**PRESS RESEASE**

**BOGOTA, COLOMBIA, 14th INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIAD ON ASTRONOMY - ASTROPHYSICS**
**VERY GOOD PERFORMANCE:**
**ONE BRONZE MEDAL AND TWO HONORABLE MENTIONS**

Volos, 21/11/2021

On Sunday, November 21, 2021, the 14th International Olympiad on Astronomy - Astrophysics was completed, while it started on 11/14/2021. This year's Olympiad were hosted in the city of Bogota, Colombia, but unfortunately due to the pandemic the national missions of all countries remained in their homelands and took part online, with very difficult conditions of communication and time difference!

Nevertheless, in this year's event, the Greek team won a bronze medal with the student Panagiotis Liabas (Mantoulidis School of Thessaloniki) and two Honorable Mentions with the students Konstantinos Maliaris (1st GEL Nafpaktos) and Athanasios Feidas (2). Vasiliki Neila (3rd GEL Ilioupolis Attica) and Andreas Skoupas (Music School of Alimos Attica) also participated in the Greek Olympic Team, with good performances.

The (online) Olympic Team was led by Loukas Zacheilas, Associate Professor of the University of Thessaly and Despina Pazouli, Dr. Physics (and former Olympian of the 5th International Olympiad in Astronomy-Astrophysics 2011). The whole effort was helped as Supervisors (as requested by the Colombian organizers) by Orpheus Voutyraw, Dr. NTUA (former Olympian of the 4th International Olympiad 2010) and Ioannis Zacheilas, Computer Engineer.

The 14th International Olympiad on Astronomy and Astrophysics was attended by 48 countries (new record number) from Europe, Asia, and America, with 298 students. These are the best students who were chosen to represent their countries from all over the world.

The Olympic team was trained online last September, October and November. The material and technical support during the Olympiad was offered again this year by the University of Thessaly and specifically the Department of Economics, having a special room for the exams and all the audiovisual and internet media. The hospitality (accommodation and meals) expenses of the Greek delegation were covered with a kind sponsorship by the Astronomy and Space Company, from a special account kept in the memory of the inspirer and one of the contributors of the International Olympiad on Astronomy - Astrophysics, deceased Prof. J.H. Seiradakis.

Photo:
(Back): O. Voutyras, D. Pazouli, A. Skoupas, L. Zachilas

(Front): Ath. Feidakis, V. Neila, P. Liampas, K. Maliaris