

Ambassador Sotiris Varouxakis

Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean - Deputy Secretary General

Born in Thessaloniki/Greece, he studied Law in the Universities of Thessaloniki, Heidelberg and Paris, obtaining his Doctor Degree in Law from the Sorbonne, as well as the Diploma in Superior International Studies. Fluent in English, French, Italian, German, Spanish, he is the author of many articles and books on international law, international organization and international politics. His most recent publication is on “The Diplomacy of the Mediterranean”. He joined the diplomatic service of Greece and served first in the Consulate in Cologne/Germany, and then in the Embassies in Rome, Ankara, as well as in Luxembourg as chief of the diplomatic mission. For 8 years he served in the External Relations of the European Commission in Brussels. In the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs he was Director in the departments of European Union, of Mediterranean – Middle East etc. In this capacity he presided in the Middle East and in the Maghreb-Mashrek Groups during the Greek Presidency in 1994. He was Ambassador of Greece to Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Israel, and the Netherlands. Since 2002, he was the Coordinator for the Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Athens. He represented Greece in the Senior Officials Meetings of the Barcelona Process. In this capacity he presided in all relevant meetings during the Greek Presidency. He was a member of the Board of Governors of Anna- Lindh Foundation on the Dialogue between Cultures since its establishment in 2004. He also represented Greece in the Mediterranean Forum since 2003 and presided over the Senior Officials Meetings during the Greek Presidency in 2007. He participated in the Preparatory works for the *UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN*, and represented Greece to UfM since its establishment in 2008. He was elected Deputy Secretary General of the UfMS in 2011 for the Energy Division.