

## **GREECE – TURKIYE HACKATHON**

### **JOINT STATEMENT**

**(Deputy Ministers Fragkogiannis and Bozay)**

As Deputy Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic and the Republic of Türkiye, we are pleased to jointly announce the launch of the Türkiye-Greece Hackathon 2024-25, a pioneering initiative aimed at fostering innovation, collaboration, and mutual understanding between the youth of our two nations.

This Hackathon will focus on the theme of Smart Cities, encompassing key areas such as sustainable urban mobility, smart districts and buildings, ICT and transportation systems, citizen-friendly solutions to enhance daily life, waste management, and disaster prevention and protection. By addressing these critical topics, participants will have the opportunity to contribute to innovative and sustainable solutions for the challenges of the future.

This initiative is being co-organized by Bilişim Vadisi, the Technology and Innovation Base of Türkiye, in coordination with the Ministry of Industry and Technology of Türkiye, and the Athens Startup Business Incubator (Th.E.A) of the Athens Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Participants will engage in stimulating brainstorming sessions, insightful workshops, and intensive coding sprints, fostering synergies and collaborative efforts to deliver innovative solutions.

The final phase of the Hackathon will take place in Türkiye on February 20, while the Awards Ceremony will be held in Athens on February 27. The top three teams will be awarded €20,000, €10,000, and €5,000, respectively, in recognition of their outstanding contributions.

Applications are open until January 8, 2025.

We extend our invitation to university students, startupper, and researchers from both Türkiye and Greece, aged 18-35, to take part in this competition and visit the Hackathon site (<http://www.greeceturkiyehackathon.com>), where they can find all the information needed to get prepared and submit their proposal.

This Hackathon reflects the shared commitment of our nations to innovation, progress, and cooperation. Together, we aspire to empower the younger generations of Greece and Türkiye to shape a better and more sustainable future for all.

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