



**Agricultural University of Athens
Iera Odos 75**

Seminar on

**"Cooperatives and the Social and Solidarity Economy
in Greece and around the world"**

23 September, 2017 9:30 - 15.45

Room: Conference Amphitheater (Agricultural Museum)

9:30-10:00 Arrival of participants

10:00-10:10 Welcome and opening: Mr. Stavros Zografakis, Vice Rector for Financial Structure, Research & Development, Agricultural University of Athens (AUA)

Workshop Themes - Mr. Lucas Mprechas, KAPA Network

- Which are the different entities that fall under Social and Solidarity Economy? Do all types of cooperatives belong in the social and solidarity economy (e.g. agricultural, civil, social, etc.)? What is the European definition of the Social and Solidarity Economy? Is the adoption of cooperative principles and values a sufficient condition to be a part of the Social and Solidarity Economy? Does the legislation governing the Social and Solidarity Economy enterprises and organizations need to be linked to the International Cooperative principles?
- Several European countries have legislation on social cooperatives; some of them also have separate legislation on social enterprises (or similar concept). Other European countries have legislation on social enterprise but not on social cooperatives; in this case, it may be possible to combine the social enterprise legislation and the general cooperative legislation. Social cooperatives and social enterprises are clearly distinct in their legal and institutional status in all these contexts. Do you think this should also be the case in Greece or should the legal status of “Social Cooperative Enterprise” as per the current SSE law remain as it is?

- Is collaboration with international organizations in amending SSE legislation and consolidation and review of cooperative legislation of value? If so, how has this worked in other contexts? How would you think it could be done in Greece?

1st part -Presentation, Views and Comments of the Representatives of International Organizations

Moderator: Dr. Yiorgos Alexopoulos, AUA, Greek Institute of Cooperation, GECES expert Group

- 10:10-10:35 Mr. Vic Van Vuuren, Director of Enterprises Department, International Labour Organization (ILO); Chair, UN Task Force on the Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE); Chair, Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC)
- 10:35-10:55 Mr. Victor Meseguer, Director of Social Economy Europe (SEE)
- 10:55-11:15 Ms. Stefania Marcone, Vice President of Cooperatives Europe
- 11:15-11:35 Mr. Bruno Roelants, Secretary General of the International Organization of Industrial, Artisanal and Service Producers' Cooperatives (CICOPA)
- 11:35-12:30 Questions & Answers
- 12:30-13:00 Break – Light lunch

2nd part - Presentation, Views and Comments of Representatives of Greek Organizations

Moderator: Dr. Yiorgos Alexopoulos, AUA, Greek Institute of Cooperation, GECES expert Group

- 13:00-13:15 Mr. Lucas Mprechas, member of KAPA Network
- 13:15-13:30 Mr. Panagiotis Tournavitis Representative of the Association of Greek Cooperative Banks
- 13:30-13:45 Mr. Paulos Satolias President of Panhellenic Union of Agricultural Cooperatives
- 13:45-14:00 Mr. Belonis Stavros President Federation of Pharmacists Cooperative
- 14:00-14:15 Mr. Sotiris Koupidis President of Federation of Social Cooperatives Limited (P.O.Koi.S.P.E)
- 14:15-14:30 Mr. Nikos Chrysogelos member of Social Entrepreneurship Forum
- 14:30-14:45 Mr. Spinthakis Evangelos President and Mr. Stelios Katomeris Member of Board of Panhellenic Unions of Social Economy Partnerships
- 14.45-15.35 Questions & Answers
- 15:35-15:45 Concluding remarks – Ms Ifigeneia Douvitsa, (Dr. jur.) Democritus University of Thrace, Greek Institute of Cooperation, Member of UnivSSE Coop.