

Hellenic Robotics Forum (HRF) 2026

July 1-2, 2026, Athens, Greece



Wednesday, July 1 (Day 1)

8:00 - 9:00	Registration & Welcome Coffee
9:00 - 9:15	Opening by General Chairs: Profs. P. Maragos, E. Papadopoulos, and C. Tzafestas
9:15 - 9:30	Welcoming Addresses
9:30 - 10:00	Keynote Talk #1: Robotics AI: Integrating Learning, Modeling, Perception and Planning <i>Speaker: Prof. Kostas Bekris</i> (Rutgers University, USA) <i>Chair: Prof. Panos Trahanias</i> (Univ. of Crete/FORTH, Greece)
10:00 - 11:00	Spotlight Session 1 <i>Chair: Katerina Smyrli</i> (Researcher HERON & NTUA)
11:00 - 11:30	Keynote Talk #2: Reliable and Resilient Robot Autonomy <i>Speaker: Prof. Dimitra Panagou</i> (Univ. of Michigan, USA) <i>Chair: Prof. George Karras</i> (UThessaly, and Athena RC, Greece)
11:30 - 12:30	Poster Session 1 & Coffee Break
12:30 - 13:00	Keynote Talk #3: Robot Learning in Minimally Invasive Surgery and Micro-Manipulation <i>Speaker: Prof. Christos Bergeles</i> (King's College London, UK) <i>Chair: Prof. Panagiotis Vartholomeos</i> (NTUA, and HERON / Athena RC, Greece)
13:00 - 13:45	Lunch
13:45 - 14:00	Commemorative Photo Shoot
14:00 - 15:00	Panel Discussion #1: Robotics, AI, and Society <i>Speakers: L. Mitrou</i> (Professor, Univ. of Aegean), <i>S. Theodoridis</i> (Professor, HERON and NKUA), <i>S. Tsinorema</i> (Professor, Univ. of Crete) <i>Moderator: Prof. Kostas Karpouzis</i> (Panteion University)
15:00 - 15:30	Keynote Talk #4: Unified Autonomy across Robot Embodiments <i>Speaker: Prof. Kostas Alexis</i> (Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway) <i>Chair: Prof. Ioannis Poulakakis</i> (NTUA, and Athena RC, Greece)
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break
15:30 - 18:00	Career Session (<i>parallel event with industry participation</i>)
16:00 - 17:00	Spotlight Session 2 <i>Chair: Georgios Moustris</i> (Senior Researcher HERON & NTUA)
17:00 - 18:00	Poster Session 2
18:30 - 20:30	Welcome Reception

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Thursday, July 2 (Day 2)

8:00 - 9:00	Welcome Coffee
9:00 - 9:15	Welcoming Address
9:15 - 10:00	Spotlight Session 3 <i>Chair:</i> Panagiotis Filntisis (Senior Researcher HERON & NTUA)
10:00 - 10:30	Keynote Talk #5: The Sensorimotor Path to AI <i>Speaker:</i> Prof. Yiannis Aloimonos (Univ. of Maryland, USA) <i>Chair:</i> Prof. Kostas Daniilidis (Univ. of Pennsylvania, USA)
10:30 - 11:30	Poster Session 3 & Coffee Break
11:30 - 12:30	Panel Discussion #2: Robotics and Innovation: from research excellence to market deployment <i>Speakers:</i> Antony Cassano (Business Development & Innovation Director, Uni Systems), Katerina Pramataris (Professor at Dept. of Management Science and Technology, AUER & Founding Partner, Uni.Fund), Evangelos Theodorou (Founder of Theodorou Group) <i>Moderator:</i> Gregory Yovanof (Executive Manager, HERON)
12:30 - 13:00	Keynote Talk #6: 4D-Aware Generative AI: Creating Dynamic, Interactive 3D Worlds for Robotics <i>Speaker:</i> Prof. Evangelos Kalogerakis (Technical University of Crete, Greece) <i>Chair:</i> Prof. Kostas Vlachos (Univ. of Ioannina, Greece)
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 14:30	Keynote Talk #7: Challenges in Unmanned Aircraft Systems: From Navigation Control to Integration into the National Airspace <i>Speaker:</i> Prof. Kimon P. Valavanis (Univ. of Denver, USA) <i>Chair:</i> Prof. Antonios Tzes (NYU-Abu Dhabi, UAE)
14:30 - 15:40	Spotlight Session 4 <i>Chair:</i> Katerina Papadimitriou (Researcher HERON & NTUA)
15:40 - 17:00	Poster Session 4 & Coffee Break
17:00 - 18:00	Closing & Presentation of Awards