

Digital transformation, networking, collaboration and convergence in the Balkans



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THESSALONIKI INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

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very well
IN GREECE

N. Efthymiadis
BALKAN FORUM 5.10.2022

Mega Projects

MP1
Advanced
Materials and
Manufacturing
Processes

MP2
Flexible Organic
Nanotechnology
Applications

MP3
Artificial
Intelligence
& Simulation
Applications

MP4
Clean Energy
Innovative
Solutions

MP5
Competence
Center
for Business
and Logistics
Challenges

MP6
Future
Mobility
Applications

Under development

MP7 / Biosciences

MP8 / Agro & Food Technologies

Thessaloniki

Greece's most outward looking city

Thessaloniki, the second largest Greek city and one of Europe's oldest, boasts the largest student population in South East Europe including 3 times the European average of engineering graduates.

Beyond the city

Thessaloniki is truly fascinating, but if you venture outside of it, you will discover that the surrounding area is also rich with places to explore and things to see and do.

From pristine beaches with crystal clear waters to breath taking mountain vistas, wine tasting extravaganzas to thousand-year-old monasteries, sailing or kitesurfing to mountaineering and ski touring on Mt Olympus, historical sites to crazy carnivals, Macedonia and its neighbouring regions can please even the pickiest of wanderers.



- ▶ International **Airport**
- ▶ Major **Port**
- ▶ Rich history, **social and cultural life**
- ▶ 1.000.000+ inhabitants/one of the **youngest populations** in Europe
- ▶ Huge **tourist** influx to nearby Halkidiki
- ▶ Greece's **Exhibition Hub**
- ▶ 4 Universities / Thessaloniki has a strong academic community of 120,000 students, **the largest in Greece and South East Europe**

Location & Accessibility



Next to the Airport - 20 minutes from City Center

Peraia Region

- ✓ Appealing to Tech executives, knowledge workers
- ✓ Contemporary Residential projects under development
- ✓ Excellent beaches and local Gastronomy
- ✓ Proximity to yearround tourist destinations
- ✓ International Schools & Medical facilities



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- ✓ Compliance with latest ESG specification
- ✓ State of the Art Buildings & Infrastructure
- ✓ Sports, Leisure and Childcare facilities

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A human beehive



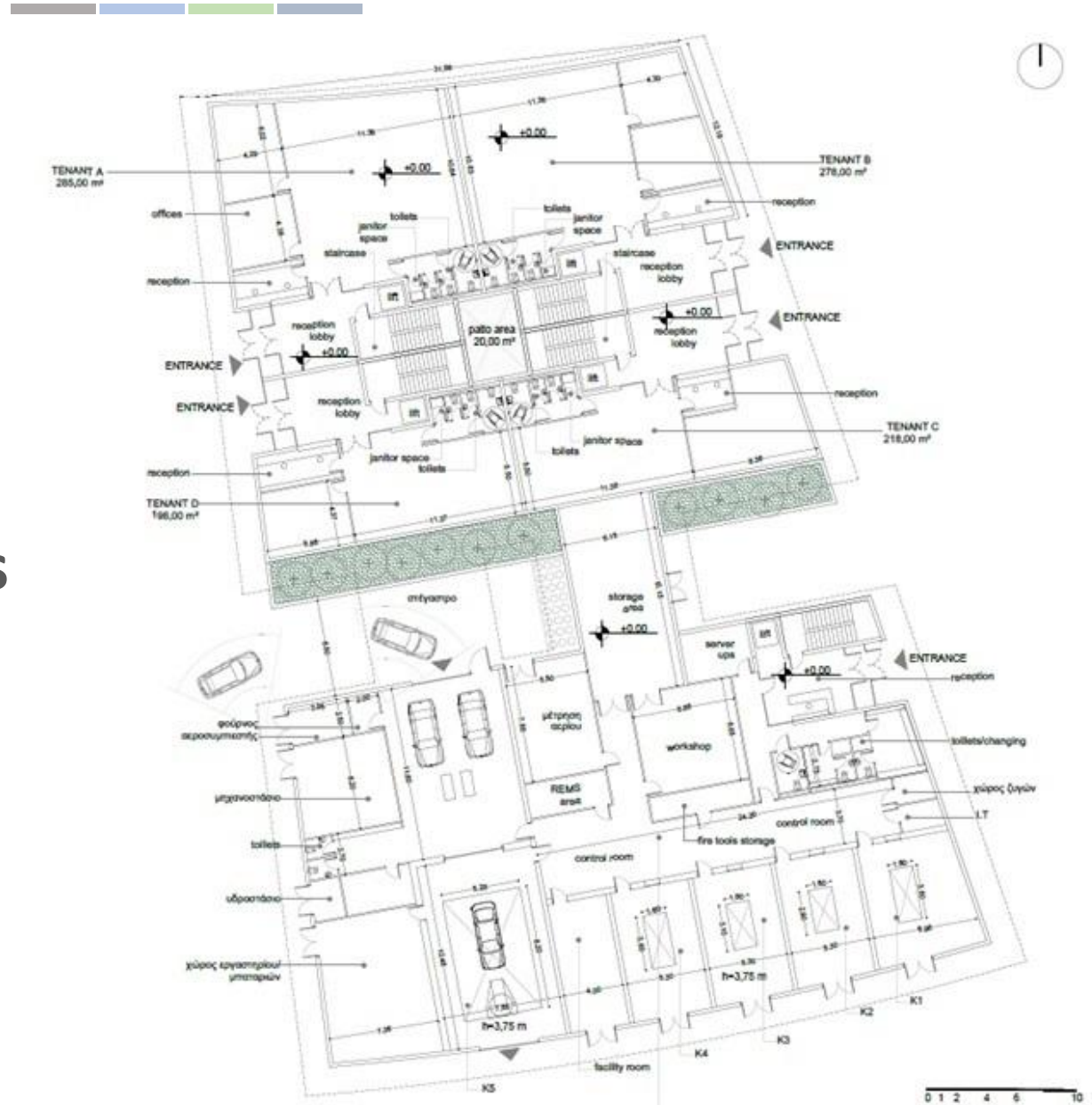
- ✓ Over 7.000 well paid new jobs
- ✓ Over 1.300 researchers
- ✓ Over 2/3 of permanent staff will be employed in knowledge-intensive jobs
- ✓ From brain drain to brain gain
- ✓ Thessaloniki: worldwide #3 city for Digital Nomads (Instant Offices, 2022)

Mature in all aspects

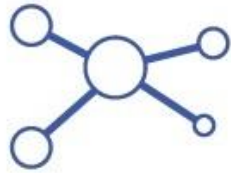
✓ **Completion of Licensing**
January 2023

✓ **Infrastructure Ground Works**
Spring 2023

✓ **Start of Operations**
Summer 2025



Design principles



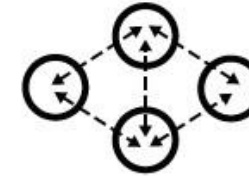
Connection
with the local
community



Sustainable
Development



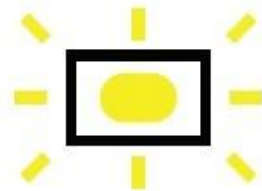
Mixed use
program



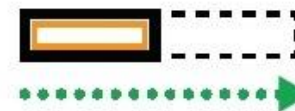
Innovative
environment



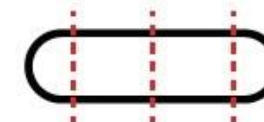
Impressive
Views



Vibrant areas for
collaboration and
socialization



Flexibility



Uniform
design solution



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A Digital Transformation Accelerator
and a Technology Networking Facilitator



Environmentally friendly infrastructure



- ✓ 29 hectares of green space
- ✓ Zero energy buildings
- ✓ 85% CO₂ emissions reduction
- ✓ Water recycling facilities

Using Technology Ethically

An Innovation Park in Greece and the Balkans has a Universal obligation to connect New Technologies to human needs

Some examples:

- ✓ **Artificial Intelligence:** Disabled people and Healthcare needs
- ✓ **Agrotechnology:** Feeding 10 billion people while facing limited area and water resources
- ✓ **Multi Model Transfer combined with Energy:** Multi-National and Cultural cooperation
- ✓ **Logistics:** Remote regions around the World
- ✓ **Employment:** Will machines/robots replace humans?

“It is Co-Existence OR No Existence”

Talent Preservation



Industry 4.0 demands that University Graduates should have the necessary skills, which should assist them to be competitive within the new productive model of the knowledge intensity

Social Incorporation



Develop innovative products, services, technologies and procedures to facilitate and improve vulnerable citizens' lives

Ecological & Urban Resilience



Adopt technologies that support the ecosystem to be more resilient and to achieve faster recovery after environmental disasters (floods, fires, sea pollution)



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Thank you

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