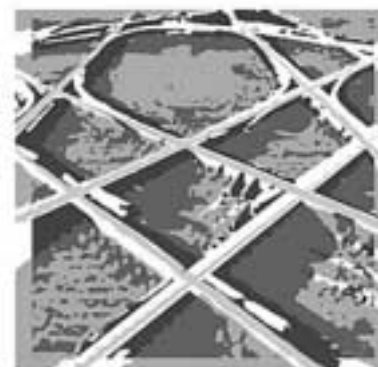




SKILLS MISMATCHES GETTING OVER IT?

agora THESSALONIKI
Organised by
Cedefop
29 and 30 September 2003

General Information

Dates, Location & Venue

The Agora Thessaloniki will take place on Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th September 2003 at Cedefop's premises in Thessaloniki * 123 Europe str. * 57001 Pylaia * Thessaloniki.
Tel.: (30) 2310 490 068

Find your way to Cedefop

From the airport or any part of the city or the city's suburbs, Cedefop (Europe 123, Pylea - Thessaloniki) is easy to access by taxi within maximum 30 minutes. A taxi will cost around 7 Euro, depending on the distance. Should you wish to call a radio taxi, upon arrival in Thessaloniki, please call one of the following numbers: 2310525000, 2310866866 and make your appointment. In general, taxis are easy to find, at the airport and all over the city; taxis are blue and white, and are easy to stop in the street. Please don't be surprised if other passengers are picked up along the way to your destination.

Secretariat and information desk during the conference

The Secretariat desk will be located at the conference venue, and will operate:

Monday, 29 th September 2003	8.00 - 19.00
Tuesday, 30 th September 2003	8.00 - 14.00

Tel.: (30) 2310 490 068 * Fax: (30) 2310 490 240

Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation will be available during the conference from and into the following languages: English, German, French.

Passive interpretation will be provided from Greek, Italian and Spanish language.

Internet facilities

Two workstations with internet/e-mail access will be available for participants outside the conference room.

Thessaloniki

Set on the northern shores of the Thermaikos Gulf that opens into the Aegean Sea, Thessaloniki is approximately 550 kilometres north of Athens and in close proximity to Chalkidiki's beautiful beaches. It is the metropolis of Macedonia, one of Europe's oldest cities and the second largest city in Greece.

Thessaloniki has been selected as one of the Olympic cities where the football preliminaries and semi-finals will take place during the Olympic Games 2004 held in Athens.

Founded in 316 BC by Cassander, King of Macedonia, the city was named after his wife, Thessaloniki, sister of Alexander the Great. It was here that Alexander the Great established the seat of his great Macedonian



Empire, imparting a legacy that has left modern Thessaloniki dotted with the treasures, temples and monuments of one of history's greatest leaders.

A lively modern port city, Thessaloniki also has a fascinating old quarter with relics from Roman and Byzantine times, many of which can be seen at the impressive Archaeological Museum that houses many of the treasures of ancient Macedonia.

Thessaloniki has the largest university in Greece, Aristotle University, which is one of the most established universities in the academic community in Europe.

A few of the city's many attractions include the 16th century White Tower, which holds a collection of Byzantine art, Thessaloniki's many churches, in particular the 4th century Rotonda dedicated to St George, containing mosaics of the period, and the 8th century Agia Sofia, which was converted into a mosque during Ottoman rule.

Registration

Registration to the conference is made by duly completing the registration form and sending it by fax or e-mail to ARTION Conferences & Events.

Registration fee

Participant	Early Registration	Late Registration
	By 19 th September 2003	After 20 th September 2003
Delegate	150 EURO	160 EURO
Invited Speaker	FREE	FREE

Registration fee includes: airport welcome desk, conference material, 3 coffee breaks, 2 lunches, 1 dinner and transportation to and from Cedefop from city centre hotels on Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 September 2003.

Cultural Programme

Saturday 27th September 2003

Welcome evening in a Greek taverna, offered by Cedefop

On Saturday evening, delegates and their accompanying persons are invited to the welcome dinner in a Greek taverna offered by CEDEFOP.

Sunday 28th September 2003

Mount Athos boat tour

Southeast of Thessaloniki is Mount Athos or "Aghion Oros", a unique place to visit. The "Holy Mountain" has been an autonomous monastic state since the 11th century by order of an Imperial Byzantine decree. It still enjoys a special status of autonomy within the Greek State.

Having reached Ormos Panagias, by coach, we will board the ship for a cruise around the coastline of the monastic republic of Athos. The cruise around Mount Athos is a wonderful combination of knowledge and pleasure. We will have the chance to enjoy the view of the beautiful scenery and the Byzantine monasteries of exceptional and unique architecture. According to regulations we will have to maintain a distance of 500 metres from the shore during the entire cruise. From the bridge of the ship, a tour guide will explain the historical background and give a full description of the Monasteries, helping us get more familiar with the landscape and the history of the world-wide unique peninsula. The cruise ends as we cross back to Ouranoupolis where we will stop for lunch in a Greek taverna. From there, the coach will take us back to Thessaloniki.

How to book for the cultural programme

To book for the welcome evening in a Greek taverna and the Mount Athos boat tour, please complete the relevant section of the registration form. The welcome dinner is offered by CEDEFOP. The cost of the tour per person is:

* Mount Athos cruise 70 EURO



Hotel Accommodation

Hyatt Regency ★★★★★

Single BB 175 EURO Double BB 210 EURO

Hyatt Regency is located only 13 kilometres from the city centre, 10 minutes from Cedefop and just 5 minutes from Thessaloniki International Airport - Macedonia.

13 km Thessaloniki-Perea * GR-57001 Thessaloniki * Greece

Tel.: (30) 2310 401 234 * Fax: (30) 2310 401 100

E-mail: hotel@hyatt.gr

URL: <http://www.thessaloniki.hyatt.com>

Capsis Bristol ★★★★★

Single BB 139 EURO Double BB 160 EURO

Set in the area of "Ladadika", in the centre of Thessaloniki, Capsis Bristol is 25 minutes from Cedefop and 30 minutes from Macedonia Airport. Shuttle bus to and from Cedefop is provided on 29th & 30th September.

2, Opoliou & Katouni str. * GR -54625 Thessaloniki * Greece

Tel.: (30) 2310 506 500 * Fax: (30) 2310 515 777

E-mail: bristol@the.forthnet.gr

URL: <http://www.capsisbristol.gr>

Hotel Panorama ★★★★★

Single BB 105 EURO Double BB 126 EURO

Built on the hill of Panorama, the hotel is just 10 minutes away from Cedefop and 15 minutes from the city centre and Macedonia Airport.

Analipseos 26, Panorama * GR-55236 Thessaloniki * Greece

Tel.: (30) 2310 344 871, Fax: (30) 2310 341 266

E-mail: panorama@the.forthnet.gr

URL: <http://www.hotelpanorama.gr>

City Hotel ★★★★★

Single BB 106 EURO Double BB 119 EURO

Located literally in the centre of the city, the hotel is 25 minutes from Cedefop and 30 minutes from Macedonia Airport. Shuttle bus to and from Cedefop is provided on 29th & 30th September.

11 Komnion Str. * GR-54624 Thessaloniki * Greece

Tel.: (30) 2310 269 421 * Fax: (30) 2310 274 358

E-mail: city@cityhotel.gr

URL: <http://www.cityhotel.gr>

Egnatia Hotel ★★★★★

Single BB 70 EURO Double BB 82 EURO

Situated right in the middle of the cultural and commercial centre of Thessaloniki, Egnatia Hotel is 25 minutes from Cedefop and 16 km from Macedonia International airport. Shuttle bus to and from Cedefop is provided on 29th & 30th September.

16 Antigonidon St. * GR-54630 Thessaloniki * Greece

Tel.: (30) 2310 530 675 * Fax: (30) 2310 531 761

E-mail: reservation@egnatia-hotel.gr (subject: Egnatia Hotel)

URL: <http://www.egnatia-hotel.gr>

Nepheli ★★★★★

Single BB 85 EURO Double BB 110 EURO

Nepheli is situated just 50 metres from the centre of Panorama, 5 minutes from the ring road, 10 minutes from Cedefop and 15 minutes from the airport and downtown Thessaloniki.

1 Komnion Str. Panorama * GR-55236 Thessaloniki * Greece

Tel.: (30) 2310 342 002 * Fax: (30) 2310 342 080

E-mail: nepheli@otenet.gr

All hotel rates are in EURO and include taxes and American buffet breakfast

Reservation procedure

Hotel reservations are made by duly completing the registration form and sending it to ARTION Conferences & Events. Reservations should be made by **19th September 2003**. May we suggest that you make your hotel reservation as early as possible and meet the above deadline.



How to secure your booking

All hotels require credit card details to guarantee your hotel booking. Please fill in the credit card section regardless of chosen method of payment to secure your hotel reservation.

Payment details

Full payment of the registration fees, hotel accommodation and the cultural programme is requested in EURO **no later than 19th September** by one of the following methods:

I. By bank transfer to ARTION Conferences & Events

Beneficiary: ARTION
Account no: 704-00-2002-004606
Swift number: CRBA GRAA
Bank: ALPHA BANK, TSIMISKI BRANCH (704), GR-THESSALONIKI

II. By credit card Visa, Mastercard or American Express

If registering via e-mail and wish to pay by credit card, please return by fax the relevant page of the registration form with the credit card section duly completed and signed.

Cancellation Policy

Registration Fees

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Written cancellation received by 19 th September: | Refund of the total fee less 25% administrative charge |
| 2. Written cancellation received after 19 th September: | No refund |

Hotels & Cultural Programme

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Written cancellation received by 19 th September | No cancellation fees |
| 2. Written cancellation received after 19 th September | One night hotel cancellation fee applies |
| 3. Written cancellation received after 25 th September | No refund |

All refunds will be processed after 28th October 2003

Useful information just before you arrive

Airport welcome desk

Upon arrival at the Macedonia Airport on Saturday 27th September look out for the "Agora Thessaloniki" welcome desk, where our welcome staff will provide you with guidance and assistance.

Please complete your flight details on the registration form in order to help us welcome you to the city.

Transfers

From the city centre hotels (Capsis Bristol, City & Egnatia), bus transfer from and to CEDEFOP will be provided on Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th September 2003, according to the conference programme. If you are late you can always take a taxi as there is no public transport to CEDEFOP.

Time

Greece is 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT +2) throughout the year.

Language

Greek is the official language but English is widely spoken as well as German and French.

Currency

The Greek currency is EURO. Credit cards are widely used in most establishments. Most currencies and traveller's cheques can easily be changed either at banks, hotels or money-changers with some handling charges.



Weather in September

The climate in Thessaloniki is Mediterranean with a definite seasonal variation. In late September the weather is usually mild, with temperatures ranging between 12°C and 22°C. It is mostly sunny but you may have a couple of rainy days. Sweaters and light jackets are recommended for the evenings. Most of the indoor venues are air-conditioned. Swimming is possible at that time of the year.

Power supply

The standard current in Greece is 220 volts. Plugs are European standard with two round pins.

People & Life

Thessaloniki is a popular destination. You will certainly enjoy a pleasant and interesting stay in the city. People are friendly and happy to help with any questions. The atmosphere is unique during the day in the commercial and shopping centre, but especially during the evening, in the wide variety of bars, restaurants and theatres for entertainment. Thessaloniki is renowned for its unique location, along the Thermaikos Gulf, its sunsets, its long history, its monuments and museums as well as its distinguished cuisine.

Liability

CEDEFOP and ARTION Conferences & Events act as agents of the event only in securing hotels, transport and travel services and in no event shall be liable for acts or defaults in the event of injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity of any kind whatsoever during arrangements organised through contractors or the employees of such contractors in carrying out services. Hotel and transportation services are subject to the terms and conditions under which they are offered to the public in general. The Host Committee reserves the right to make changes where deemed necessary, without prior notice to parties concerned. All disputes are subject to the Greek Law.

Useful Websites

* Conference information

<http://www.cedefop.eu.int/events.asp?Action=2&MonthF=9&YearF=2003>

* Professional Conference Organiser

<http://www.artion.com.gr>

* Information on Thessaloniki as a travel destination

http://www.greektourism.com/travel_guide/regions/macedonia/thessaloniki/

[http://philippos.mpa.gr/gr/recovered/thessaloniki/try\(5\)/eng/history.html](http://philippos.mpa.gr/gr/recovered/thessaloniki/try(5)/eng/history.html)

* Mount Athos

<http://www.macedonian-heritage.gr/Athos/>

<http://www.monachos.net/monasticism/athos/>

http://www.culture.gr/maps/macedon/ag_oros/ag_oros.html

<http://www.medialab.ntua.gr/athos/uk/general/top.htm>

<http://whc.unesco.org/sites/454.htm>

* Weather in Thessaloniki

http://weather.yahoo.com/forecast/GRXX0019_c.html

Useful Phones

Police	100
Tourist Police Station	2310 554 870, 554 871
Ambulance	166
Emergency Phone (not Greek speakers)	112

Information

For any further information please do not hesitate to contact the

Agora THESSALONIKI Secretariat

ARTION Conferences & Events

Ag. Sofias 24 * 54622 Thessaloniki * Greece

Tel: (30) 2310 252339 (agora line), 272275 * Fax: (30) 2310 272276, (30) 2310 277964

E-mail: agora@artion.com.gr

Please visit the [official website](#)

Please ask for: Ms. Valentini Amarantidou, Conference Coordinator

Ms. Alexandra Fafa, Conference Coordinator assistant

Ms. Zografia Theoharidou, Conference Secretariat

We look forward to meeting you soon

