The **Rio–Antirrio bridge**, officially the [**Charilaos Trikoupis**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charilaos_Trikoupis) **Bridge** after the statesman who first envisaged it, is the world's longest multi-span [cable-stayed bridge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cable-stayed_bridge). It crosses the [Gulf of Corinth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_of_Corinth) near [Patras](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patras), linking the town of [Rio](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rio%2C_Greece) on the [Peloponnese](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peloponnese) to [Antirrio](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antirrio) on mainland [Greece](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greece) by road.





The bridge was planned in the mid-1990s . The lead architect was [Berdj Mikaelian](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Berdj_Mikaelian&action=edit&redlink=1). Site preparation and dredging began in July 1998, and construction of the massive supporting pylons in 2000.

On May 21, 2004, the main construction was completed; only equipment (sidewalks, railings, etc.) and waterproofing remained to be installed.





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