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## PRESS RELEASE

# **TEXAN: The winners of the Big Educational Recycling Competition of the Municipality of Athens & the 39 Municipalities of Attica Region were awarded**

*In an atmosphere of celebration for the environment, the awards ceremony took place in Syntagma Square, honoring the students from six schools that excelled in the Big Educational Competitions of TEXAN.*

*More than 2,600,000 materials have been recycled!*

**In celebration of "International Plastic Bag Free Day" and the conclusion of the Big Educational Recycling Competition, TEXAN, a leader in Corporate Social Responsibility and Recycling initiatives, organized a special awards ceremony in Syntagma Square. This event honored the winning students from schools in 39 municipalities across the Region of Attica and the Municipality of Athens.**

Specifically, the following events were organized and successfully completed:

- The **"Big School Recycling Competition for Primary and Secondary Schools of the Municipality of Athens"** in collaboration with the Municipality of Athens,
- The **"Big School Recycling Competition for Primary and Secondary Schools in 39 Municipalities of Attica"** in collaboration with the Regional Association of Attica Municipalities, the Region of Attica, the Special Intergrade Association of the Prefecture of Attica,

under the **auspices of the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs & Sports.**

At the Awards Ceremony, the **six schools that recycled over 2,600,000 materials in the high-tech recycling multcenters of TEXAN** were awarded. In a climate of celebration and commitment to environmental protection, **more than 120 students, parents and teachers attended the event.** In addition, the awards ceremony was honored by the presence of **key representatives from the Government and Local Government**, including Mr. **Nikos Papathanassis**, Deputy Minister of Economy and Finance, Ms **Zetta Makri**, Deputy Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, Mr. **Manolis Grafakos**, General Secretary for Waste Management Coordination at the Ministry of Environment, Mr. **Giorgos Zervos**, Special Secretary of the Ministry of National Economy & Finance, Mr. **Haris Doukas**, Mayor of Athens, Mr. **Giorgos Markopoulos**, Mayor of Galatsi, President of the Regional Association of Attica Municipalities and Mr. **Nikos Avramidis**, Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the Special Intergrade Association of the Prefecture of Attica.

For each of the **"Big Educational Recycling Competition for Primary and Secondary Schools"**, the **three major prizes were the following:**

➤ **Prize - Award No 1:**

**One (1) 5-day trip for all students to any city in Europe of their preference.**

The winners with the first largest participation in the two competitions are the C3 class of the 8<sup>th</sup> High School of Athens and the B' class of Applied Arts of the 1<sup>th</sup> Vocational Upper-

Secondary School (EPAL) in Korydallos, respectively, which recycled in total more than 1,000,000 items.

➤ **Prize - Award No 2:**

**One (1) 5-day trip for all school students to any city of their preference in Greece.**

The winners with the second largest participation in the two competitions are the C2 class of the 56<sup>th</sup> High School of Athens and the B2 class of the 1<sup>st</sup> High School of Ilion, respectively, which recycled in total more than 800,000 items.

➤ **Prize - Award No 3:**

**One (1) Smartwatch for each student of all school classes.**

The winners with the third largest participation in the two competitions are the B1 class of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Upper Secondary School of Athens and the C' class of Information Technology in the 1<sup>st</sup> Vocational Upper-Secondary School (EPAL) in Korydallos, respectively, which recycled in total more than 730,000 items.

The prizes were delivered by Mr. **Apostolos Mourgos**, President of TEXAN, Mr. **Nikos Papathanassis**, Deputy Minister of Economy and Finance, Ms **Zetta Makri**, Deputy Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, Mr. **Giorgos Markopoulos**, Mayor of Galatsi, President of the Regional Association of Attica Municipalities and Mr. **Nikos Avramidis**, Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the Special Intergrade Association of the Prefecture of Attica.

The **President of TEXAN, Mr. Apostolos Mourgos** stated the following: *“Guys, congratulations! Recycling must become a daily life habit to protect the environment. We need to have a better future. Enjoy your gifts and continue to recycle every day. All of us at TEXAN thank you for your enthusiastic participation, and we will continue to stand by your side!”*

Mr. **Nikos Papathanassis, Deputy Minister of Economy and Finance**, continued by stating the following: *“Congratulations to everyone who participated. Recycling is very important. A plastic bag causes significant harm to our seas and beaches. We recycle to have a better future. The future belongs to you. Congratulations again.”*

Ms **Zetta Makri, Deputy Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports**, added: *“The Ministry is proud of children’s performance. As you know, the Ministry has included a unit on environmental protection in the skills workshops. We have the Centers for Environmental Education and Sustainability. We take actions. We participate in European and international fora. We are proud that our children, from kindergarten to high school, are absorbing the knowledge imparted by their trained teachers. Congratulations, guys!”*

The **Big Educational Recycling Competitions** organized annually by **TEXAN** were very successful and attracted high participation. The initiative marks the continuation of the respective competitions held in Thessaloniki in 2023 and in the Peloponnese region in June 2024. **The aim of the initiative is to promote social and environmental awareness, as well as to encourage active participation among young people, especially students, in the recycling process.**

For further information, see here: <https://recycling-center.gr/ekdiloseis/anakiryxi-nikiton-megalos-ekpaideytikos-diagonismos-anakyklosis-sholeion-ton-dimon>



*TEXAN Environmental Management Group constitutes a leader in the construction and operation of automated high technology recycling machines. In cooperation with the American Group Envipco, TEXAN Group has created in Greece the 1st production plant of rewarding recycling machines beyond the USA borders. TEXAN carries out a significant social action and applies the only and innovative integrated Corporate Social Responsibility Program and donates € 1.000.000 to support important actions for the environment, education, health and local communities, entitled "We donate € 1.000.000 - It's up to you how to allocate it".*

W: <https://recycling-center.gr/>,

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IG: <https://www.instagram.com/texan.anakiklosi/>

YT: <https://www.youtube.com/@texansa>

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