

January 26, 2015

The Honorable Alexis Tsipras Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic 19 Irodou Attikou St. Athens 106-74 Greece

Dear Prime Minister Tsipras:

We would like to extend our congratulations for your recent election as your nation's Prime Minister. As you assume office and take action to strengthen Greece's economic outlook, we remain attentive to any request from your office for research or best practices in building entrepreneurial ecosystems. Vital to this will be enhancing Greece's entrepreneurial ecosystem where we see the potential for a renewed human spirit creating value for society.

The Greek people have shown to be among the most entrepreneurial in mindset around the world, through their strong representation in the Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN). Represented in your country since 2007 by the Federation of Hellenic Associations of Young Entrepreneurs as the Host Organisation, and since 2013 in cooperation with Industry Disruptors-Game Changers (ID-GC), the above mentioned organizations are now working for the foundation of the GEN Greece National Board. The Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN) is a platform of programs and initiatives to help people across the globe unleash their ideas and turn them into promising new ventures—creating jobs, unearthing innovations for society and strengthening economic stability around the world. GEN includes <u>Global Entrepreneurship</u> <u>Week</u>, <u>Global Entrepreneurship Research Network</u>, and the annual <u>Global Entrepreneurship</u> <u>Congress</u> (GEC).

The latter will take place this March in Milan, where thousands of delegates will meet for the 2015 GEC—an inter-disciplinary gathering of startup champions and leaders from government and the private sector including the Obama Administration from more than 150 countries. These delegates represent distinct components of their entrepreneurial ecosystems and are focused on how best to help entrepreneurs start and scale new firms.

On their behalf, it is my honor to formally invite you to join us as a keynote speaker during the opening ceremonies on Tuesday, March 17, 2015.

The 2015 Congress is hosted by the Global Entrepreneurship Network, the Meta Group, and the Kauffman Foundation, and is supported by the Italian Ministry of Economic Development.

The GEC pulls together a broad collection of voices from across the entrepreneurial spectrum with previous participation from heads of state and celebrity entrepreneurs such as Richard Branson, Marc Ecko, and Peter Vesterbacka of Angry Birds, to startup community champions like Brad Feld and Dave McClure of 500 Startups. It also features dozens of policy leaders actively promoting entrepreneurial growth through a growing <u>Startup Nations</u> network.

If you have any inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>jortmans@kauffman.org</u>, or Cristina Fernandez from Global Entrepreneurship Week at <u>cristina@gew.co</u>.

Sincerely,

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Jonathan Ortmans President