

ISSUE 22 APR. - JUN. 2025

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE



HELLENIC RED CROSS



WHEREVER THERE'S A NEED
#hellenicredcross

Message from the H.R.C. President

Dear Red Cross Women,
Dear Red Cross Men,

The constantly accelerating pace of human life, marked by successive changes and transformations, creates conditions that make vigilance and full preparedness of the Hellenic Red Cross (HRC) absolutely essential. Our presence must bridge the gap between our steadfast principles and the ever-evolving human needs.

We are ethically inspired by an idea and a vision: to translate into action the dynamic presence of the HRC, reinforcing its historic course and its relevance amid today's challenging global context. Through innovative social interventions and pioneering actions of preventive and therapeutic importance, we stand by individuals in urgent need—especially those living in marginalized urban and peri-urban environments—offering them a framework of protection and dignified living.

The sheer volume of our activities, being vast and extensive, does not allow for a more detailed presentation here. From our Tracing Services to encouraging the participation of children and youth in our operations, and from addressing climate change to promoting ecology, our focus remains on the essence of the increasingly adverse social conditions. These circumstances make collective volunteer action essential—an action rooted in shared values and beliefs that thrive within the heart of the Hellenic Red Cross.



With self-awareness and clarity of purpose, we move forward, highlighting the vital role of the HRC through our management and response to the challenges faced by human society.

With Red Cross greetings,

The President of the Hellenic Red Cross

Dr. Antonios Argerimos

Pharmacist, Retired Major General

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Launch of the "Patient Support Service in Emergency Departments" at Attica hospitals

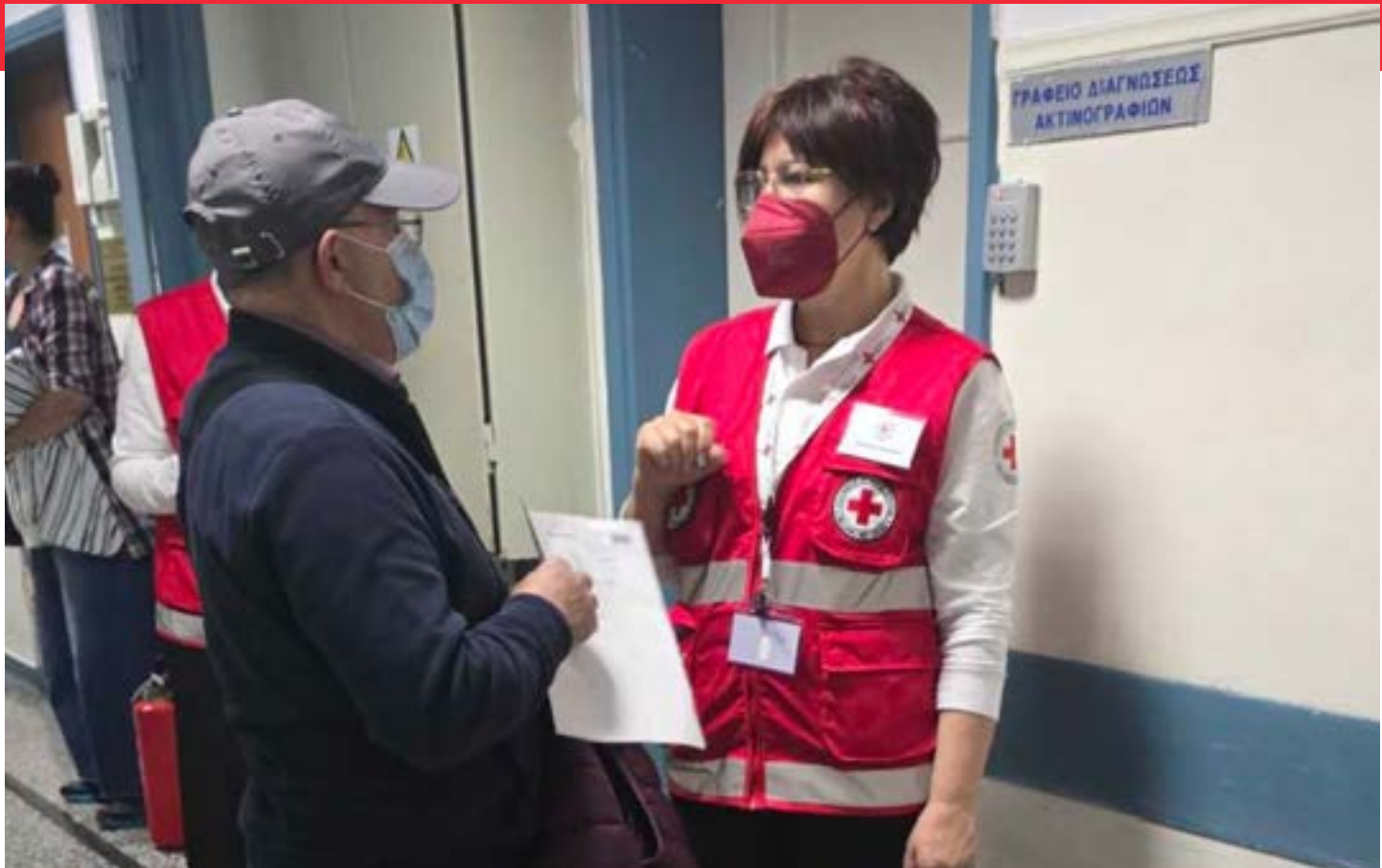
On Tuesday, April 1, 2025, the launch of the "Patient Support Service in Emergency Departments (EDs)" took place at the Emergency Departments of Evangelismos and Attikon hospitals, in which the volunteers of the Hellenic Red Cross (H.R.C.) will assist the patients who arrive at the hospitals. The H.R.C. volunteers at Evangelismos were welcomed by the Minister of Health, Mr. Adonis Georgiadis, while at Attikon they were welcomed by the Hospital Administration, in the presence of the Secretary General of the H.R.C., Mr. Georgios Skoumas.

The new Service of the Hellenic Red Cross is implemented by 25 volunteers in three hospitals of the 1st and 2nd Health Regions, and specifically at

the General Hospital of Athens "Evangelismos", the General Hospital of Athens "Georgios Gennimatas" and the University General Hospital "Attikon". The aim of the new program is to provide information and guidance to patients regarding hospital procedures, faster service, support in managing flow to reduce delays and errors, and support to administrative staff with the goal of ensuring accurate information.

The Minister of Health, Mr. Adonis Georgiadis, stated: "I am extremely proud because today begins a very ambitious program that we presented a few days ago together with the Hellenic Red Cross, which will completely change the experience of pa-

tients during the emergency shifts of the major hospitals in Attica. Trained and highly scientifically qualified volunteers of the Hellenic Red Cross will take on the role of guiding and facilitating patients arriving during those emergency shifts. I believe it is very important that at the moment of great anxiety when someone reaches a hospital's emergency department, there is a person to guide them. Of course, they do not replace the role of doctors or nurses, nor that of the rest of the staff, but we believe they will make a significant difference. We move forward with hard work and planning to change the image of the National Health System."





The Samaritan-Rescuers of the H.R.C. on the front line of the battle with the flames in the fire fronts of Chios

The volunteers of the Hellenic Red Cross (H.R.C.), demonstrating inexhaustible emotional reserves and greatness of spirit, operated day and night alongside the Fire Service on the fire fronts of Chios, remaining constantly at the side of the firefighters who are making a tremendous effort against the flames. Specifically, the special-

ly trained teams of Samaritan-Rescuers from the Regional Branches of Komotini and Thessaloniki of the H.R.C. reinforced the humanitarian work of the Health Volunteers of the Chios Regional Branch of the H.R.C. in the affected areas, offering First Aid, basic health services, and essential supplies to firefighters and residents. At the same time, the

Samaritan-Rescuers of the H.R.C. informed the residents about self-protection measures and possible evacuations.

The incidents they handled mainly concerned minor burns, shortness of breath, irritation, and tearing due to continuous smoke exposure.





ΩΦΕΛΟΥΜΕΝΟΙ ΠΟΥ ΔΕΧΤΗΚΑΝ ΠΡΩΤΕΣ ΒΟΗΘΕΙΕΣ ΚΑΤΑ ΤΗΝ ΕΠΙΣΚΕΨΗ ΤΟΥΣ ΣΤΟΝ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΧΩΡΟ ΤΗΣ ΑΚΡΟΠΟΛΕΩΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟ ΕΡΥΘΡΟ ΣΤΑΥΡΟ

							ΠΕΡΙΣΤΑΤΙΚΑ ΙΟΥΝΙΟΣ 2025	
							ΠΕΡ.*	
							ΠΑΘΟΛΟΓΙΚΑ/ΚΑΡΔΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΑ	160
							ΠΑΙΔΙΑΤΡΙΚΑ	15
							ΟΡΘΟΠΕΔΙΚΑ/ΜΥΟΣΚΕΛΕΤΙΚΑ	25
							ΧΕΙΡΟΥΡΓΙΚΑ/ΤΡΑΥΜΑΤΑ	41
							ΔΕΡΜΑΤΟΛΟΓΙΚΑ	4
							ΟΦΘΑΛΜΟΛΟΓΙΚΑ	5
							ΡΙΝΟΡΡΑΓΙΑ	6
							ΕΠΙΛΗΨΙΑ	0
							ΔΙΑΚΟΜΕΣ	3
							ΣΥΝΟΛΑ	256
							ΩΦΕΛΟΥΜΕΝΟΙ	Γ
ΑΝΔΡΕΣ	0-10ετών	11-20ετών	21-40ετών	41-60ετών	>60ετών	ΣΥΝΟΛΑ	Α	101
	13	15	12	14	47			
ΓΥΝΑΙΚΕΣ	0-10ετών	11-20ετών	21-40ετών	41-60ετών	>60ετών	ΣΥΝΟΛΑ	Γ	155
	9	24	22	43	57			

The H.R.C. successfully responded to 256 emergency incidents involving visitors to the Acropolis in June

The contribution of the nursing staff and volunteers of the Hellenic Red Cross (H.R.C.) to the visitors of the Acropolis is multifaceted and especially important, as they respond daily to dozens of emergency incidents at the two (2) infirmaries they staff—located at the ticket offices and within the monument site.

Indicatively, in June 2025, 256 incidents requiring First Aid were recorded at the Acropolis (injuries to upper and lower limbs, nosebleeds, abrasions, heatstroke, pathological – cardiac incidents, etc.), which were handled, managed, and

treated by nurses from the H.R.C. Health Sector and volunteers from the Health and Samaritan-Rescuer Sectors of the Hellenic Red Cross.

In addition to the medical coverage provided at the Acropolis infirmary, the Hellenic Red Cross also provides health coverage—through experienced volunteers and nursing personnel—at additional archaeological sites across Greece, tirelessly offering its services in treating injuries, as well as assisting high-risk individuals to tour or attend specific performances at the Herodes Atticus Theater, Epidauros, and

major events held at the Athens Olympic Sports Complex.

Moreover, the Samaritan-Rescuer volunteers who provide medical coverage at all Herodion performances successfully managed 30 emergency cases during the month of June (headaches, vomiting, arrhythmias, stomach disturbances, vital sign checks, panic attacks, shortness of breath, epileptic seizures, tachycardia, bradycardia, fatigue, weakness, dizziness, etc.), consistently demonstrating their high level of expertise and training in emergency response.





The H.R.C. honored World Health Day with a major event at Syntagma Square

The Hellenic Red Cross (H.R.C.), as part of the celebration of World Health Day, organized a major event at Syntagma Square (near the metro), on Monday, April 7, in the presence of the H.R.C. President, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos. This year's celebration focused on informing and raising awareness among citizens about the need to promote physical and mental health, with special emphasis on new mothers and infants.

The experienced medical and nursing staff of the Educational Health Stations of Athens, Ano Liosia, Kallithea, the Home Nursing Service, and the Mobile Health Unit of the H.R.C., together with H.R.C. Health volunteers, supported the campaign, promoting the message

that everyone can have better health by undergoing preventive health checks and seeking continuous information.

Within the framework of the event, educational meetings and free preventive examinations were conducted, including:

- Rapid blood glucose (sugar) and total cholesterol detection tests.
- Blood pressure monitoring.
- Rapid detection tests for HIV and Hepatitis B and C viruses (HBV-HCV).
- Referral of individuals with findings to the H.R.C. Primary Health Care services.
- Distribution of informational material.

Raising public awareness on

health issues, with particular focus on healthy nutrition, exercise during pregnancy, breastfeeding education, prevention of gestational diabetes and postpartum depression, accident prevention, and managing critical incidents, constitutes a key priority for safeguarding the health of newborns, infants, children, and new mothers. Additionally, early diagnosis and proper management of non-communicable and communicable diseases can contribute to maintaining the health of vulnerable population groups.

With this initiative, the Hellenic Red Cross continues its work to promote public health and empower community members.

The H.R.C. signed a memorandum of cooperation with the corresponding Red Cross of Bulgaria

With great success and in a very warm atmosphere, the official visit of the President of the Bulgarian Red Cross, Acad. Hristo Grigorov, accompanied by the General Director, Prof. Krassimir Gigov, and the Director of International Relations, Preslava Lilova, was completed at the Headquarters and facilities of the Hellenic Red Cross (11/3), in Athens, where they received a warm welcome from the President of the Hellenic Red Cross, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, and the Head of International Relations and Partnerships, Ms. Thaleia Fonazaki.

The purpose of the visit was to be informed about the work and actions of the Hellenic Red Cross and to sign a memoran-

dum of cooperation, within the framework of strengthening the cooperation between the two National Societies, aiming to promote humanitarian work and enhance the skills of volunteers of the two National Societies, through joint trainings. During the meeting at the HRC Headquarters, topics of common interest were discussed, emphasizing the strengthening of actions related to supporting vulnerable populations, responding to natural disasters, as well as the development of volunteer training programs.

Subsequently, a tour took place at the historic building of the HRC at 3rd September Street, where they attended a demonstration of the operation of the

state-of-the-art National Crisis Coordination & Management Center of the HRC, as well as a detailed briefing on the work and programs of each Sector (Health, Social Welfare, Samaritan-Rescuers & Youth) by HRC officials. Finally, they visited the HRC Multipurpose Refugee Center where they were informed about the support actions of the HRC towards vulnerable fellow human beings.

This visit demonstrates the recognition and appreciation of the humanitarian work and innovative actions of the Hellenic Red Cross by the other National Red Cross & Red Crescent Societies and, of course, their trust in the ongoing work.





Immediate and life-saving intervention by a nurse of the H.R.C. in an emergency incident at the Athens Court of First Instance

The Hellenic Red Cross (HRC) warmly thanks a nurse of the HRC Health Sector for her immediate and decisive intervention in an emergency incident that took place at the premises of the Athens Court of First Instance, on Wednesday, May 14, 2025.

Specifically, during her daily duty, the HRC nurse was called to manage an urgent, serious incident involving a man who collapsed in the surrounding area of the Court of First In-

stance. Thanks to her high scientific training, composure, and operational readiness, the HRC nurse immediately applied the prescribed First Aid procedures (CPR – use of defibrillator), restoring the victim's pulse and breathing until the arrival of the National Emergency Aid Center (EKAV) team.

The patient was promptly transferred to Korgialenio - Benakeio Hospital, having regained consciousness. Moreover, according to the attending

physician at the hospital, the immediate reaction and timely intervention of the HRC nurse were vital for preserving his life.

This particular act is a tangible proof of the continuous readiness and high level of training of the nursing staff of the HRC Health Sector, which daily stands consistently by the State and society, serving humanity with a strong sense of responsibility.

Priest trained in First Aid by the Hellenic Red Cross saves the life of a child in a village on Lemnos

The immense importance of First Aid knowledge is demonstrated through daily incidents, where trained citizens by the Hellenic Red Cross, applying what they have learned, help our fellow humans to stay alive.

A similar incident occurred in a village on Lemnos, where a priest, who had been trained

in First Aid by volunteer trainers from the Health Sector of the Regional Department of Lemnos - Agios Efstratios, saved the life of a two-year-old child who had stopped breathing by applying CPR technique. In fact, the child revived twice due to the moving effort made by the priest and was then urgently trans-

ferred to the island's hospital.

The Hellenic Red Cross invites all citizens to get trained in First Aid, which can prove crucial to saving a life in danger. More information about the HRC First Aid seminars can be found at www.redcross.gr.



The President of the H.R.C. honored by the Hellenic Pharmaceutical Society (HPS)

On Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at the packed event hall of the Literary Society Parnassos, the Hellenic Pharmaceutical Society (HPS) honored the President of the Hellenic Red Cross, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, for his enormous contribution to Science and Society in the Health Sector, in the presence of numerous representatives of the country's political and state leadership.

The honorary award was presented by the President of the Hellenic Pharmaceutical Society (HPS), Professor Konstantinos Demetzos, who,

in his address, spoke in the most flattering terms about Dr. Antonios Avgerinos and his long career promoting public health and pharmaceutical science, making special reference to the social impact he has left as President of the Hellenic Red Cross.

The President of the HRC, deeply moved by this honorary award, stated during his speech, among other things: "This recognition belongs to all the volunteers and staff of the Hellenic Red Cross, who work daily with dedication to relieve human suffering.

Pharmaceutical science and humanitarian action are intertwined in the common effort for a society with health, solidarity, and dignity."

It is noted that at the opening of the event, greetings were delivered by the Minister of Labor and Social Security, Ms. Niki Kerameos, the Deputy Minister of Health, Mr. Marios Themistokleous, the President of the Literary Society Parnassos, Mr. Vasileios Konstantinopoulos, and the General Secretary of the HPS, Ms. Ioanna Chinou.



The President of the H.R.C. honored at the Anniversary Event for 70 Years of the Pharmacy Department at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Within the framework of the anniversary event celebrating 70 years since the founding of the Pharmacy Department at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, which was held splendidly in the University's Ceremony Hall, the President of the Hellenic Red Cross, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, was honored for his valuable contribution to the field of health and humanitarianism. The event was attended by numerous academics, students, alumni,

representatives of the pharmaceutical community, as well as volunteers from the Thessaloniki Regional Branch of the HRC.

The honorary plaque was presented by the Head of the Pharmacy Department, Professor Kyriakos Kachrimanis, who, in his address, spoke in the most flattering terms about Dr. Antonios Avgerinos and his long career in promoting public health and

pharmaceutical science, bridging scientific knowledge with social contribution.

The President of the HRC stated in his speech: "This recognition belongs to all the volunteers and staff of the Hellenic Red Cross, who work daily with dedication to relieve human suffering. Pharmaceutical science and humanitarian action are intertwined in the common effort for a society with health, solidarity, and dignity."





The Hellenic Red Cross Successfully Held a Festive Event at the Zappeion Megaron, Honoring World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day

On World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (May 8), the Hellenic Red Cross (HRC) honored the occasion with a splendid event held at the Peristyle of the Zappeion Megaron, showcasing the multifaceted activities of the organization in Greece and abroad to support vulnerable people. Moreover, the Greek State, recognizing the work of the international humanitarian movement, illuminated the Hellenic Parliament with the colors of the Red Cross.

At the ceremony, the President of the HRC, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, honored the Supreme President of AHEPA, Mr. Savvas Tsvikos, for his charitable, social, and humanitarian work with the Highest Honorary Distinction of the Golden Cross with a Golden Laurel Branch.

Simultaneously, the Chairman of the Board of Helleniq Energy, Mr. Spilios Livanos, was honored for the company's steady and multifaceted support of the work and activities of the HRC, as well as the General Manager of "PULSE RESEARCH & CONSULTING," Mr. Georgios Arapoglou, for conducting the large nationwide public opinion survey on the HRC pro bono.

It is noted that the Hellenic Red Cross awarded honorary plaques to popular artists Michalis Hatzigiannis and Giorgos Tsalikis for their selfless contribution to publicizing the humanitarian work of the Organization. The event was hosted by journalist Ms. Eleni Chrona.

The major annual event of the HRC was also honored by the

presence and greetings of top officials from the political and state leadership of the country, including the representative of the Prime Minister of Greece and Minister of Health, Mr. Adonis Georgiadis; the Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, Ms. Niki Kerameos; the Minister of Tourism, Ms. Olga Kefalogianni; the Deputy Minister to the Prime Minister and Government Spokesperson, Mr. Pavlos Marinakis; the Deputy Minister of Health, Mr. Marios Themistokleous; the Member of Parliament and volunteer Samaritan-Rescuer, Mr. Georgios Stamatis; and the Member of the European Parliament, Mr. Giorgos Aftias.





The H.R.C. Had a Strong Presence at the EKO Acropolis Rally 2025

The presence of the Hellenic Red Cross at the EKO Acropolis Rally 2025 was dynamic and highly impressive, with its experienced and specialized Samaritan-Rescue volunteers and the necessary logistical equipment it possesses, contributing decisively to the highly successful conduct of this year's EKO Acropolis Rally.

Specifically, 164 specially trained Samaritan-Rescue Volunteers of the Hellenic Red Cross from 10 Regional Departments across Greece, with 15 rescue vehicles and appropriate rescue (cutting tools, rescue ropes, etc.) and

medical equipment, were present — despite the heatwave — on all the routes of the EKO Acropolis Rally 2025. From the spectacular opening ceremony, in which the President of the HRC, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, participated with honors, to the grand finish in Lamia, they intervened promptly and effectively in any emergency situation that arose for competitors or spectators throughout the four-day racing event.

It should be noted that the emergency response unit of the EKO Acropolis Rally 2025, staffed by Samaritan-

Rescue Volunteers, a doctor, and an ambulance crew, was immediately mobilized during an incident involving a racing car collision on the Tarzan stage (29/6), to safely extricate and immobilize co-driver Diego VALLEJO — who reported neck discomfort — using a spine board, cervical collar, and immobilization vest, before transporting him safely to the hospital. Both the organizers and the International Commission praised the HRC volunteers for their impeccable presence, excellent training, and state-of-the-art equipment.



The H.R.C. and Michalis Hatzigiannis collaborated for the Celebration of World Red Cross Day

The Hellenic Red Cross (HRC), in the context of promoting and developing volunteerism in Greece, collaborated with the popular composer and performer Michalis Hatzigiannis for the creation of a music video featuring the beloved song «Gia Sena» ("For You"), for the celebration of World Red Cross & Red Crescent Day (8/5).

In the HRC's festive video, Michalis Hatzigiannis participated on a voluntary basis, along with volunteers from all Corps

(Health, Social Welfare, Samaritans-Rescuers & Youth) of the HRC, as well as beneficiaries of the HRC's social programs and school students. The filming took place at central locations of Athens' historic center (Acropolis, Monastiraki, Thiseio), while the video will be presented on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 19:30, during the major anniversary event organized by the HRC for World Red Cross Day, at the Peristyle of the Zappeion Megaron. At the same time, Michalis Hatzigiannis also participated in a social awareness message by the HRC that was broadcast on TV channels throughout Greece to attract new volunteers.

The Hellenic Red Cross warmly thanks the Ministry of Culture, the Municipality of Athens, the restaurant «Ano Dioskouri», and the Dancity dance school for their voluntary contribution to the production of the Hellenic Red Cross's celebratory video for World Red Cross Day.

The Hellenic Red Cross a Worthy Supporter of the DEI Tour of Hellas 2025

The Hellenic Red Cross had a dynamic presence at yet another top sports event in the country, taking full responsibility for the medical coverage of the DEI Tour of Hellas 2025, which was held from April 2nd to April 6th, starting in Patras and finishing at Syntagma Square.

Specifically, during the five race days of the DEI Tour of Hellas 2025, teams of HRC Samaritan-Rescuers, fully

equipped with the appropriate logistical and technical equipment, were present along all routes, successfully managing dozens of accident-related incidents (injuries from falls, athlete exhaustion, etc.) involving participants and spectators, thus playing a vital role in the smooth execution of the race.

Equally important was the HRC's contribution to the successful implementation of the

parallel events of the DEI Tour of Hellas 2025, which were organized in Patras, Agrinio, Thiva, Chalkida, the Olympic Village, and Syntagma Square. HRC volunteers informed hundreds of our fellow citizens, young and old, about First Aid, First Aid for our four-legged friends, as well as the multifaceted humanitarian work the HRC offers daily across Greece.





The Hellenic Red Cross celebrated the 148th anniversary of its founding (June 10, 1877) by organizing a major event-exhibition for young and old at the Syntagma Metro Event Hall, in the presence of the President of the H.R.C., Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, the Secretary General of the H.R.C., Mr. Georgios Skoumas, and a large number of volunteers from all H.R.C. Sectors. The major event was supported by radio station RYTHMOS 94.9, which broadcast live from the venue, showcasing the work and volunteers of the largest and oldest humanitarian organization in Greece. The event was also honored by the presence of Member of Parliament (State List) and Samaritan-Rescuer Volunteer, Mr. Georgios Stamatis.

During the event, volunteers and staff of the H.R.C. from all Sectors (Health, Social Welfare, Samaritan-Rescuers, Life-guards & Youth) informed hundreds of citizens about the work and actions of the Hellenic Red Cross, placing special emphasis on the H.R.C.'s First Aid Pro-

grams (infants, children, adults, dogs, Mental Health First Aid) and health promotion activities. It is noted that, on the occasion of World Environment Day (June 5), H.R.C. volunteers and staff informed more than 100 primary school students from Athens, through interactive games and activities, about the climate crisis and its impacts, as well as the adoption of a safe lifestyle to address it. At the same time, a magician and a DJ offered unforgettable moments to our young friends.

The major H.R.C. event was supported by radio station RYTHMOS 94.9, which broadcast live from the venue, with hosts Anna Zirdeli & Alexis Markazos, highlighting the work and actions of H.R.C. volunteers. The event was also supported by the DPG Digital Media Group. The Hellenic Red Cross warmly thanks the Athens Urban Rail Transport (STASY) for the free use of the Syntagma Metro Multipurpose Hall and for their ongoing support of its work and activities.

**The H.R.C.
celebrated
148 years of
service with
a major event
for young
and old at
Syntagma
Metro**



The H.R.C. carried out a training exercise for 157 Samaritan-Rescuer volunteers of the H.R.C.

The operational readiness training exercise for 157 active Samaritan-Rescuer volunteers of the Athens Department was completed with absolute success, as part of the continuous training and operational upgrading of the volunteers of the H.R.C. The exercise was organized by the volunteer Administration of the Department, under the guidance of the Sector of Samaritans-Rescuers & Lifeguards, in the presence of the President of the H.R.C., Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, the Head of the Sector, Mr. Nikos Barlagiannis, and

the Training Director of the Sector, Mr. Zeki Memet Ali. The purpose of the exercise was to enhance the interoperability, coordination, and response of the Samaritan-Rescuer volunteers in emergency situations, as well as to update their knowledge based on the latest health protocols and developments. The President of the Hellenic Red Cross, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, congratulated the volunteers for their high level of preparedness, professionalism, and consistency in their humanitarian duties, em-

phasizing that they are an integral part of Greek society. It is noted that during the exercise, the volunteers had the opportunity to attend a First Aid demonstration by the Training Director of the H.R.C. Samaritans, Rescuers and Lifeguards Sector, Mr. Zeki Memet Ali. The Hellenic Red Cross warmly thanks the Chourdakis Educational Institutions for the free provision of the space where the training took place (11/5), as well as for providing meals for the H.R.C. volunteers.





The H.R.C. organized a Conference on: "Modern approaches of the Hellenic Red Cross Social Welfare Sector in the prevention and promotion of mental health"

With great success, the Conference of the Social Welfare Sector of the Hellenic Red Cross was held on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, in the packed hall of the Stelios Foundation Conference Hall, on the topic: "Modern approaches in the prevention and promotion of mental health." The event was organized with the kind sponsorship of the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation, in the presence of the President of the Hellenic Red Cross, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, and numerous representatives of the political and state leadership of the country.

During the Conference, innovative actions and interventions of the Social Welfare Sector of the H.R.C. were presented, aiming at strengthening mental resilience and protecting the mental health of vulnerable popu-

lation groups. Social workers and psychologists of the H.R.C. highlighted, through thorough presentations, the challenges and modern solutions in the field of psychosocial support. The coordination of the Conference was carried out by the Director of the Social Welfare Sector, Ms. Areti Kentistou.

Particular mention should be made of the presentations by Professor of the University of West Attica, Mr. Vasilis Ioakeimidis, who addressed social inequalities through the lens of mental health, as well as by the Head of Educational Programs of the Educational Institutions of the Holy Metropolis of Piraeus, Mr. Dimitris Petrounias, who analyzed the role of education in the prevention of psychosocial phenomena. It is noted that during the Con-

ference, the founder and President of the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation, Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou, was honored. The honorary plaque was received by Mr. Nikos Mourkogiannis, member of the Board of Directors of the Philanthropic Foundation.

The H.R.C. Conference was honored by the presence and greetings of the Representative of the Prime Minister and Deputy Minister of Social Cohesion and Family, Ms. Elena Rapti, the Minister of Labor and Social Insurance, Ms. Niki Kerameus, the Deputy Minister of Justice, Mr. Ioannis Bougas, and the Deputy Regional Governor of Central Athens, Mr. Konstantinos Zombos.



The H.R.C. presented the Kleio Misirloglou Virtue Awards in a splendid Ceremony in Thessaloniki

In an especially emotional and Red Cross-spirited atmosphere, the awarding of the 2025 Kleio Misirloglou Virtue Prizes by the Hellenic Red Cross took place on the evening of Friday, June 13, 2025, in Thessaloniki. The honorees were four distinguished individuals from different sectors of society (Church, Medicine, Art, and Persons with Disabilities): Loxandra Loukas, Fr. Nikolaos Papa-georgiou, Fotis Pournaropoulos, and Paraskevi Salavgia.

The awards were presented by the President of the Hellenic Red Cross, Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, who in his speech referred to the long historical path and multifaceted work of the Organization over the 148 years

since its founding. He emphasized the continued presence of the H.R.C. during the critical moments of our country and described Red Cross spirit as "a nationwide declaration of solidarity, altruism, and practical philanthropy."

In his greeting, the Deputy Minister of Health, Dimitris Vartzopoulos, highlighted the uninterrupted contribution of the Hellenic Red Cross, both in hospital emergency duties and in emergency situations, specifically mentioning the evacuation of the Alexandroupolis hospital during the major wildfire in Evros in the summer of 2023. It is noted that Mr. Vartzopoulos received an honorary plaque from the

President of the H.R.C. for his support of the Organization's social and humanitarian work.

Also present at the ceremony were Deputy Ministers Stavros Kalafatis and Nikos Papaioannou, members of parliament, representatives of the Church, Local Government, the Armed Forces, and Security Forces. A greeting was also delivered by the President of the H.R.C. Regional Department of Thessaloniki, Mr. Sotiris Kyvelos. The presence of the staff and volunteers of the H.R.C. Thessaloniki Regional Department, which was also responsible for organizing the event, was particularly strong.



The H.R.C. organized a grand Award Ceremony for students who excelled in its Youth Sector's National Competitions

On Saturday, June 14, 2025, the Hellenic Red Cross (H.R.C.) organized an Award Ceremony at the packed Peristyle of the Zappeion Megaron, honoring students from schools across Greece who excelled in the three National Competitions organized by its Youth Sector, as well as students and schools that participated in blood donation drives of the H.R.C., in the presence of the President of the H.R.C., Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, the Secretary General of the H.R.C., Mr. Georgios Skoumas, and numerous representatives of the country's political and state leadership.

During the Ceremony, 324 students from Primary and Secondary Education across Greece were awarded for their works that stood out in the three competition themes:

"Fair Play..."

"Drawing from the heart for Grandpa and Grandma"

"With the Red Cross for a Green Planet".

It is noted that a total of 1,250 students from 152 schools across the country participated in the Youth Sector's student competitions of the H.R.C. In addition, students and teachers from the schools SAEK Metaxourgeio, Arsakeio Psychikou, Manos School, and the 7th Primary School of Agia Paraskevi were also awarded for their participation in the H.R.C.'s blood donation drives.

In his speech, the President of the H.R.C., Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, thanked all the children and educators from across Greece for their tremendous response once again this year to the Youth Sector's student competitions, emphasizing

that the H.R.C. places special importance on cultivating the supreme values of humanitarianism, solidarity, and social contribution among young people, who are the Organization's future volunteers.

At the H.R.C. event, greetings were delivered by the Representative of the Prime Minister and Minister of Social Cohesion and Family, Ms. Domna Michailidou, the Minister of Labor and Social Security, Ms. Niki Kerameus, the Deputy Minister of Social Cohesion and Family, Ms. Elena Rapti, and the Member of Parliament at-large and volunteer Samaritan-Rescuer, Mr. Georgios Stamatis.

Also, many representatives of the country's political and state leadership, as well as from the Security Forces, honored the event with their presence and participated in the award presentations. A special moment of the H.R.C. event was the awarding of an honorary plaque by the President of the H.R.C. to the Chief Editor of ANTENNA, Mr. Prodromos Pappaliopoulos, for his tangible support of the Organization's social and humanitarian work.

It is noted that the H.R.C. also honored the OPAP Group for its longstanding support of the Organization's work and initiatives. The honorary plaque was received by the Group's Head of ESG, Ms. Matina Tzourou.

Finally, during this major and unique H.R.C. event, with nationwide impact, all the works of the students who excelled in the competitions were presented, while musical and dance performances were held by Youth volunteers, centered on solidarity, social contribution, and the fight against school bullying.



The H.R.C. honored World Stray Animals Day with a major action in Piraeus

The Hellenic Red Cross (H.R.C.), on the occasion of World Stray Animals Day, carried out a major action on Friday, April 4, 2025, outside the «Municipal Theater» Metro station (Agios Konstantinos side) in Piraeus, aiming to inform citizens about the proper provision of First Aid to our four-legged friends. Specifically, First Aid trainers

for dogs from the H.R.C.'s Samaritan-Rescuers and Lifeguards Sector conducted free First Aid demonstrations for dogs to citizens, while also informing them about the pioneering, innovative program of the H.R.C., "First Aid for our four-legged friends," so that they know how to respond in case of a

sudden health emergency affecting their dog.

It is noted that citizens who wish to attend the H.R.C.'s First Aid training program for dogs can register at www.samarites.gr or contact by phone at 210-5248132.



The H.R.C. organized a highly successful Oath Ceremony for Volunteer Samaritan-Rescuers & Lifeguards at the War Museum

In a particularly warm and Red Cross-spirited atmosphere, on Sunday, April 27, 2025, in the packed "Ioannis Kapodistrias" Hall of the War Museum, the Hellenic Red Cross organized an Oath Ceremony and diploma award event for Volunteer Samaritan-Rescuers and Lifeguards of the Athens Branch of the H.R.C., in the presence of the Representative of the Prime Minister of the Hellenic Government and Deputy Minister of Social Cohesion and Family, Ms. Elena Rapti, the Member of Parliament and volunteer Samaritan-Rescuer Mr. Giorgos Stamatis, the President of the H.R.C. Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, the Secretary General Mr.

Georgios Skoumas, and many representatives of the country's political and governmental leadership, as well as Security Forces. Specifically, new Volunteer Samaritan-Rescuers of the Athens Branch of the Hellenic Red Cross took their oath, having successfully completed their long and highly demanding training and are now fully ready to offer their services to Greek society. At the same time, promotions were awarded to H.R.C. Volunteer Samaritan-Rescuers, as a small reward for their crucial contribution to the Organization's mission, always guided by their commitment to extended

service to all social groups. It is noted that a commemorative plaque was awarded to journalist Ms. Fratzeska Savvorginaki for her long-standing support of the work and actions of the H.R.C. A particularly moving moment of the event was the presentation of a commemorative plaque by the President of the H.R.C., Dr. Antonios Avgerinos, to the longest-serving Volunteer Samaritan-Rescuer of the Athens Branch of the H.R.C., Mr. Georgios Moschovos, who has served the humanitarian mission of the Organization continuously for 46 years.



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