

Thessaloniki International Fair 2026 at Japan Pavilion

Main Stage Program (as of 5 August)

**Celebrating #TAKUMI spirits founded upon wisdom, drive and compassion
@TIF2026_Japan**

Dates: 5-13 September 2026

Opening hours: 10am – 10pm on weekends, 4pm – 10pm on weekdays

Venue: Thessaloniki International Exhibition Centre Pavilion 13

Welcome

Join us for a week of celebration of bilateral relationship between Greece and Japan through variety of industrial exhibitors, music, food, education, and performances.

Program Schedule

Day 1 (Saturday, 5 September) – Opening Day

Theme: Welcome & Celebration of Bilateral economic ties

11:00-12:00 Exhibitors Opening Reception organized by Greece-Japan Business Group and the Embassy of Japan (by invitation only)

11:50 – 12:00 Taiko (Japanese drums) performance by Taikoist Takuya

12:00 – 12:30 Pavilion Opening Ceremony

13:00 – 13:15 Taiko Performance by Taikoist Takuya

13:15 – 13:40 Pavilion Theme and Zone, Exhibitor Introduction

14:00 – 14:40 DRIVE - Open interview

- Japanese Delegation (TBD)
- H.E. Mr. Vassilis Kikilias, Minister of Maritime and Insular Policy
- Mr. Yasuyoshi Karasawa, President of Japan-Greece Society, Senior Advisor, Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Co., Ltd., Former Chairman of Board of Directors of MS&AD Insurance Group Holdings, Inc.
- Journalist from Kaiji Press (TBD)



15:00 – 15:40 WISDOM - Pharmaceutical Panel Discussion: “Defining Success Before Reform: Reimagining Health Policy in Greece”

- Japanese Delegation (TBD)
- Ministry of Health representative (TBC)
- Ms. Pavlina Karasiotou, Secretary General for Fiscal Policy, Ministry of Finance, Hellenic Republic
- Ms. Thomais Konstantopoulou, Country Manager, Daiichi Sankyo Greece
- Mr. Dimitris Papageorgiou, Country Manager, Greece, Cyprus and Malta, Takeda Hellas S.A.
- Ms. Angela Nikoli, Market Access and Government Affairs Country Lead, Astellas Pharmaceuticals A.E.B.E.
- Moderator: Ms. Niki Lymperaki, Journalist

16:00 – 17:15 DRIVE - Automobile Industry Panel Discussion

- Japanese Delegation (TBD)
- Mr. Hermann Riedl, President and Managing Director of Toyota Hellas
- Mr. Dimitris Kavvouris, Deputy Chief Executive Officer – Chief Strategy

Officer of Syngelidis Automotive Companies

- Mr. Takis Theocarakis, President & Managing Director of Nic. J. Theocarakis S.A.
- Mr. Yannis Emirzas, Chief Commercial Officer, Saracakis Group of Companies
- Petros Petropoulos Representative (TBD)
- Greek Government Representative (TBD)
- 1) Mr. Vaggelis Kiouisis, Journalist

17:35 – 18:25 WISDOM - Panel Discussion: AI/Digital Transformation

- Japanese Delegation (TBD)
- Ms. Elena Drecheva, Managing Director of Konica Minolta Business Solutions Greece
- Mr. Jorge Loureiro, CEO Moro Technology Corporation Europe
- Mr Marcus Waldmann, Head of IT Strategy & Innovation / AI Strategy & Adoption of Fujifilm Europe
- Moderator (TBD)

Day 2 (Sunday, 6 September)– For the Sustainable Future

10:30 – 11:40 COMPASSION - Disaster Early Warning and Preparedness (TBC)

- Japanese Delegation (TBD)
- Dr. Teppei J. Yasunari
Senior Scientist of Weathernews Inc. (WNI Forecast Center & Research Initiative); Visiting Researcher (Faculty of Medicine, Hokkaido University)
- JTI Representative

12:00 – 13:00 DRIVE – Toyota: Mobility for All

- Japanese Delegation
- Mr. Stelios Malakopoulos, Athlete

13:30 – 14:00 Shamisen Music Performance by Kazama Mitsune Duo

14:00-14:20 Master Chef: Mr. Sotiris Kontizas : Calinary Journey

14:30-15:00 Tourism of Japan – How to find your TAKUMI journey

15:30-16:20 COMPASSION - Sustainability Panel

16:40 – 17:25 Greece-Japan Business Group event (TBC)

17:45 – 18:30 MEXT Alumni: “Study in Japan: Unlocking Opportunities through MEXT”

19:00 – 19:30 Taiko (Japanese drums) performance by Taikoist Takuya

20:00 – 20:30 Shamisen Music Performance by Kazama Mitsune Duo



Day 3 (Monday, 7 September) – Education

18:00 - 18:30 Aristotle University of Thessaloniki: “Connecting Minds: AUTH-Japan University Partnership for the Future”

- Pr. Iakovos Michailidis, Vice Rector of International Relations, Outreach, Lifelong Learning & Student Care

19:00 – 20:00 Japanese Language Trial Lesson – Katakana Writing

- Ms Elena Aloupogianni
- Ms Dina Anastasiadou

Day 4 (Tuesday, 8 September) – Maritime Tie

18:00 – 18:30 SWY Alumni: “Youth as Cultural Ambassadors: Lessons from Ship for World Youth”

19:00 – 20:00 Japanese Language Trial Lesson – Everyday Greetings

- Ms Elena Aloupogianni
- Ms Dina Anastasiadou

Day 5 (Wednesday, 9 September)– Pop Culture: Anime and Manga

18:30 – 19:00 Mangatellers: “The Art and Industry of Manga and Anime in the Global Market”

- Mr. Kariofyllis-Christos Chatzopoulos
- Mr. Raphael Voutsidis

19:00 – 20:00 Cosplay Parade

20:00 – 21:00 Otaku Store: Otaku Party with Anime Songs DJ

Day 6 (Thursday, 10 September) – Sports

18:30 – 19:00 Hellenic Karate Federation, Hellenic Kendo-Iaido-Naginata Federation: Presentation/Demonstration: “Takumi and Budō: A Timeless Bond”

20:00 - 21:00 Judo Federation: MOU Signing Ceremony

Day 7 (Friday, 11 September) – Business Mindset

16:30 – 17:00 “Takumi: Leadership insights from a Japanese Mindset”

- Ms. Andriana Ubunuki Kalfa

Day 8 (Saturday, 12 September) – TAKUMI Way

11:30 – 12:30 WISDOM – Sysmex: Japanese Excellence and Strategic Growth in Modern Diagnostics

- Mr. Yuki Hyogu
- Mr. Kohei Nakayama
- Ms. Foteini Kafladopoulou

13:00 – 15:00 Calligraphy Demonstration (Gifts by Mizuki Imamura @Consulate booth)

15:30 – 16:30 WISDOM – Weathernews

17:00 – 18:00 Presentation: 21 PROJECTIONS OF EGO Artist Book “DREAMEATER” / An Act of Cultural Mediation and Interpretation



Panel:

- Takaaki Nemoto, Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Japan in Greece

- Kostas Kostis, Director of MIET (National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation)
- Stella Lavva, Professor of the History of Ancient Civilizations / Dean of the School of Fine Arts, Department of Visual and Applied Arts, AUTH
- Panagiotis Evangelidis, Writer / Translator of Japanese Literature / Film Director and Screenwriter

Panel Coordination:

- Dimitrios Goudas, Curator / Founder of GALLERY13 and Cultural_Space NPO
- Ioannis Belimpasakis, Assistant Professor / Head of the Printmaking and Visual Editions Studio, School of Fine Arts – Department of Visual and Applied Arts, AUTH

19:30 – 20:30 Japanese Traditional Dance by Ms. Chihoko Yanagi

Day 9 (Sunday, 13 September) – TAKUMI Way

11:30 – 12:30 COMPASSION – DAIKIN: “Designing the Home of Tomorrow: Integrated Cooling, Heating, and Hot Water Solutions Powered by Innovation and Sustainability.”

- Mr. Thanasis Kalomiris

13:00 – 13:30 Kimono Presentation by Ms. Yanagi

Chihoco

14:00-14:30 Calligraphy Demonstration (followed by Gifts by Mizuki Imamura @Consulate booth)

17:00 – 17:30 Hellenic Bonsai Club: Presentation/

Discussion: Bonsai: Where Nature Meets Takumi Craftsmanship

18:00 – 18:30 TIIF: “Cultural Exchange in Focus: Japanese Cinema at the Thessaloniki International Film Festival”

- Mr. Panos Achtsioglou, Annual Activity Programmer / Cinematheque, Thessaloniki International Film Festival
- Mr. Takaaki Nemoto (TBD)

20:30 – 21:00 Japanese Traditional Dance by Ms. Chihoko Yanagi

21:00 – 22:00 Closing Ceremony



Throughout the Week

- Industrial Exhibitions by the following companies:

Astellas Pharmaceuticals A.E.B.E.

Daiichi Sankyo Greece Single Member S.A.

Daikin Greece S.A.

Fujifilm Hellas S.A.

H.I.S. Dream Travel Business Group Ltd

Interwater (Toray)

JTI Hellas

EFTHYMIADIS AGROTECHNOLOGIES

Konica Minolta Business Solutions Greece S.A.

Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V.

Moro Technology Corporation (MTC)

Nic. J. Theocarakis S.A. (Nissan / Suzuki Marine)

Petros Petropoulos Group (ISUZU)

Saracakis Group of Companies (Honda)

Syngelidis Group – Autoone S.A. (Mazda)

Takeda Hellas S.A.

Toyota Hellas (Toyota / Lexus)

Weathernews Inc.

Honorary Consulate of Japan in Thessaloniki – ABC Construction

Japan Greece Society in Tokyo – MS&AD Insurance Group Holdings, Inc.

Japan National Tourism Organization

- Photography display
- Food stalls
- Information stands

Visitor Information

Venue: Thessaloniki International Exhibition Centre Pavilion 13

Contact: emb-japan@at.mofa.go.jp

Website: https://www.gr.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_el/index.html

Social Media: @japan_in_greece #tif2026_japan #takumi #japan_in_greece

We look forward to celebrating TAKUMI through our culture, innovation, and community spirits with you.