

NEWSLETTER

BRITISH HELLENIC
Chamber of
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30 July 2020, 3rd Edition

EXCLUSIVE ARTICLE TO BHCC

ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΣ ΜΑΚΡΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ, Αντιδήμαρχος Ανάπτυξης, Επιχειρηματικότητας & Επενδύσεων του Δήμου Αθηναίων, τ. Αντιπρόεδρος του Ελληνοβρετανικού Επιμελητηρίου | ΑΡΘΡΟ



Ο «Μεγάλος Περίπατος» συνδέει τον πολιτισμό, το περιβάλλον, την επιχειρηματικότητα και τον σύγχρονο τρόπο ζωής

Η εφαρμογή του Σχεδίου Ανάπλασης της Αθήνας, η δημιουργία του «Μεγάλου Περιπάτου» είναι αναμφίβολα μια ιστορική μεταρρύθμιση.

Ο «Μεγάλος Περίπατος» συνδέει τον πολιτισμό, τον τουρισμό, το περιβάλλον, την επιχειρηματικότητα και τον σύγχρονο τρόπο ζωής. Αναμένεται να μεταβάλλει καθοριστικά την εικόνα της πόλης, την αντίληψη για το κέντρο της Αθήνας και εμμέσως και τις γειτονικές περιοχές.

[Read more](#)

BHCC & AS NETWORK DIGITAL EVENT "MyDATA PLATFORM" | 23 July 2020



Με επιτυχία και τη συμμετοχή οικονομικών στελεχών μεγάλων επιχειρήσεων της ελληνικής αγοράς, πραγματοποιήθηκε την Πέμπτη 23 Ιουλίου 2020, η διαδικτυακή εκδήλωση με τίτλο «**Ηλεκτρονικά Βιβλία ΑΑΔΕ - Ενεργοποίηση Πλατφόρμας myDATA**» που συνδιοργάνωσαν το **Ελληνοβρετανικό Εμπορικό Επιμελητήριο** και η **Accounting Solutions AE**. Την εκδήλωση χαιρέτισε η **Άννα Καλλιάνη**, Ελληνίδα Πρόεδρος του Ελληνοβρετανικού Επιμελητηρίου και στο πλαίσιο της ο **Σταύρος Πετριδίσογλου**, AS Tax Partner, παρουσίασε και ανέλυσε τα στοιχεία που αφορούν στην νέα άμεση υποχρέωση των επιχειρήσεων για την τήρηση ηλεκτρονικών βιβλίων και την online διαβίβαση δεδομένων στην πλατφόρμα myDATA της Ανεξάρτητης Αρχής Δημοσίων Εσόδων (ΑΑΔΕ).

Video εκδήλωσης

BHCC MEMBERS' SECTION

WATSON FARLEY & WILLIAMS | EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PARTNER GEORGE PALEOKRASSAS

In this video [George Paleokrassas](#), Partner in the Asset Finance Group and Head of Watson Farley & Williams' Athens office, talks about the lockdown and how the team managed to stay connected, be productive and helped each other to keep their spirits up, the return to normality, as well as the main challenges faced by the shipping industry during this period.



Watson Farley & Williams is an international law firm with over 500 lawyers globally and was the first international law firm to open an office in Greece in 1984.

KINSTERNA HOTEL

Safety and road access give impetus to Greek tourism



This year's summer, road tourism will boost locations that offer privacy, away from the massive model of incoming tourism traffic. Peloponnese can respond to new forms of demand, as it features strong advantages and modern road network. At the same time, the implementation of new operating procedures and health protocols is a key priority for both properties and travelers.

An alternative "shelter" in beautiful Monemvasia, hidden on the slopes of Mount Parnon with a special microclimate and impressive flora shielding its guests safety. Kinsterna utilizes the impressive estate of 25 acres and now offers its guests newly added services, guaranteeing more privacy and freedom.

[Read more](#)

Intellectual Property Rights - IP Tax Planning

by [CHRISTOS OIKONOMAKIS](#)

Intellectual property (IP) and its effective operation are very important drivers for entities worldwide. International corporate structures persuade multinational corporations (MNCs) to address their valuable IP rights in low-tax locations aiming to eliminate taxation.

Businesses look constantly for solutions on developing and keeping safe company's revenue and profits, effectively managing expenses, managing tax-related risks by IP tax planning, while gaining competitive advantages and leverage the major value from IP assets.

[Read more](#)

BREXIT AND EU NEWS & UPDATES

9 July 2020: Getting ready for changes

Communication on readiness at the end of the transition period between the European Union and the United Kingdom.

[Read more](#)

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (DIT)

13 July 2020: The Border Operating Model

A guide / Policy Paper to how the border with the European Union will work after the transition period.

[Read more](#)

BRITISH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (BCC) AND UK GOVERNMENT NEWS & UPDATES

BCC NEWS & UPDATES

2 July 2020: BCC Quarterly Economic Survey (QES) Q2 2020

On 1 July, BCC published the [results of QES Q2](#) which found that UK economic conditions deteriorated at an unprecedented rate in the second quarter of 2020. The key findings for this quarter:

- 11 of the 14 key service sector QES indicators fall to their lowest level in the survey's 31-year history.
- The percentage balance of firms reporting increased domestic and export sales is now substantially lower than the worst quarter of the 2008-09 recession.
- Indicators for longer-term business performance drop to record lows as BCC sets out measures needed to begin UK's economic recovery.

Please read the analytical findings of the Survey [here](#).

2 July 2020: Change in state aid rules for government-backed loans

The EU has extended its state aid temporary framework to all small companies (less than 50 employees and less than EUR 10 million of annual turnover and/or annual balance sheet total), even if they were in "financial difficulty" on 31 December 2019.

This amendment extends possibilities to support more small companies, including those with particular financial structures, such private equity backed firms, or who were in a growth phase and so might have appeared to be in financial difficulty on paper. Take a look at the [details](#).

7 July 2020: Travel Corridor Exemption list: 14 day isolation lifted for lower risk countries

From 10 July, passengers returning to or visiting England, from countries or territories detailed in the [travel corridor exemption list](#), will no longer need to self-isolate on arrival. All passengers, except those on a small list of exemptions, will still be required to provide contact information on arrival in the UK. Find more information in the Transport and Travel section on BCC's [Coronavirus Hub](#).

Take a look back at [BCC's response](#) to the government's announcement of quarantine-free travel with a specified list of 'low-risk' countries.

14 July 2020: UK government publishes new Border Operating Model

The [Border Operating Model](#) provides clarity and certainty for the border industry and businesses, including technical detail on how the border with the EU will work after the transition period and the actions that traders, hauliers, ports and carriers need to take. It covers all of the processes and systems, across all government departments, that will be used at the border. It provides clarity on the end to end journey for moving goods across the border - with information about controlled goods and new government systems that will support trade.

To help businesses prepare for these changes and continue to trade, [guides on how to import and export goods](#) are available in the form of a 'journey', so that you can clearly see every step you need to take to ensure that your goods are transported successfully.

BCC responds to the government's proposed border controls after the transition period

Take a look at [BCC's response](#) to the UK government's new proposed processes for moving goods from the UK to the EU from 1 January 2021.

14 July 2020: BCC responds to further details on the points-based immigration system

See [BCC's response](#) to the UK government's [publication of further details](#) on the UK points-based immigration system. The new system, introduced from 2021, will require those applying via the skilled worker route to accrue points by meeting a number of relevant criteria, such as having a job offer at the appropriate skill level, the ability to speak English and meeting the salary threshold.

EU citizens resident in the UK by 31 December 2020 can still apply to settle in the UK through the [EU Settlement Scheme](#) until 30 June 2021.

16 July 2020: BCC submission to Freeports consultation

The UK government wants to establish Freeports, which have different customs rules than the rest of the country, that are innovative hubs, boost global trade, attract inward investment and increase productivity. To support this work, they are running a formal consultation to understand your thoughts on the UK's plans for Freeports.

Following input from across the Chamber Network, the BCC has submitted its [response](#).

23 July 2020: BCC Coronavirus Business Impact Tracker: Restart of the UK economy "still in first gear" with businesses operating at just half of normal capacity

Take a look at the [results](#) from the latest Coronavirus Business Impact Tracker in partnership with job site Indeed which reveal that businesses are operating at half of their pre-Covid 19 capacity on average, despite lockdown measures easing.

Limited capacity

53%

average capacity firms are operating at compared to before Covid-19



UK GOVERNMENT NEWS & UPDATES

17 July 2020: Prime Minister's statement on coronavirus (COVID-19)



Prime Minister Boris Johnson made a statement on coronavirus.

[PM's statement](#)

17 July 2020: BCC responds to Prime Minister's speech setting out next steps in Coronavirus response

BCC Director General Adam Marshall commented on the Prime Minister's speech on 17 July, setting out the next steps in England's Coronavirus response.

[Read more](#)

10 July 2020: Claim for wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

Claim for 80% of your employee's wages plus any employer National Insurance and pension contributions, if you have put them on furlough or flexible furlough because of coronavirus (COVID-19).

[Read more](#)

23 July 2020: Finance Bill 2020 – 21

A number of key announcements were made in Tuesday's L-Day Written Ministerial Statement. See the below summary:

- **Making Tax Digital (MTD)** - Making Tax Digital (MTD) for VAT to be [extended](#) all businesses below the VAT threshold from April 2022. MTD will also apply to taxpayers who file Income Tax Self-Assessment for businesses and landlords with income over £10,000 from April 2023.
- **Business rates revaluation** - the next revaluation of non-domestic property in England will take effect on 1 April 2023 and will be based on property values as of 1 April 2021.

- **Business rates review call for evidence** – following the announcement of a review at the March budget, the government have now published details of the [call for evidence](#). They are seeking responses in two phases – Firstly, views on the multiplier and reliefs, by 18 September, to inform an interim report in the Autumn. Secondly, responses on all other sections by 31 October, ahead of the review’s conclusion in Spring 2021. The BCC will be holding a wider CPRG meeting in the coming weeks to shape response to the consultation.

CONTACT DETAILS

For more information and publication of articles, reports, press releases and/or interviews, please contact Mrs Lina Dede, BHCC General Manager | E-mail: l.dede@bhcc.gr



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