

 **Press Release 1/7/25**

**The Cyprus Academy of Sciences, Letters, and Arts Receives Prestigious Grant from the InterAcademy Partnership for Groundbreaking Climate Research**

**Nicosia, Cyprus** — The Cyprus Academy of Sciences, Letters, and Arts (‘The Cyprus Academy’) is proud to announce that it has been awarded one of the highly competitive and prestigious grants from the InterAcademy Partnership (‘IAP’). The grant will support the Academy’s project entitled: “**Threats to the Mediterranean Marine Ecosystems in a Warming World**.”

This initiative, led by the Cyprus Academy in collaboration with the **European Academies’ Science Advisory Council (**[**EASAC**](https://easac.eu/)**) and the Network of African Science Academies (**[**NASAC**](https://nasaconline.org/)**),** underscores the Cyprus Academy’s commitment to scientific excellence and regional cooperation in addressing critical global challenges.

The project focuses on the escalating threats posed by climate change to marine ecosystems, with particular emphasis on the Eastern Mediterranean—an area of high vulnerability but limited research coverage. As extreme weather events—rising temperatures, medicanes, flash floods, and prolonged droughts—increasingly affect the 22 countries surrounding the Mediterranean Basin, the region’s marine and coastal ecosystems face unprecedented risks. These include sea acidification, rising sea levels, coastal erosion, and the proliferation of invasive species, all of which threaten biodiversity and ecological balance.

Building on the foundational work of the Cyprus Government’s Cyprus Climate Initiative ([https://emme-cci.org](https://emme-cci.org/)), this project will deepen scientific understanding of climate-induced stressors on the Mediterranean’s marine environments and contribute to informed policy development at regional, European and international levels.

The grant is awarded under the auspices of the **InterAcademy Partnership (IAP),** a global network comprising more than 150 national, regional, and global academies of science, engineering, and medicine. Representing the collective voice of over 30,000 leading scientists, engineers, and health professionals from more than 100 countries, IAP mobilizes scientific knowledge and expertise to advance evidence-based policymaking, improve public health, enhance science education, and promote sustainable development. Through strategic initiatives and collaborative projects such as this one—supported by the Simons Foundation International—IAP addresses urgent global challenges, including climate change, food and water security, global health, and equitable access to knowledge. A key focus is on fostering enduring partnerships between high-income and low- and middle-income countries to co-develop science-based solutions to shared challenges.

This achievement marks a significant milestone for the Cyprus Academy, as it represents the first competitive international grant awarded to the institution. The President of the Cyprus Academy, Professor **Achilles C. Emilianides**, hailed the award as “*a testament to the Academy’s scientific calibre and the growing recognition of its role as a trusted interlocutor within the international academic community*.”

The project is led by Academician Professor **Costas N. Papanicolas** and will be conducted under the auspices of the Cyprus Academy’s newly established **Research Office on Climate Crisis and Sustainable Development**.

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