

## Dr. Sotirios Varelas



Dr. Varelas is co-founder of the innovative networking platform NeTourWork [www.netourwork.com](http://www.netourwork.com) and post-doctorate researcher in the field of virtual – augmented reality and gamification in tourism in the Department of Informatics and Telecommunications - University of Peloponnese. He holds a Ph.D degree in Business Administration from the Department of Business Administration – the University of Piraeus in the field of Hospitality Strategic Management. He graduated from the Department of Statistics and Insurance Science of Piraeus University and was also awarded his MBA from the Department of Business Administration at the same University.

He has working experience as scientific advisor at the Region of Peloponnese on the destination's tourism development sector. In the past he acted as special advisor to the Deputy Minister of Tourism and the President of the Greek National Tourism Organisation. He has cooperated with many research centers such as the Laboratory of Archaeometry, the Regional Development Institute, the Laboratory of Policy Evaluation and Development Programs and the Research Center of the University of Piraeus. His continuous collaboration with the Laboratory of Archaeometry includes research and development for strategic management in cultural heritage such as the "Kalamata 1821: Roads of Freedom" research program. His scientific works have been published in several international scientific journals and he is a member of the editorial team of several journals and conferences. He often writes articles and participates as a speaker on issues related to tourism and tourism businesses.