

George Th. Mavrogordatos was born in Athens and completed his undergraduate studies at the Law Faculty of the University of Athens, receiving two degrees: first in Politics and Economics, then in Law. Thanks to a Fulbright grant, he pursued his graduate studies in the United States, receiving his M.A. in Political Science from Purdue University and his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley. Since then, he has been teaching at the University of Athens a variety of courses in Modern Greek History and in Political Sociology, but also courses on American Politics and on Athenian democracy. He has also taught as a Visiting Professor at the University of Salzburg, the Johns Hopkins University Bologna Center, and the University of California, Berkeley.

His books include *Stillborn Republic: Social Coalitions and Party Strategies in Greece,* 1922-1936, for which he received in 1984 the Woodrow Wilson Foundation Award of the American Political Science Association ("for the best book published in the United States on government, politics or international affairs"). His most recent book (in Greek) was entitled *Pressure Groups and Democracy*.

After the fall of the dictatorship in 1974, he was an active member of the Group of Scientists for a Democratic Constitution and edited the small volume of proposals that the group produced. Subsequently, he became adviser to the Opposition during the debate on the new Constitution. Most recently he was a member of the National Council for Research and Technology (2005-2008). He has also written extensively on university reform in Greece.