

PRESS RELEASE

13 MAR 2026

Ekali, Greece

“Connecting Academic Learning with Industry Excellence in Air Transport”

The MBA in Air Transport Management (MATBA) had the honour of participating in the 2026 Air Transport Awards ceremony and associated industry sessions, held in Ekali, Greece, on Friday, 13 March 2026. The event brought together distinguished aviation leaders, senior executives, industry experts, and professionals from across the international air transport sector, offering an important platform for dialogue, recognition, and exchange on key developments shaping the future of aviation.

MATBA postgraduate students attended the event and had the valuable opportunity to engage with the wider aviation community, follow insightful keynote presentations and panel sessions, and benefit from meaningful networking opportunities with leading representatives of airports, airlines, aviation consulting, technology providers, and aircraft manufacturing. Their participation further strengthened the connection between academic learning and professional practice, allowing students to gain first-hand exposure to current challenges, strategic priorities, and leadership perspectives within the global air transport industry. The event opened with welcome addresses by Dr Kostas Iatrou, Director General of Hermes – Air Transport Organisation. The 2026 Air Transport Awards ceremony then celebrated excellence, innovation, and achievement across the air transport industry.

As part of the event, the MBA in Air Transport Management was presented by Dr Kostas Iatrou, Director General of Hermes – Air Transport Organisation, MATBA module convenor and Chair of MATBA Industry Board, and Anargyros Ziakas, MATBA Administration Officer, highlighting the programme’s academic mission, international orientation, and strong connection with the aviation industry. The participation of MATBA students in the 2026 Air Transport Awards and related sessions formed part of the programme’s wider educational philosophy, which seeks to combine high-level academic training with meaningful exposure to industry world, international professional networks, and real-world developments in air transport. MATBA extends its sincere appreciation to the organisers, speakers, award recipients, and participants for a highly productive and insightful event, which contributed significantly to the students’ understanding of leadership, innovation, and excellence in the aviation ecosystem.

