



Mr. Theodossis Georgiou
Founder & Chairman of GAAEC

Greek Association for Atlantic & European Cooperation

Theodossis Georgiou is the Chairman of the Greek Association for Atlantic and European Cooperation. He is a honorary Lawyer after 40 years of practice at his own firm. Furthermore, he is President of the Eurodefense – Greece, and Member of the Governing Council of AWEPA (The Netherlands), contact person in Greece.

Additionally, he is a Member of the Board of Regents of the Fund for American Studies (Washington D.C.) and Co-Chairman of the International Institute for Political and Economic Studies (IIPES, 1996-2012). From 2003 till 2012 he has served as a member of Board of the International Foundation for Election Systems, (UK Limited) Washington D.C.; London.

After being involved in various networks with Euro-Atlantic movements for more than 8 years, in 1991, Mr. Georgiou established the Greek Association for Atlantic and European Cooperation to revive in Greece the principles of transatlantic links in the framework of Atlantic Treaty Association. GAAEC experienced a dynamic development and in a short period of time took a leading role among other NGOs in Greece and Europe, focusing on transatlantic cooperation, security and education, and working in close cooperation with Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Defense of Greece, as well as with NATO Public Diplomacy Division.

On October 7, 1997 Mr. Georgiou was unanimously elected President of Atlantic Treaty Association (ATA; Paris; Brussels), an International Organization (Confederation) of the National Atlantic Councils and Committees of 42 States (all NATO and PfP Countries) and remained in office until November 2000.

Moreover, in the past he was Director of the Office for the Minister of Interior Affairs Mr. Kostis Stefanopoulos (1974-1976), Member of the Greek Delegation to the European Communities, in Brussels (1976-1979 during the negotiations period of Greece integration), Secretary General of the Council of Economic and Social Policy (ECOSOC), and a Special Advisor of Prime Minister. He has also been a Member of the Economic and Social Assembly (Committee) of the European Communities. Also he was a member of “Nea Demokratia” party in 1995, and was a Founding Member of the "Democratic Renewal Party" until its cessation at the election of Kostis Stefanopoulos as President of the Hellenic Republic. He has participated in the national elections in constituencies of Athens and Patras, as well as in elections for European Parliament.

He has been a Visiting Lecturer in various Academic Institutions and Universities in Europe, Caucasus, Canada, the US and Africa and still continues his activities.

His academic and research interests focus, primarily, from the political point of view, on transatlantic security and cooperation, Euro - Atlantic integration, role of NGOs in 21st century, as well as North-South dialogue and resolution of conflicts.

For the last 25 years Mr. Georgiou has organized and chaired hundreds of symposiums, conferences and round table discussions in Greece and around the Globe and he has delivered wide number of speeches on the issues of his interests. Additionally he has led and participated in countless international meetings, representing Governmental and Non - Governmental sectors.

Having a strong involvement in the field of interdisciplinary education, in 2012, Mr. Georgiou, together with other distinguished personalities, founded The International Center for Leading Studies (TICLS), a new educational platform compounding various educational programs.

On June 4, 2003 he received the “Chevalier dans l’ Ordre de la Legion D’ Honneur” by the President of France, Jacques Chirac and on November 26, 2004 he received the “Golden Laurel Branch Award” of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria. He also has several other decorations and distinctions in recognition of supporting the integration of South-Eastern European countries to NATO and EU.

Mr. Georgiou studied Law in the University of Athens, European Law at the “Université Libre de Bruxelles” in Belgium and International Law at the Academy for International Law in The Hague, Netherlands. He is married to Alik Mitsakos and has one son.