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Public Policy at the Crossroads : Social Sciences Leading
the Way?

Medical Tourism as a new field of public policy in Greece :
Subsistent situation and perspectives.

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Primarily a presentation of Medical Tourism as generality will take place, it will be given a circumscription about this phenomenon and will selectively be presented some models that take place around the world and are better suited to find a ground of “fertility” in Greece. Continuing it will be displayed the historical evolution of Medical Tourism, the forms in combination with the demands and the needs, the requirements for the existence of Medical Tourism and the obstacles that arise during its implementation. In this presentation will be shown the issues that keep the investments and Greek governments specifically away of this sector in an array with the that already has and must have the private and the public sector and how the marketing of Medical Tourism is being accomplished in this time period. It will also be shown the subsistent condition through the initiatives of private sector around Greek territory and the most times by mistake promotion of this phenomenon by public sector. Concluding will be presented the efforts that have already been done by some ministries to arise an institutional framework for the Medical Tourism to be attached and the plans that will contribute in the near future for the development of this sector and to become more realistic the existence of an organized Greek industry of Medical Tourism. Greece is a paradise for Medical Tourism and the creation of a strong industry in this direction can be thrived in almost all places around the Greek territory. To make this happen it must be emerged a public policy organized in such a way that can allow the creation of a model in accordance with the capabilities of Greek terrain, skillful Greek doctors, Greek Religion and generally all that usefulness that Greece can provide promoting the quote “Sea, Sun, Sand and Surgery”. But the most crucial part in all this to happen is the existence of an umbrella. This umbrella is the institutional framework below which the public sector and the private sector can cooperate under the blessings of the state which can be translated in state funding, inflows and outflows of capital that leads not only in the raise of the country’s international validity but also in the upgrading of national health system and more generally any substructures interact with the implementation and the gradually giantosis of this phenomenon in Greece.