



## INVITATION

The Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas (FORTH)  
in the context of its 30th Anniversary Celebrations  
invites you to the public lecture entitled

**“Why Mars?”**

by

**Professor Thanassis Economou**

Senior Scientist, Laboratory for Astrophysics  
and Space Research, University of Chicago

The lecture will take place on **Wednesday, 12 June 2013** at **18:00** hrs  
at the amphitheatre of FORTH “Georgios Lianis” in Heraklion, Crete.



100 Nikolaou Plastira str., Vassilika Vouton GR - 700 13, Heraklion Crete  
[www.forth.gr](http://www.forth.gr)

*The Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas  
is organizing a series of public lectures on topics  
of current interest in sciences and humanities  
to celebrate 30 years since its establishment.*

*You are warmly invited to attend.*

Contact: Eleftheria Katsouli, Public Relations Office  
Tel.: 2810 391510, e-mail: [pr@admin.forth.gr](mailto:pr@admin.forth.gr)

### **Thanassis Economou**

Thanassis (Tom) Economou has been building instruments for interplanetary spacecraft since the mid-1960s. Currently he is associated with three of NASA’s robotic missions: the Mars Exploration Rovers, the Cassini mission to Saturn, and the now-complete Stardust mission to Comet Wild-2, which has been redirected to a second cometary target. Economou also built the Alpha Proton X-ray Spectrometer that successfully performed the first chemical analysis of martian rocks aboard the Mars Pathfinder rover in 1997.

<http://news.uchicago.edu/profile/thanasis-economou>