

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Luca Bader

CEO of the Institute of European Democrats (IED)

In the past ten years, Luca has served as responsible for Europe and North America at the Democratic Party (PD) in Italy and as advisor of the Committees of Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Italian Parliament. Also, he has advised several Italian ministries and private companies on EU and international affairs and has regularly written on Italian and EU affairs for several Italian publications.

He holds a MA in International relations at the London School of Economics and a BA in Political Science at the University of London. Luca has done research at the School of International and Public Affairs at the Columbia University in New York and at the Institute of International Affairs in Rome, where, as Senior Research Fellow, he researched, organized conferences and wrote on European Integration, Transatlantic Relations and International Economy.

He has worked for the National Democratic Institute of Washington D.C., advising the program on building Institutions and Political Parties. In 2005, he was selected by the US Department of State for the "International Leaders Programme". From 2004 to 2006 he worked as advisor at the European Parliament in Brussels.

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Danae Bezantakou

Danae Bezantakou is the Managing Director of Navigator Shipping Consultants LTD., Owner/Co Founder of GREEK FOOD OBSESSIONS and President of IforU-Greek Mentoring Network. One of her important achievements is the organisation of the Navigator Conference since 2001 which is considered to be one of the biggest shipping events gathering the decision makers of the shipping community and speakers from all over the world on an annual basis. She is also the founder of Greek Food Obsessions, a gourmet culinary company providing the Greek and international food market with high-quality Greek gourmet products. Danae represented Greece in International Visitor Leadership Program of the State Department "Women in Leadership" (2011) with 100 women from 92 countries. After her return she created iforu-Greek Mentoring Network, with another 8 women entrepreneurs, a network meant to empower and mentor women entrepreneurs. She was selected to represent Greece in the "40 UNDER 40" - European Young Leaders program for the year 2014. Danae holds a Bachelor of Science in International Hospitality and Tourism Management from the University of Surrey and has a daughter.

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Pericles Nearchou

Born in Cyprus

Higher Education Studies: Philosophical Faculty, University of Athens. Tours University, Sociology. Sorbonne University, History.

Governmental Posts: Advisor on Foreign Relations to the Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. Advisor to the Minister in several Ministries: Foreign Relations, Development, Education, Culture (Greece). Director of the European Cultural Center of Delphi. Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus, Paris. Author of the book "*The Message of Apollo*" (7 2 0 p a g e s).

Present Activites: Political analyst and commentator.

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Luigi Cocilovo

Vice Secretary General of the EDP, former Vice President of the European Parliament and former Italian MEP (1999-2004 Partito Popolare Italiano and 2004-2009 Uniti nell'Ulivo). He graduated in Law in 1969. From 1989 to 1999 he was National Secretary of CISL, the Italian Confederation of Trade Unions, representing various Roman Catholic-inspired groups linked with Christian Democracy.

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

François Lafond

Executive Director of EuropaNova and member of the Scientific Committee of IED
Former member of the Executive Board of the Aspen Institute France (2012-13) and former Director of the Paris office of the German Marshall Fund of the United States (2008 -11). Before returning to Paris, François Lafond was Special Advisor to the Italian Minister for Regional Affairs and Head of international relations of the Think Tank Gocus in Rome. He was advisor to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Italy (2006-2008), Deputy Director of Policy Network in London (2003-2006), Deputy Secretary General of Notre Europe in Paris, chaired by Jacques Delors (1999-2003) and a researcher at the Robert Schuman Centre of the European University Institute in Florence (1992-1999). He has been Associate Professor in different universities (Sciences Po Paris, Syracuse University in Florence and Koré-Enna) and is a regular collaborator of the French International TV France 24 and to the daily Italian Newspaper Europa.

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr Aris Petasis

Founder of PetasisAssociates: specializing on issues of strategy and management. PetasisAssociates served clients in over 25 countries in Europe, North America, Africa and Asia. Partner, “Towers Watson Data Services” for Egypt and Cyprus

Balances well professional and academic work: consulting, public speaking and writing. His book, “[Managing Human Potential](#)” can be found on Amazon.com.

Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees of the “International Fund of the Moscow State Aviation University.”

Mentored young professionals that worked with him over time many of whom later earned graduate degrees from institutions such as: Stanford, Kellogg, Harvard, etc.

An English School graduate and holder of a BBA, an MBA, a Doctorate and a post-doctoral fellowship.

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Anna Theologou

Education:

- Bsc in Economics Science from University of Cyprus in 2008,
- Erasmus at Ca'Foscari University of Venice 2006-2007
- MA in Monetary and Financial Economics from University of Cyprus in 2011,
- MBA in Concentrating Gas and Oil Management from European University, currently studying

Work Experience:

- Research Assistance at Economic Research Center, University of Cyprus, 2008
- Financial Manager at Spantios Estate Developers, 2004-present

Publications:

- Intergenerational Income Mobility, Economic Research Center, 2008
- Short and Long run Causality, 2011, with Christis Hasapis.

Languages:

Greek, English, French, Italian

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Michalis Kontos

Michalis Kontos was born in Nicosia. He is a political scientist. He holds a Bachelor's Degree on Political Science from the National and Kapodestrian University of Athens, a post-graduate Diploma on EU Development Policies from Panteion University and International Relations Institute, Athens, and a Master's Degree on International Relations and Strategic Studies from Panteion University. His core area of expertise is great power politics and his PhD thesis is focused on the US interventionism. He is the Director of the Centre for Scientific Dialogue and Research (KEDE) and publishing coordinator at Hippasus Communications & Publishing Ltd. He is a researcher and report writer to the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA). He is an associate to Logos Radio Station and a teaching associate to Global Semesters/University of Nicosia. From August 2012 to August 2013 he worked as an editorial consultant and political editor for Legacy Intelligence and Development Magazine. From April 2008 to October 2010 he worked as the editor-in-chief of the "Synchroni Apopsi" (Contemporary Opinion) magazine of political analysis. He has published several scientific publications in edited volumes and journals, especially regarding European integration, the Cyprus problem, the Cyprus party system and international politics.