

## **NIKOS FINTIKAKIS INTRODUCTION TO RII PRESIDENTS MEETING- ATHENS 12 MAY 2021**

My dear friends and colleagues of the great and proud Region II,

It is indeed a great honor for me to welcome you for a second time this year 2021 under the Acropolis environment along with the UIA Greek Section and its President Prof. FaniVavili-Tsinika and our very kind hosts, the Presidents of the two largest Greek Organizations of Architects and Engineers, George Stasinou, President of TCG and Kostantinos Makedos, President of TMEDE.

In our today's zoom meeting, are also participating, as in the last one, all UIA Vice Presidents, the Presidents of the Regional Organizations UMAR, VISEGRAD4, MASA, FABSR and distinguished colleagues, Past UIA Presidents etc.

This second meeting of Region II will not be dedicated to the Architecture of Star Architects, but to the upcoming Elections and to the methods of aid, especially after the pandemic of the UNKNOWN WORKING but UNEMPLOYED ARCHITECT through establishing RECOVERING AND SUPPORTING FUNDS and a relevant Road map of the New Administration after the 2021 Gen. Assembly and Elections.

Because as you all know, I have been asked by many Region II Presidents that we need more discussion and information on the recent situation and strategies on the UIA future I wonder if I should express my satisfaction for these 4 years that I have been in the Executive Body of UIA as Vice President of R II or if I should apologize for participating in this mode of governance especially after the Baku forum.

On the other hand, I am proud that, as I believe, I have succeeded as Vice-President in maintaining a spirit of friendship, cooperation and solidarity between the Member Sections of a multicultural Region despite the many political and cultural differences and the social distancing requested by our respective national governments due to the Pandemic and thus to continue the very successful Vice-presidency of my friend Deniz Incedayi.

But, at the same time, I feel that I have to apologize to everyone and mostly to Region II Sections, for witnessing the unbelievable accusations unleashed by the UIA International Officers (the President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Immediate Past President) against their own Organization, that was on situation of bankruptcy and, according to an attorney needed to implement new rigorous fraud prevention measures (see 140 CM minutes 23 July 2020). Kindly note that the three above mentioned officials hold high offices for the past 6-9 years.

Nevertheless, although all 5 Vice-Presidents we tried hardly to investigate the accusations repeatedly, with letters, we did not succeed in getting an answer or an explanation, not even orally, from those who blamed the UIA so seriously, insulted its History and disrespected its substance.

I also have to apologize for not having being able to obtain convincing answers to the questions asked and signed by all the Vice Presidents on 15 May, 21 July, and 28 September 2020 and repeatedly after that, about the UIA finances management.

I also have to apologize for the unreasonable dismissal of KPMG, the accounting firm that kept UIA's finances for 10 years, while all of their submitted budgets had been approved by the General Assemblies and the Councils.

I must also apologize for the incredible fact that the MINUTES (dialogues-arguments) of the last Councils are missing from the Members Area in which only Reports and Documents are included and as well as for the missing of the last 3 Bureau meetings MINUTES (21 Jan. 2021, 12 Feb. 2021, 11 Mar. 2021).

Under these circumstances, the information and discussions on these issues remain unknown and opaque to the UIA Member Sections while the payment of the annual fee contribution is required.

Furthermore, I must apologize because while I proposed that "The reconstitution of the climate of trust and confidence in UIA" should be the first item at the 142th CM, proposal supported by 4 past

Presidents and by all Vice Presidents, the topic was never discussed.

At this point I would like to inform you that I fully support the motion of Region I that I have already sent you and I would like your consent. UIA must rethink its structure in order to become really democratic.

After all the above, I am very sorry to notice that everything mentioned happened during this last mandate and for the first time in the History of UIA. It reflects a style of governance I have never seen before during my 40 years of experience and service.

As a personal initiative, in view of the forthcoming GA and Elections, I refer to the invocation of the UIA PALIMPSEST in Lausanne 1948 in order to reconstitute Democracy, Transparency, Legality and Fraternity for the rebirth of Confidence and Friendship. As Pierre Vago wrote:

« Il fut tout de suite séduit par l'idée de réunir tous les architectes dans une seule organisation mondiale, démocratique, progressive ».

However, I am particularly proud of the great success of this four-year mandate during which the 5 Vice Presidents of the 5 Regions of the UIA were united in a strong and dynamic way with the aim of supporting Democracy and Transparency.

I hope that the new Administration after elections will not leave unanswered all the above extremely serious problems of the recent situation and will trace a clear and transparent strategy to remove these UIA insultations and do not remain like a bad memory.

This event of R II is not an interrogation of the candidates. It is a free and open discussion between everyone, without specific invitations, so it has also been communicated to all the members of the UIA Administration.

Even at this moment, during the discussion, any of those who are present is free to invite anyone to participate in.

In my opinion, our efforts for the next period should focus on eliminating the consequences deriving from all the above through live meetings and transparent explanations from those who

accused the UIA past Administrations for FRAUD and BUNKRUMPTCY and shake our hands once again, with the aim of reconstituting a NEW Democratic and Transparent UIA.

Best wishes to all candidates.

We should meet once again wherever is the light of Hope and Happiness!

Nikos Fintikakis, Architect  
UIA Vice President R II