

## **Athens to Host Global Thinkers Forum 2013**

### **Awards Ceremony & Forum for Excellence in Global Leadership Will discuss Leadership & Collaboration for Success**

London, October 21: Global Thinkers Forum (GTF) announces that its Annual Awards Ceremony and global gathering for Excellence in International Leadership will be held 3 & 4 December 2013 in Athens in partnership with the CEO Clubs Greece. The event will celebrate figures who are creating positive change by delivering innovative answers to some of the world's key challenges in government, business, technology, society and the Arts. They will be joined **by HE the High Representative of UN Alliance of Civilizations Dr Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser and HRH Princess Sumaya bin El Hassan of Jordan, international media and leading brands in front of a diverse local and worldwide audience. The main theme this year is 'Leadership & Collaboration for Success'.**

Global Thinkers Forum 2013 builds on last year's Amman event, which was held under the patronage of Queen Rania Al Abdullah of Jordan and the King Abdullah II Fund for Development. GTF 2012 attracted extensive media coverage throughout the region for its focus on Women Leaders in the Middle East and North Africa. It featured speakers such as Her Majesty Queen Rania, HRH Princess Sumaya Bint el Hassan, HRH Princess Rym, Professor Saskia Sassen, Arianna Huffington, Fadi Ghandour, and sponsorship among others from Jordan Ahli Bank, Qatar Airways, Umniah and the King Abdullah II Fund for Development.

"I am delighted that Athens is the next destination for the Global Thinkers Forum," said Elizabeth Filippouli, Founder and CEO of Global Thinkers Forum. "As a country responding both to the global financial crisis and to its own internal debate on change, Greece epitomizes the belief that the local and the global are inextricable today. Approaches and challenges relating to key political, economic and social issues make Greece an excellent context for our 2013 event. We are looking forward to another very stimulating and successful time in Athens".

Founder of CEO Clubs Greece, Mrs Gorgia Kartsanis said: "We are proud to support the organization of this year's GTF in our country. This Forum in its

essence will be an inspiration for our forward thinking leaders to expand collaborations for success beyond mind and geographical boundaries”

GTF 2013 topics will include:

- Excellence & Collaborative Leadership
- Leadership Challenges & Domestic Transformation
- Women Leaders
- The New Generation of Entrepreneurs
- Ecosystems for Attracting Investment
- The Leaders of Tomorrow

Global Thinkers Forum 2013 has already formed additional strategic partnerships with the CEO Clubs Greece, Sargia Partners, The World Policy Institute, the British Chamber of Commerce in Turkey, Bloomberg and Flint PR UK.

Maha Abouelenein, Head of Global Communications & Public Affairs for Google, MENA comments: 'The Internet can be a powerful force to collaborate in our shifting environments - what excites me is how the Internet is playing a key role allowing women to lead in MENA and to share their ideas, grow businesses and take action with others around the world. The work of GTF in promoting issues relating to social transformation and positive change thanks to technology is pioneering. I am delighted to be a member of the GTF Advisory Board.'

Global Thinkers Forum has also announced new appointments to its Advisory Board: HRH Princess Sumaya of Jordan, Chris W.J. Gaunt, Chairman, British Chamber of Commerce in Turkey; Maha Abouelenein: Head of Global Communications & Public Affairs for Google, MENA; Lucian Sarb, Director of News and Programmes at EURONEWS; Professor Saskia Sassen, Columbia University; Nidal Eses, Founder of Eses Ventures; Geraldine Sharpe-Newton, President of the UK's Media Society.

#### *About Global Thinkers Forum*

*Global Thinkers Forum (GTF) is a non-profit initiative and a platform to create dialogue and bring current and future leaders together to discuss governance, society, progress and the future. GTF takes place in various cities around the world*

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*and has been created to reposition perceptions about governance through a global perspective. GTF 2013 Athens (December 3-4, 2013) focuses on the roles and challenges for leaders in the region and globally.*

[www.globalthinkersforum.org](http://www.globalthinkersforum.org)

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