



“ARCHITECTURE AND DEMOCRACY” WEEKEND at Costa Navarino, in partnership with The New York Times ‘Athens Democracy Forum’

Zaha Hadid Architect’s Patrik Schumacher, Nobel Prize winner Paul Krugman, author Charles Landry and other distinguished speakers will participate in the Architecture and Democracy discussion forum on September 16-18.

27 June 2016 – [Costa Navarino](#), the prime sustainable destination in the Mediterranean will be the backdrop to an exclusive, invitation-only “Architecture and Democracy” discussion forum taking place on 16-18 September as part of [The New York Times ‘Athens Democracy Forum’](#). The event follows a successful inaugural weekend on “Art & Democracy” in 2015, led by Nobel Prize winner Paul Krugman, artist Jeff Koons and Serge Schmemmann, member of the editorial board of the NY Times. The video highlights of 2015 can be watched [here](#).



2015 forum took place in a stunning open air location near the river Sellas and the Ionian Sea. The location will be the same this year.

This year’s interactive discussion among architects, policy-makers and notable experts will elaborate answers to questions such as “Can architecture be democratic?” “What determines democratic architecture?” “In which ways can architecture and urban planning represent and facilitate democracy?”. The discussion will be moderated by Athens Democracy Forum host and NYT columnist Roger Cohen.



Jeff Koons, Paul Krugman and Serge Schmemmann at last year’s forum.

Discussion forum speakers, among others to be announced, include:

- Patrik Schumacher, Chief Architect, ZahaHadid Architects
- Paul Krugman, Nobel Prize winner
- Charles Landry, Urbanist and Author
- Petros Themelis, Emeritus professor of Archaeology, University of Crete

Costa Navarino is the ideal surrounding for such discussions as the region is home to a rich architectural heritage from Neolithic settlements,

Mycenaean palaces and classical temples to Byzantine churches, medieval castles to UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Alongside thought-provoking debates, the weekend-long event will also feature a rich complementary program of activities and authentic experiences offered by Costa Navarino. This will include an archaeological tour at the King Nestor's Palace in Pylos, a round of golf on The Dunes or The Bay Course, a "Philosophy Walk"¹ and wine and olive-oil tasting activities to discover the subtle and unique flavours of the region.

[The fourth edition of The New York Times 'Athens Democracy Forum'](#) will be convened this September 14-18. The conference will bring together influential statesmen, business leaders, economists and academics to discuss the pressing challenges facing liberal democracies, their institutions and economies.

Ancient Messini is one of the biggest ancient cities in Greece and a place where Democracy met architecture.

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Athens Democracy Forum:

Three years ago the International New York Times established the 'Athens Democracy Forum' under the auspices of the United Nations Democracy Fund. Through the UN Secretary-General's endorsement, it has become the principal global event of the International Day of Democracy.

The Athens Democracy Forum aims to examine the state of liberal democracies and explore the major challenges they face in the world today. The event has become the premier global event marking the UN International Day of Democracy on September 15, attracting 400 delegates from 23 countries to Athens last year.

Costa Navarino:

Costa Navarino is the prime, sustainable destination in the Mediterranean, located in the Greek region of Messinia in the southwest Peloponnese. One of the most unspoiled and breathtaking seaside Mediterranean landscapes, this area has been shaped by 4,500 years of history. Its philosophy is driven by a genuine desire to promote Messinia, while protecting and preserving its natural beauty and heritage. It will comprise a number of distinct sites featuring 5-star deluxe hotels, luxury residences, conference facilities, spa and thalassotherapy centres, signature golf courses, as well as a wide range of unique year-round activities for adults and children. Navarino Dunes, the first area, is home to two luxury 5-star hotels, [The Romanos](#), a [Luxury Collection Resort](#) and [The Westin Resort Costa Navarino](#); The Dunes Course – the first signature golf course in Greece- Anazoe Spa, a 4,000sq.m. spa & thalassotherapy centre; the state-of-the-art conference centre House of Events; specially designed facilities for children; as well as a variety of gastronomy venues, sports, outdoor and cultural activities. Navarino Bay, the second area is home to the signature golf course, The Bay Course. Download high resolution photos and logos from the press section in downloads on the website www.costanavarino.com, using the password nestor.

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¹ Discussions with a philosophy professor on current issues under the olive trees.

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