

## EERI Younger Members Committee

**Registration:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5314474447378147331>

**Wednesday January 24<sup>th</sup>, 10am-11am PST Webinar**

# Big Picture and Missing Link of Earthquake Resilience

**Speaker: Sissy Nikolaou, PhD, PE, F.ASCE**

*WSP Fellow of Earthquake Engineering  
Principal, Geotechnical Engineering*



**Abstract:** Our built environment is exposed to extreme natural events, with direct quality of life impacts of the affected communities. In recent years, earthquake engineers and agency officials are discussing **resilience** as the ability to anticipate and prepare for changing conditions, and withstand and rapidly recover from disastrous events.

This inaugural EERI-YMC webinar will discuss **big-picture challenges in the path to earthquake resilience**, including: (i) incorporation of novel technologies for risk evaluation in a multi-disciplinary framework; (ii) use of this framework to improve asset utilization; & (iii) integration of life-long monitoring to re-assess predictions after minor events combined with real-time data. The talk will emphasize the importance of the **human and life quality factor**, as an integral component and a “**missing link**” in engineering resilience goals. Addressing these challenges will contribute to this **emerging frontier** and allow for better planning to reduce losses and recovery time from seismic events.

**Bio:** Dr. Nikolaou is a Principal of WSP with 20+ years of global engineering experience. She oversees the WSP's geotechnical earthquake engineering practice and leads the multi-hazard resilience initiative of the firm's Geotechnical & Tunneling Technical Excellence Center. Her consulting approach emphasizes performance- and resilience-based design, soil-structure interaction, and geo-risk assessment and mitigation. Her experience involves numerous critical infrastructure projects, high-rise structures in New York and Mexico cities.

Driven by a desire to find innovative solutions that protect populations and help them emerge stronger from natural disasters, Sissy has been part of reconnaissance and studies after major earthquakes. A dedicated EERI member, Dr. Nikolaou serves on the Board of Directors. Her recognitions include the Prakash Prize for Excellence in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering, the 2017 ACECNY Principal of the Year, and leadership Board positions in the Applied Technology Council (ATC) and the Geo-Institute of ASCE.