends of Music** seats 2000 with facilities for the disabled. A proscenium can be formed by retracting the balconies flanking the stage and raising the two proscenium towers embedded in the stage floor.

There are 30 electrically controlled fly lines over the stage to allow scenery to be hung and flown. There is a proscenium, a forestage and three auditorium lighting bridges plus two side lighting bridges. The adjustable ceiling houses the lighting bridges, which lower mechanically as required. A 9-language infrared simultaneous translation system is built into the hall with 9 interpreter booths for double occupancy, all with excellent stage view. Dedicated delegate microphones are built into the armrests of 221 seats, for use by 442 delegates. The hall has a balcony and a stalls foyer measuring 900m<sup>2</sup> and 1000m<sup>2</sup> respectively, which can be used for cocktails, buffet or reception.



The **Dimitris Mitropoulos Hall** seats 500 with facilities for the disabled. There are 2 horizontal and 2 vertical lighting bars above the stage and auditorium.

A 3-language infrared simultaneous translation system is built into the hall with interpreter booths, all with excellent view of the stage, plus dedicated delegate microphones built into the armrests of all the seats. The hall has a foyer measuring 300m<sup>2</sup> which can be used for cocktails, buffet or reception. Both the Hall

of the Friends of Music and the Dimitris Mitropoulos Hall have sophisticated backstage facilities and are equipped with a wide array of state of the art sound, video, lighting and audiovisual equipment.

The **Conference Centre** is a dedicated self-contained centre with full support facilities including a central foyer with registration area and a central bar for refreshments and light buffet.

There are 6 Conference / Seminar rooms which can be used for smaller meetings, break-out sessions from Conferences in the larger halls, or as workshop or exhibition areas. The rooms seat from 30 to 60 delegates,



depending on the layout, and are fully equipped with mobile sound, video and audio-visual equipment and infrared simultaneous translation systems.



# Congress & Exhibition Center

## The Athens Concert Hall

Description code	Spaces	Conferences	Exhibitions	Surface (m <sup>2</sup> )	Capacity	h=height	Neighbouring Storage rooms
<b>GENERAL ACCESS AREAS</b>							
I	Main Entrance Hall (excluding shops area)		*	3880	-	5,50-8,40	-
I.1	Public Foyer area, level 300 A		*	525	-	4,45	120,61
I.2	Public Foyer area, level 300		*	543	-	4,30	31,60
I.3	Atrium		*	1082	-	-	-
<b>HALLS (with auxiliary areas)</b>							
IH.1	Hall of the Friends of Music (existing building)	*		-	2000	-	-
IΘ.1	Dimitris Mitropoulos Hall (existing building)	*		-	400	-	-
A.1	Alexandra Trianti Hall	*		1448	1695/1514	-	-
A.2	Alexandra Trianti Hall (stalls area, level 301A)	*		805	1018/855	-	-
A.3	Alexandra Trianti Hall (dress circle, level 302)	*		384	440/432	-	-
A.4	Alexandra Trianti Hall (upper circle, level 303)	*		259	237/227	-	-
B.1	Small Multi Purpose Hall	*		353	397	-	6,00
IK.1	Conference Room 1 (existing building)	*		144	80	-	-
IK.2	Meeting & Conference Rooms (existing building)	*		300	170	-	-
IA.1	Meeting & Conference Room No2-MC2	*		204	151	4,65	25,81
IA.2	Meeting & Conference Room No2-MC3	*		252	96+73	4,65	48,50
IA.3	Meeting & Conference Room No2-MC3.2	*		72	53	3,70	63,17
IA.4	Meeting & Conference Room No2-MC3.3	*		73	53	3,70	
IA.5	Meeting & Conference Room No2-MC3.4	*		60	38	3,70	
IA.6	Meeting & Conference Room No2-MC3.5	*		39	24	3,70	
A.2.7	Orchestra Rehearsal Room	*		328	120	11,25-11,40	91,93
Θ.1	Banqueting Hall, banqueting	*	*	1430	916/1166	4,00-8,30	
Θ.1	Banqueting Hall, performances	*	*	1430	1600	4,00-8,30	
IH.2	Foyers, Hall of the Friends of Music (existing building)		*	-	-	-	-
IΘ.2	Foyers, Dimitris Mitropoulos Hall (existing building)		*	-	-	-	-

Description code	Spaces	Conferences	Exhibitions	Surface (m <sup>2</sup> )	Capacity	h=height	Neighbouring Storage rooms
A.3.1	Foyer, Alexandra Trianti Hall (level 301A)		*	1162	-	4,40	9,30
A.3.2	Foyer, Alexandra Trianti Hall (level 302)			738	-	2,90	
B.3	Foyer, Small Multi Purpose Hall (level 300A)		*	288	-	4,45-4,90	-
I.A.7 I.A.8	Foyer, Conference Centre (level 300A)		*	336	336	4,15-4,60	-
<b>MUSIC LIBRARY</b>							
ΣΤ.6	Music Library's Lecture Room	*		160	80	-	-
<b>EXHIBITION SPACE</b>							
ΙΔ.	Exhibition space (levels 300, 300A)	*	*	1890	-	3,65-4,15	65,60
<b>SHOPS</b>							
ΙΕ.	Shops in general access area		*	1010	-	5,50-8,40	-
<b>STORAGE ROOMS</b>							
Δ.	Storage rooms (total)			-	-	-	2128,16

## 2.3 Dates

Conference dates:	9-11 September 2024
Satellite Workshops & Tutorials:	6-8 September 2024
Post-conference tours:	12-13 September 2024



## 3. Accessibility

### 3.1 How to get to Athens

Throughout the year millions of visitors are getting to Greece and Athens. For the majority of them, the best way to arrive to Athens is by air, but there are, of course, the alternative routes by train, car or ferry boats which leave from various ports of Italy like Venice, Ancona, Bari, Brindisi and Otranto as well as the train journey through the Balkan Peninsula. Though most tourists use Athens as a stop over before visiting the Greek islands like Paros, Naxos, Kos, Santorini or Crete island, the capital of Greece is worth for more than a couple of days of staying and has a lot of beauties and attractions to offer.

### 3.2 Arriving to the Athens airport

The airport of Athens, Eleftherios Venizelos, located in Spata and is one of the best airports in Europe. The airport serves flights to Greece daily from several international airlines from all over the world. It has a modern design and was built by a famous German construction company. Within the airport there are many facilities and shops, restaurants, bars, fast food, pharmacies, duty free shops, internet, banks, ATM's, money exchange offices, news and magazines kiosks and all that makes any traveller feel comfortable. The metro and the Proastiakos Suburban rail as well as taxis and buses to and from Athens are to be found opposite the main exit of the airport, the bus journey is cheap and takes between 40 and 45 minutes to the city centre at Syntagma (Parliament) Square, therefore the best way is to take the Athens metro that connects the airport with Athens and Piraeus. There are car hire agencies at the airport and if one wants to rent a car.

### 3.3 Visa requirements

Visitors to Athens and Greece in general from the European Union countries and Schengen countries (Sweden, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Greece, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland) do not need a visa and they can travel with their ID's. For more information about visa requirements you should visit the local Greek Consulates and Embassies. There are offices of the Greek National tourism Organisation in many European cities from the offices you can obtain useful information map of Greece and brochures about Greece. For US citizens the official site of the Greek Embassy [www.greekembassy.org](http://www.greekembassy.org) gives many information and details.

### 3.4 Getting around

Public transport in Athens has improved by leaps and bounds in the last ten years. The simple €1.20 ("integrated") ticket lets you travel on any means of transport – metro, suburban trains, trams, trolleybuses, buses – with unlimited transfers anywhere within Athens (except the metro airport line east of Doukissis Plakentias and the airport buses) for 90 minutes, and you can also get a €4.10 ticket valid for 24 hours or a €8.20 weekly (5-day) ticket.

#### By metro

Athens Metro system, opened in 2001 (and followed by a restoration of the old Line 1) and currently being extended, is a wonder to behold, and puts many better-known metro systems to shame. Many metro stations resemble museums as they exhibit artifacts found during excavations for the system (i.e. Syntagma). Greeks are very proud about the new subway system. You should not even think about littering and by all means avoid any urge for graffiti -- you will be intercepted by security at once. You are also not allowed to consume food or drink in the subway system. During rush hour, when it could become very crowded, you would have to leave your personal space at the door. There are three lines:

Line 1 (M1 - Green-ISAP): Piraeus - Kifissia, connects the port of Piraeus and the northern suburbs of Athens via the city centre. Note that line 1 is a rather old line going back to 1869 (lines 2 & 3 are the new subway system of Athens).

Line 2 (M2 - Red Attiko Metro): Anthoupoli - Agios Dimitrios connects western and southern Athens.

Line 3 (M3 - Blue): Egaleo - Doukissis Plakentias - International Airport connects the south-western suburbs with the northern suburbs (Halandri and Doukissis Plakentias stations) and the International Airport.

An ISAP train (M1 Green Line) passes by the Stoa of Attalus in central Athens.

Tickets: Metro uses the "integrated" ticket that costs €1.20 (half price for seniors over 65 and youth under 18). Tickets can be purchased over manned booths or automated vending machines (some of which accept banknotes) in every station. You must validate your ticket prior to going to the platform. There currently are no turnstiles controlling access to the trains, so in theory you could try to ride for free, if however you're caught without a properly validated ticket you'll be asked to pay a hefty 60x the normal fare [currently €84].

From the moment of validating your €1.20 ticket, you can use it to ride any "Metro" train to every station (except the Airport) or any of the buses or tram (see below) for the next 90 minutes. It's perfectly fine to reverse direction of travel with the same ticket, as long as you are below the 90 minutes mark; if your last trip is expected to go beyond it, you must validate your ticket for a second and last time just before the mark.

If you plan to do multiple trips within a day, it makes more sense to buy a 24-hour ticket (which again, works for all destinations except the airport) for €4.10. This needs to be validated only once, at the start of the first trip. The standard fare to or from the Airport is €9 (half price for seniors over 65 and youth under 18), €16 for a return trip within a month.

More information about the ticket options and prices can be found at <http://www.stasy.gr/index.php?id=71&L=1> and <https://www.oasa.gr/en/tickets/prices-of-products/>.

Subway is daily from 05:30-00:00, except for Fridays and Saturdays when it runs until 02:00. Riding late at night is very safe (stations and trains are heavily monitored and policed) so you should not have a second thought about it.

#### By suburban rail

The Suburban Railway (Proastiakos by Trainose) is a new addition to Athens's network. The main line starts from Piraeus, passes through the main line train station of Larissis in Athens, and forks at Neratziotissa west to Kiato and Corinth and east towards the Airport.

#### By tram

The new Athens Tram connects the city centre with the southern suburbs and has connections with the metro lines. There are three tram lines:

Line 1 (T1): Syntagma - Palaio Faliro - Neo Faliro connects the city centre with the Peace and Friendship Stadium.

Line 2 (T2): Syntagma - Palaio Faliro - Glyfada connects the city centre with the coastal zone.

Line 3 (T3): Neo Faliro - Palaio Faliro - Glyfada runs along the coastal zone.

#### By bus

Athens is served by a network of diesel buses, natural gas buses and electric trolley buses run by the Athens Urban Transport Organisation. There is no bus only ticket since the integrated ticket has been priced down to 1.20€, the bus only ticket's price. The Integrated ticket allows for multiple trips within 90 minutes and is available in most kiosks and all metro stations. Use a €5.50 ticket to travel to or from the airport, which can also be bought from the airport bus driver. You only need to validate once, before first use. Buses will not stop unless you signal the driver by raising your arm.

Night buses. As of March 2006 the night bus routes are:

X14 Syntagma Square to Kifissia.

11 Ano Patissia - Neo Pangrati - Nea Elvetia (trolley bus).

040 Piraeus to Syntagma Square.

500 Piraeus - Kifissia (night only).

X92, X93, X95, X96, X97 (the airport buses).

At the airport you can pick up a multitude of public transport maps, especially for buses, tram and trolleys that cover the whole of Athens, and parts of Attica like Sounio and other ports. These maps can be found in display stands. They are blue and marked with big Numbers, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in different colors.

### By taxi

Canary yellow taxis are a common sight in Athens and are a reasonably priced way of getting around (if you can avoid the traffic jams). The starting fee is €1, after which the meter ticks up at €0.34/km ("rate 1") or €0.64/km ("rate 2"), with a minimum fare of €3.10. Rate 1 applies through Athens city limits, including the airport, while rate 2 applies outside the city and from midnight to 5 AM. Legal surcharges apply for calling a cab by radio (€1.60), trips to or from the airport (€3.20) and heavy bags (€0.32). Tipping is not necessary, although it's common to round up to the nearest full euro.

Taxi fare fraud is not as widespread as it used to be, but it still happens, so insist on the meter and make sure the rate is correct. At busy tourist locations cab drivers can try and con you with a set rate that is ridiculously high (e.g. €20 for a short trip). In these cases it is best to find another and again insist on the charge shown on the meter. If you feel you have been overcharged, ask for a receipt (they are obliged to give one) and take the plate number, then phone the tourist police to report the driver on 171.

Taxis are considered as fairly cheap in Athens. As such you can expect to share the ride during rush hours if you can find one, and at night after the Metro has shutdown. As such if you hail a taxi which is already occupied (Free Taxis have a brightly lit TAXI sign on top of the cab) the driver will ask where you want to go to before he will let you in to join the other customers. Strikes by cabbies and public transit are common so be prepared and watch the local news.

### On foot

Athens offers some of the best and worst urban walking in Europe. Several major streets have been recently pedestrianized, and a mostly car-free archeological walk which starts at Vasilisis Amalias Street, passes in front of the New Acropolis Museum, Acropolis, Herodion Theatre, Thiseio (Apostolou Pavlou Str), Ermou Street and ends at the popular area of Kerameikos (Gkazi) where numerous bars and clubs are located. Pleasant walking can also be had in Plaka, especially its upper reaches, and in much of Kolonaki, and the National Garden can provide a welcome respite from the heat and noise of the city center. On the other hand, Athens' horrendous traffic can make crossing the street in many areas a hair-raising proposition, and even walking down many major streets can be an unpleasant experience of noise and pollution. Cars and motorbikes parked blocking the sidewalks (illegal but ubiquitous) can also make a stroll difficult. Fortunately, much of the traffic-plagued area of the city can be avoided by judicious use of the new Metro, which goes most places a visitor would want to see or to walk around in.

You can now visit the Acropolis, walk along the picturesque streets of Plaka or the hills around the Acropolis at your own pace, with iPod Pocket tours audio guides. It's informative and fun! They are available for rent at Athens Hilton Hotel, Sofitel Athens Airport, King George Palace and Baby Grand Hotel.

## 4. Program and milestones schedule

The format of the conference will build on the best practices of previous ICDAR conferences and details will be jointly discussed with the ICDAR advisory board and the complete organizing committee. We reserve the facilities to include keynote lectures every morning and two or three-track sessions throughout the days. However, adjustments are possible.

Also we will provide support for various workshops and reserve the main conference site for three further days. If some workshops prefer a different site, we will provide them general local support for finding appropriate venues.

### 4.1 Conference tentative program

	6 September	7 September	8 September	9 September	10 September	11 September
Morning	Workshops	Workshops	Tutorials	Registration	Registration	
	As introduced in ICDAR 2021, we will allow for half day and full day workshops, not longer. We will be restrictive with workshop selections and plan to make a pre- conference pass which is valid for all workshops (included in the full registration)		Competition results	Opening Ceremony	Oral Sessions (3 tracks)	Oral Sessions (3 tracks)
			Keynote Lecture	Keynote Lecture	Keynote Lecture	
		Registration	Oral Sessions (3 tracks)	Oral Sessions (3 tracks)	Oral Sessions (3 tracks)	
Afternoon			Tutorials	Poster Session	Poster Session	Awards Presentations & Closing
			Doctoral Consortium	Oral Sessions (3 tracks)	Oral Sessions (3 tracks)	Excursion
			Registration	TC-10/11 Meeting	Panel discussion	
Evening				Welcome Reception		Gala Dinner

### 4.2 Planned submission process

We would expect approximately 500 submissions, with an anticipated acceptance rate of 60%. We will continue the trend of rebuttals, as they are very helpful. We plan a single blind submission.

#### Paper format

As introduced in 2021, we will use Springer LNCS - we have good experience and they offer generous open access policies for up to 1 year after the conference (and starting 4 years after the closing of the conference). Submission lengths will be 10-14 pages.

#### Rebuttals

The paper which is submitted will be the main reference, rebuttals will be limited to (ex. 300 character); In these rebuttals it will only be allowed to mention if reviewers have overlooked something, not to write that additional experiments can be added. Rebuttal phase will be around 2 weeks.

#### Suggestions taken over from ICDAR 2021

Supplementary material. In the 2021 edition, we have not allowed supplementary material when submitting the manuscripts. However, it would be good to consider it in the future. Springer LNCS also allows the inclusion of supplementary material in the final publication (in different media formats). We did not consider it because it was needed to check legal issues.

Provision of source code and data. Authors are encouraged to provide GitHub links or repositories that allow reproducibility of the work. During the review process (double blind) these references must follow the general anonymization policy, and reviewers are instructed that they are not required to examine repositories as part of the paper review process, but if they do, that they should not attempt to determine the identify of authors through the use of repositories.

### 4.3 Prizes and Awards

We will continue in the ICDAR the tradition of awarding both community and conferences specific awards, including the ICDAR Outstanding Achievements award and the Young Investigator award, as well as conference recognition of the best paper, best student paper and best poster. As introduced in 2021, we will give both awardees the opportunity to give an award keynote speech.

Furthermore, selected members of the program committee will select best paper awards, the best student paper award, an industry paper award, and possible other awards to be discussed with the ICDAR advisory board and the organizing committee.

### 4.4 Key milestones schedule

Milestone	Date
First call for papers (email, IAPR website, IAPR Newsletter, IEEE calendar, etc.), poster of conference	August 2022
Second call for papers/workshops competitions proposals/tutorial proposals	August 2023
Deadline for workshops proposals	January 2024
Deadline for tutorial proposals	January 2024
Deadline for competitions proposals	January 2024
Final call for papers	October 2023
Deadline for paper submission	February 2024
Announcement of Workshops	February 2024
Announcement of Tutorials	February 2024
Announcement of Competitions	February 2024
PC Chairs' meeting	April 2024
Competitions deadline	April 2024
Notification to authors concerning acceptance	May 2024
Camera ready manuscripts	June 2024
Deadline for workshops papers	June 2024
Notification to authors for workshop papers	July 2024
Detailed program on website	July 2024
Conference dates	September 2024



## 5. Accommodation

### HOTELS & ACCOMMODATION

The city of Athens has made and is making amazing efforts to improve the hotel infrastructure and accommodation. The city right now has a capacity for approx. 75.000 beds.

Another important aspect is the fact that all hotels, irrespective of their category, are providing and are constantly improving their services at very competitive rates. These rates are without doubt, amongst the lowest in eastern Europe and the rest of the capitals of the world.

### CAT DE LUXE HOTELS



#### THE ATHENS HILTON HOTEL

Athens Hilton is the only hotel in Athens with 250 rooms facing the Acropolis. The 453 deluxe renovated guest rooms are fully equipped with a private bath, satellite TV, telephone, air condition, mini-bar and balcony. The atmosphere combines the bustle and excitement of an international city with the comfort, tranquillity, style and service of a world famous hotel.

#### CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

The Crowne Plaza Hotel is situated in Michalakopoulou Avenue, 5 minutes by taxi from Syntagma Square. The hotel was renovated in 1996, offers 190 rooms, air-conditioned throughout, outdoor swimming pool, roof garden, business center



#### STRATOS VASSILIKOS

Pure and simple shape for a modern design and comfort, together with an accurate service, professional staff and unique situation for an excellent 5-star structure at a few steps from the heart of the city: the Airotel Stratos Vassilikos is the preface for a unique stay. Located in one of the most tranquil and safest areas of the city, at a few steps from the underground station, Music Palace, American Embassy, restaurants, coffees shops and shops, you will stay in the heart of Athens close to the Acropolis and Syntagma Square.

## A' CATEGORY HOTELS

### AIROTEL ALEXANDROS

Airotel Alexandros is located close to the Athens Concert hall and offers 80 rooms and 16 junior suites fully equipped with TV,A/C, stereo music, direct dial phone, data line for PC and fax use, mini bar, safety deposit box, coffee/tea facilities and hairdryer. There are three conference rooms available, luxurious lounges and one of the most beautiful restaurants of the town.

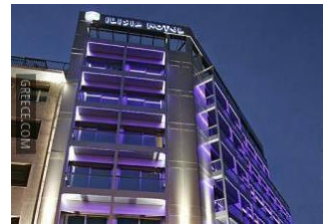


### GOLDEN AGE HOTEL

Golden Age Hotel is situated in a walking distance from the center of Athens and offers 122 rooms, renovated in 2000. Air-conditioned throughout, restaurant, bar, all rooms with direct dial phone.

### BEST WESTERN Ilisia Hotel

THE Hotel is centrally located, close to the city centre, historical sites, vibrant cafes and restaurants that adorn this beautiful city. The hotel also benefits from free parking and great transport links, located with close proximity to the Metro, Airport and Bus Services. Each of the rooms are modern with great facilities, and free WiFi is offered as standard. Discover more of Athens with the BEST WESTERN Ilisia Hotel.



## B' CATEGORY HOTELS

### HERMES HOTEL

Hermes hotel is a very modern boutique hotel, situated at the exceptional and renowned region of Plaka, one of the most exquisite areas of Athens. Hermes hotel is a small, stylish and functional complex of unique aesthetics and excellent organization, which offers a synthesis of comfortable accommodation and qualitative services, in an relaxing environment. The hotel has 45 rooms, totally renovated in 2004 with a fresh atmosphere special touch and care to all little details.

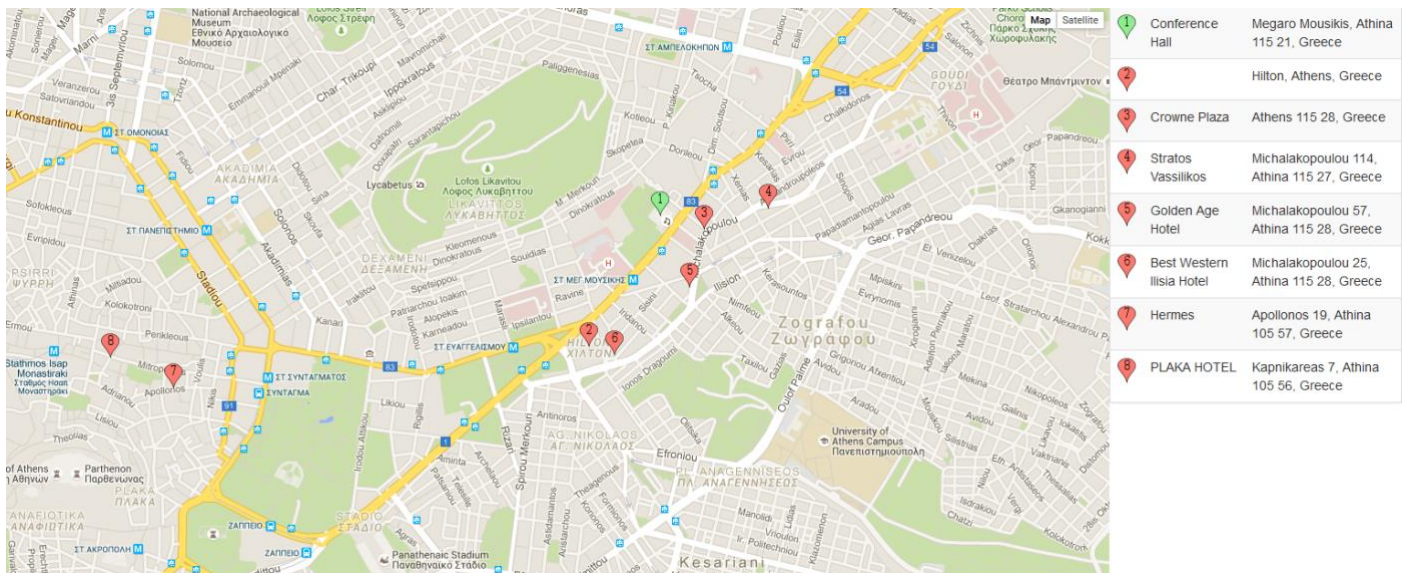


### PLAKA HOTEL

Hotel Plaka, is an excellent choice for a demanding client, in a terrific location. Five minutes walk from Syntagma square. Acropolis, museums, Parliament, shopping area of Plaka and Ermou street, the Athens Cathedral are all on your door step from the hotel. You are really in the heart of Athens, in the best location. From the roof top you can enjoy a breathtaking view of Acropolis, and Plaka area. The hotel was renovated in 2011.

## All proposed Hotels are located in walking distance from the Conference Center

CATEGORY DE LUXE	INDICATED RATES FOR 2019
Athens Hilton	220 € - 270 €
Crowne Plaza	180 € - 220 €
Stratos Vassilikos	170 € - 210 €
<b>A' CATEGORY HOTELS</b>	
Airotel Alexandros	150 € - 180 €
Golden Age Hotel	140 € - 160 €
Best Western Ilissia Hotel	130 € - 150 €
<b>B' CATEGORY HOTELS</b>	
Plaka	90 € - 120 €
Hermes	90 € - 120 €
<b>C' CATEGORY HOTELS</b>	
	50 € - 70 €



## 6. Budget

### 6.1 Estimated expenses

ESTIMATED EXPENSES		
	Fixed Expenditure (VAT included)	
		TOTAL WITH VAT
1	Conference Venue (Meeting rooms rental, Breakouts, Poster area, Registration area, Slide )	51.785,90 €
2	Pre-conference events	30.000,00 €
3	Technical Equipment: Sound, Visual, Preview rooms, Internet corner, Photocopy machine, Printer	16.838,70 €
4	Virtualization costs	30.000,00 €
5	Hospitality	5.100,00 €
6	Exhibition / Posters	4.268,10 €
7	Constructions, Directional signs, Registration desk	5.178,30 €
8	Printings	5.436,60 €
9	On site Staff, Hostesses, Cleaning, Photographer	1.380,00 €
10	Communication (Website, E-mail, Press conference, WiFi)	8.979,00 €
11	Various expenses	5.227,50 €
12	Postage / Courier	846,00 €
12	Social & Cultural Events	5.043,00 €
TOTAL		170.083,10 €

Variable expenses per Total participants		DELEGATES			
		350	400	450	500
VE.1	VARIABLE EXPENSES	3.564,50 €	4.073,80 €	4.583,00 €	5.092,20 €
VE.2	VARIABLE EXPENSES - FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICES PER PERSON	70.775,30 €	80.886,00 €	90.996,80 €	101.107,50 €
VE.3	VARIABLE EXPENSES - MANAGEMENT	10.824,00 €	12.177,00 €	13.530,00 €	13.530,00 €
	TOTAL FROM VARIABLE EXPENSES	83.810,80 €	95.783,80 €	107.756,70 €	119.729,70 €
	TOTAL FROM FIXED & VARIABLE EXPENSES	255.246,90€	267.219,90€	279.192,90€	289.812,80€
	<i>Estimated Contingency 2%</i>	<i>5.104,94€</i>	<i>5.344,40€</i>	<i>5.583,86€</i>	<i>5.796,26€</i>
	TOTAL FROM FIXED & VARIABLE EXPENSES	260.351,84€	272.564,30€	284.776,76€	295.609,06€

## 6.2 Estimated income

ESTIMATED INCOME						
Estimated Income from registrations		REGISTRATIONS				
100%			350	400	450	500
10,00%	IAPR Members		€26,775.00	€30,600.00	€34,425.00	€38,250.00
70,00%	Non IAPR Members		€195,300.00	€223,200.00	€251,100.00	€279,000.00



20,00%	Student members		€33,250.00	€38,000.00	€42,750.00	€47,500.00
Total income from Registration fees			€255,325.00	€291,800.00	€328,275.00	€364,750.00
Total income from Registration fees			€255,325.00	€291,800.00	€328,275.00	€364,750.00
Estimated Income from Sponsors & Exhibitors			SPONSORSHIPS & EXHIBITION			
TOTAL INCOME FROM SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS (Including VAT)			€22,800	€22,800	€22,800	€22,800
TOTAL ESTIMATED INCOME			350	400	450	500
TOTAL INCOME			278,125.00€	314,600.00€	351,075.00€	387,550.00€

### 6.3 Estimated financial result

OBLIGATIONS						
O.1	LESS REMITTANCE TO IAPR	Unit price	350	400	450	500
100,00%	IAPR LEVY	16,67 €	€5,833.33	€6,666.70	€7,500.00	€8,333.33
TOTAL ESTIMATED REMITTANCE TO EAERE			€5,833.33	€6,666.70	€7,500.00	€8,333.33

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL RESULT	350	400	450	500
ESTIMATED FINANCIAL RESULT	11,939.83€	35,369.00€	58,798.24€	83,607.61€

## 6.4 Proposed registration fees

Registration type	Early Bird		Regular	
	Estimated Registration fee	Estimated Percentage %	Estimated Registration fee	Estimated Percentage %
IAPR Members	740,00 €	5,00%	790,00 €	5,00%
Non IAPR Members	790,00 €	60,00%	840,00 €	10,00%
Student members	450,00 €	10,00%	500,00 €	10,00%
		75,00%		25,00%

Registration fees for the pre-conference pass will be provided in due time. Furthermore, we will provide for online-only participation (also depending on Covid situation) - a detailed budget will be provided 2 years before the event.

## 7. Experience of proposers

### 7.1 Conference general chairs

**Basilis G. Gatos** was born in 1967, in Athens, Greece. He received his Electrical Engineering Diploma in 1992 and his Ph.D. degree in 1998, both from the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department of Democritus University of Thrace, Xanthi, Greece. His Ph.D. thesis is on Optical Character Recognition Techniques. In 1993 he was awarded a scholarship from the Institute of Informatics and Telecommunications, NCSR "Demokritos", where he worked till 1996. From 1997 to 1998 he worked as a Software Engineer at Computer Logic S.A. From 1998 to 2001 he worked at Lambrakis Press Archives as a Director of the Research Division in the field of digital preservation of old newspapers. From 2001 to 2003 he worked at BSI S.A. as Managing Director of R&D Division in the field of document management and recognition. He is currently working as a Researcher at the Institute of Informatics and Telecommunications of the National Center for Scientific Research "Demokritos", Athens, Greece. His main research interests are in Image Processing and Document Image Analysis, OCR and Pattern Recognition. He has more than 140 publications in journals and international conference proceedings and has participated in several research programs funded by the European community. He is a member of the Technical Chamber of Greece, of the Editorial Board of the International Journal on Document Analysis and Recognition (IJDAR) and program committee member of several international Conferences and Workshops (e.g. ICDAR 2009, ICFHR 2010, ICDAR 2011, CBDAR 2011, AND 2011, International Workshop on Historical Document Imaging and Processing 2011, DAS 2012, ICDAR 2013). Basilis Gatos has been co-organiser of the International Conference of Frontiers in Handwriting Recognition (ICFHR) in 2014 and of the International Workshop in Document Analysis (DAS) in 2016.

**Vassilis Katsouros** is the Director of Institute for Language and Speech Processing (ILSP) at the Athena Research Center (ATHENA RC) since June 2019. He received his M.Eng. degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), Greece, in 1992. In 1993 he obtained the M.Sc. with distinction in Communications and Signal Processing from Imperial College of Science Technology and Medicine, University of London, UK. In 1997 he received his Ph.D. degree in Mathematical modelling and Stochastic Control from Imperial College. Since 1998 he has been working at the ILSP, as head of the Quality Assurance Office (1999-2003), in 2004-2007 he has been elected Researcher at ILSP, in 2008-2015 he has been promoted to Senior Researcher and in 2015-today he has been promoted to Researcher Director. He has been elected as President of the Scientific Council of ILSP for the period 2009-2018, as member of the Board of Athena RC since 2016-2019 as an elected representative of the Researchers and Vice-President since 2019. He was among the founding members of LibrisTech, the first spin-off company of ILSP, where he acted as managing director until September 2004 and until 2010 he was President of the Board. He is also a Member of the Board at the Information Society S.A since June 2019. His research interest involves digital signal processing, statistics analysis, machine learning and artificial intelligence with applications in a wide variety of signals and data (voice, music, image, video, sensorial data, etc.) He has authored a significant number of scientific publications in the above fields in books, scientific journals as well as international conferences. He has supervised doctor thesis and postgraduate thesis as well as teaches in postgraduate programs in his research subjects. He has also participated in the organization international conferences such as ICFHR 2014, he has participated in international competitions in handwriting processing technologies (ICDAR & ICFHR Contests), music technology (MIREX) and sensor data analysis (PHM Data Challenge) with among the best submissions and his is also reviewer in scientific journals and international conferences. He has coordinated the quality control of various commercial products and software systems, he has been involved in research and development programs at national and European level, having the role of the coordinator, the scientific manager or a member of scientific teams. He has been a member at the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) since 1992, of the Technical Chamber of Greece since 1992. Since 1999 he is a certified market maker/trader of the Derivatives Market at the Athens Exchange and of the ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) since 2005.

**Foteini Simistira Liwicki** is a Senior Lecturer at the Luleå University of Technology, in the area of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence and the educational leader of the new 5 years

engineering program Applied AI at the same university. She received her PhD diploma from the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, NTUA, Greece, in the field of Pattern Recognition in 2015 with the title “Recognition of online handwritten mathematical expressions”. From 1997 till 2015, she worked as Research Associate in the Institute of Language and Speech Processing, ATHENA R.C., where she was mainly responsible for research programs in the field of Pattern Recognition, Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing. She was also highly involved in the design and development of innovative educational platforms (targeting mainly high school education in Greece but also in other European countries). From 2015 till June 2019 she worked as a PostDoc fellow in the University of Fribourg (DIVA research group) in the field of Document Image Analysis and Database generation. From June 2018 till June 2019 she worked as a PostDoc fellow with the Machine Learning group at the Luleå University of Technology, Sweden. From July 2019, she is working as a Senior Lecturer at the Luleå University of Technology, in the area of Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence. She served as a scientific member of the Program Committee for 13th IAPR International Workshop on Document Analysis Systems (DAS2018) and ICDAR-OST-1st International Workshop on Open Services and Tools for Document Analysis held in ICDAR2018, Japan. She was the main organizer of the ICDAR2018 Competition on layout analysis for challenging medieval manuscripts held in ICDAR2018, Japan. She organised the competition on Historical Document Reading Challenge on Large Structured Family Records (ICDAR-2019-HDRC-Chinese) that took place at ICDAR2019. She serves as a reviewer in international scientific journals and conferences (e.g. Pattern Recognition Letters, DAS, ICFHR, ICDAR). She is also a scientific member of the Institute of Document Analysis and Knowledge Science, Kyoto, Japan and PC member for ICDAR2019 and ICDAR-OST-2nd International Workshop on Open Services and Tools for Document Analysis, ICDAR2019, Australia. Foteini Simistira Liwicki served as a competition chair in the International conference of Document Analysis and Recognition in 2021.

## 7.2 Other key personnel

**Anastasios Patrikakos** (apatrikakos@athena-innovation.gr) is currently the Head of the Dissemination and Technology Transfer Department at Athena RIC. He received his MSc degree in Cognitive Science and Natural Language Processing at the University of Edinburgh. He has participated in a number of R&D national and European projects as well as in a series of projects on Technology Transfer, Innovation Management and Research Outreach. He has participated in the organisation and coordinated a cohort of R&D related conferences, fairs, workshops, roadshows, festivals, etc., both in Greece and all over Europe. Most recently he dealt with the organization of ICRI 2014 (Member of the Organising and Communication Committees), ACM/SIGMOD 2011, ProTon Europe Conference 2010 (chief organizer), EACL 2009. He is also dissemination and exploitation leader at the LangTERRA REGPOT project and member of the “Athena” RIC legal advisory team for the CLARIN Research Infrastructure.

**Eleni Sotiropoulou** (esotirop@athena-innovation.gr) is a member of the Dissemination and Technology Transfer Department at Athena RIC, supporting all activities relating to the organisation and management of events (workshops, info days, conferences, fairs etc). Most recent conference she was involved in was ICRI2014, being the coordinator of the local organizing team. She has also worked for the Laboratory of Technology and Strength of Materials at the Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering Department of the University of Patras from January 2007 to February 2013. She has provided managerial support to the European Aeronautics Science Network (EASN II) EC co-funded project, as well as to the EASN Association since its establishment in 2008. Part of her responsibilities at the laboratory included the organization of workshops, technical meetings and conferences as well as assistance in issues related with updating the EASN website and database. She has organized or assisted in the organization of more than 10 aeronautics related events in Europe.