

Greek Diplomatic Life

AN ILLUSTRATED REVIEW OF POLITICAL,
BUSINESS AND SOCIAL EVENTS OF THE MONTH

JUNE 2023





SLOVENIAN STATEHOOD DAY MARKED IN GREECE

To celebrate the Slovenian Statehood Day, H.E. the Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia, Tamara Weingerl Požar, hosted a reception in the Numismatic Museum. In a speech below the beautiful frescoes of the Slovenian painter Jurij Šubic, she stressed that on 25th June 1991, Slovenia became formally independent by adopting the Declaration of Independence and the Basic Constitutional Charter. Slovenia's independence path was crowned with its acceptance to the UN in May 1992, to NATO in March 2004 and to the EU in May 2004. Slovenia was the 1st new Member State to introduce the euro in January 2007, it was accepted into the Schengen area in December 2007 and it was also the first new Member State to hold the Presidency of the Council and European Council in 2008, to be followed in 2021 with its 2nd EU Presidency. Lastly, in 2024-2025 Slovenia will sit on the UN Security Council for the 2nd time in its young history. She underlined that Greece and Slovenia enjoy excellent relations and share many similar political views, in particular the interest for the stability of the Western Balkans and the Mediterranean. She also highlighted that Slovenians and Greeks are symbolically attached through a name - *Kapodistrias*. The ancestors of the 1st Governor of Greece came from Koper (*Capodistria*). In addition, the people's bond through sports and culture; a number of Slovenian football players decided to make Greece their temporary home and play in 1st division Greek clubs.



First row: Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia, Tamara Weingerl Požar pictured with MoFA Political Director, Ambassador Roussos Koundouros; with MoFA F-A Director, Ambassador and Mrs. Argyris Makris; with Numismatic Museum Director George Kakavas and Ministry of Culture Sec General Polyxeni Adam-Veleni; with Head of the European Commission Representation in Greece Niovi Ringou. Second row: with representative of the Greek Orthodox Church; with Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Ambassador of Cyprus Kyriakos Kenevezos; with the Ambassadors of Croatia Aleksandar Sunko; of Ukraine Sergii Shutenko; of South Africa Beryl Sisulu. Third row: of Czechia Jakub Karfik; of Portugal Helena Paiva; of Italy Patrizia Falcietti; of Malta Joseph Cuschieri; of Albania Lueta Hajdaraga. Fourth row: of Korea Jung-il Lee; of Luxembourg Elisabeth Jordao; of Sweden Johan Borgstam; of Spain Carles Casajuana; of Lithuania Lina Skerstonaitė. Fifth row: of Argentina Luis Azpiazu; of Egypt Omar Youssef; of Pakistan Muhammad Qureshi; of the Vatican, Archbishop Jan Pawlowski; of Turkey Cagatay Erciyes.