**HELLENIC REPUBLIC**



**AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS**

**ΤΜΗΜΑ ΔΙΕΘΝΩΝ & ΔΗΜΟΣΙΩΝ ΣΧΕΣΕΩΝ**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**MEETING OF THE RECTOR OF THE AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS WITH THE FRENCH MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**

A meeting was held in Paris on Tuesday 27 August 2019 between the Rectors of the new Trans-European University EU-CONEXUS and the French Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation Frédérique Vidal. The Rector of the Agricultural University of Athens Professor Spyridon Kintzios, represented Greece, as the Agricultural University of Athens is founding member of the EU-CONEXUS Hyper-European University, together with the University of France, Civil Engineering Bucharest in Romania, Klaipeda University of Lithuania, Catholic University of Valencia in Spain and University of Zadar in Croatia.

The meeting, which was also attended by the Rectors of all French universities, emphasized the special importance of the new institution of European Universities as a model for the completion of the European Charter for Higher Education. It is worth mentioning that this institution was established on the personal initiative of President Macron and aspires to set new standards in the European Union's academic record.

The EU-CONEXUS coordinator is La Rochelle University and its Rector, Professor Jean Marc Ogier with whom Rector Spyridon Kintzios had a warm conversation and offered a symbolic gift of press papier with the engraved form of the goddess Dimitra, patroness of Agriculture. In addition to their cooperation within the framework of EU-CONEXUS, La Rochelle University and the Agricultural University of Athens are investing in further building a close bilateral relationship with a long-term horizon and emphasis on blue coastal development and sustainable coastal management.