

## Welcome Address



Dear Colleagues and Guests,

On behalf of the EC and all members of the Hellenic Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology it is a great pleasure and a privilege to welcome you to the historic city of Thessaloniki.

The 5th Balkan Congress of Allergy and Clinical Immunology aims at becoming a meeting point for researchers and clinicians with special interest in Allergy –Clinical immunology. The Organizing Committee in collaboration with the Balkan Scientific Program Committee has planned a stimulating scientific program with distinguished speakers from all fields of our specialty. We are particularly proud to present during this forum prominent Balkan scientists of the Diaspora and also local colleagues of international recognition.

The organizing Committee has made every effort to combine science, culture and pleasure in the superb environment of the Thessaloniki prefecture and nearby Pella, the site-museum of the Vergina (Aegae) archaeological excavations.

The multivariate attraction sites of Thessaloniki –the metropolis of the southern Balkan area– and the traditional Hellenic hospitality promise a memorable stay to all participants.

We urge you to take advantage of the educational and cultural opportunities planned for this event, while giving us the opportunity to offer you the “philoxenia” spirit of Olympian Zeus.

Welcome to Hellas

**Kalliopi Kontou-Fili M.D., Ph.D.**