

1. IN BRIEF

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Pyatt at ATHEX. United States Ambassador to Greece Geoffrey Pyatt rang the opening session bell at the Athens Stock Exchange yesterday, at the invitation of Athens Exchange Group CEO Socrates Lazaridis. Pyatt's visit was held on occasion of the upcoming 10th Greek Investment Forum in New York, to take place online on June 8-11.

IN BRIEF

Stournaras: ECB must keep its money taps fully open

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - The European Central Bank must keep its money taps fully open, as the eurozone economy is still in the throes of the coronavirus pandemic despite progress in vaccination campaigns, ECB policymaker Yannis Stournaras said. ECB rate-setters will review the pace of emergency bond purchases at their June 10 meeting against an improved economic backdrop. Growth and inflation rates are rising in the bloc as Covid-19 cases fall. However, in an exclusive with Reuters, Stournaras said the recovery remained fragile and, with no evidence to point to an era of high inflation in the foreseeable future, it was too early for the ECB to slow down emergency bond purchases. "Of course there has been an acceleration in vaccinations, but there are still travel restrictions so I cannot say we are out of the woods yet," Stournaras, who is also Greece's central bank governor, said.

EY to present new investor survey at InvestGR Forum

EY Greece and the InvestGR Forum are continuing their cooperation for a second year, within the framework of this year's 4th InvestGR Forum 2021: Reforming the Greek Economy, which will take place at the Athens Hilton on July 14. For the second consecutive year, the InvestGR Forum will be the exclusive venue for the first presentation by EY Greece of the findings, relating to Greece, of its research conducted worldwide. In the forum's first discussion panel, the findings of the EY research "Attractiveness Survey: Greece 2021" will be presented and analyzed for the first time. The third edition of the annual EY survey will present the investment community's views on Greece, the country's strengths and weaknesses as an investment destination, its performance in attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) over the past year, as well as its course as an investment destination compared to previous years. The country managing partner of EY Greece, Panos Papazoglou, stated, "In the third year of our research, we will be present at the 4th InvestGR Forum 2021, to report on the pulse of the global investment community regarding Greece, to compare the country's performance in attracting FDI last year, and to analyze its prospects as an investment destination, today, tomorrow and beyond."

NCL-Posidonia. The dynamic comeback of cruise travel with Norwegian Cruise Line (NCL), an innovator in global cruise travel with a 54-year history of breaking boundaries, continues as the brand has announced that it expects to resume cruise operations from the US beginning August 7, with week-long voyages from Seattle to Alaska, one of its guests' favorite cruise destinations. NCL's return to Alaska follows the announcement of the redeployment of five of the brand's 17 ships beginning from July, sailing new and revised itineraries in Europe and the Caribbean, as part of its return to service plans. Kevin Bubolz, NCL's managing director for Europe, laid emphasis on the brand's cruise activity in Greece during his participation in the 6th Posidonia Sea Tourism Forum yesterday. As of July 25, guests will be able to cruise the Greek isles with seven-night itineraries on the Norwegian Jade from Piraeus, highlighting the importance of Greece as a cruise destination for NCL as well as the cruise industry in general.

Turkish central bank. Turkey removed one of four central bank deputy governors yesterday, two months after President Recep Tayyip Erdogan fired the central bank governor. Oguzhan Ozbas was removed from his post, and Semih Tumen was appointed to replace him, according to an overnight decree published in the official gazette. (Reuters)