



Archive of Emmanuel Tsouderos

ARCHIVE

Reference Code:

GR IATE A3

Dates:

1841-1947 (predominant 1919-1947)

Extent:

4.50 linear metres
272 document files
21 photographs
1 audio record

Source of acquisition:

Donated by Emmanuel Tsouderos

CREATOR

Tsouderos, Emmanuel (1882-1956)

Biographical note:

Emmanuel Tsouderos was born in Rethymno, Crete, in 1882. He studied law at the University of Athens, graduating as a Doctor of Law of the Athens Law School, before going on to study economics in Paris and London. He was elected member of the Cretan Parliament for the constituency of Rethymno (1906-1912) and was later appointed Vice-President and representative in Athens of the Cretan Assembly (1911-1912). In 1912, he was appointed Commissioner for Public Security and Public Works in the Cretan Administrative Committee. Following Crete's union with Greece, he was a member of the Hellenic Parliament for the constituency of Rethymno, taking part in various governments as well as international meetings. In 1918, he worked as Technical Expert for the Greek delegation preparing for the Paris Peace Conference. During 1924, he served as Minister of Public Transport in the El. Venizelos government and Minister of Finance in the G. Kafantaris, A. Papanastasiou and Th. Sofoulis governments. He represented Greece at the Fifth Assembly of the League of Nations. As Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Greece, he contributed to the liquidation of exchangeable Turkish properties and the compensation of Greek refugees in 1925. In the same capacity, in 1927, he joined the Greek delegation in negotiations with the League of Nations, which led to the Geneva Protocol, paving the way for the 9 million pounds sterling tripartite loan and the establishment of the Bank of Greece. The Financial Committee of the League of Nations would not lend its support to the loan unless the National Bank of Greece confined itself to its issuing privilege. As this was rejected by National Bank Governor, Alexandros Diomidis, E. Tsouderos counter-proposed that the National

Bank should remain a commercial bank and that a new, purely note-issuing bank should be established. His proposal was accepted by the Financial Committee, the National Bank and the Greek government under A. Zaimis. By the Decree of 21.4.1928, E. Tsouderos was appointed Deputy Governor of the newly established Bank of Greece, a position he held until his appointment as Governor, ratified by the Decree of 31.10.1931. On 31.5.1935, he resigned from the position of Governor, for health reasons. His second term of office started with the issuance of the Royal Decree of 20.3.1936, reappointing him Governor of the Bank of Greece. On 4.4.1938, he inaugurated the new premises of the Bank's Head Office. During his term of office, the Banknote Printing Works was set up. In 1939, the Metaxas dictatorship forced Tsouderos to resign and exiled him. Between 21.4.1941 and 14.4.1944, he was Prime Minister of the Greek Government in exile, which, shortly before the seizure of Athens by German troops, fled to Crete and then to Cairo and London. Between November 22, 1945 and April 4, 1946, he served as Second Vice-President and Minister of Coordination of the government of Th. Sofoulis. As President of the Democratic Progressive Party, he co-founded the National Progressive Centre Union (EPEK) party in December 1949. In 1950, he was elected Member of Parliament for the constituency of Piraeus and between April and August of the same year he served as Minister of Coordination in the N. Plastiras government. In 1951 (3.8-30.9), he was Vice-President of the S. Venizelos government. In 1952, he was elected Member of Parliament in the constituency of Athens for EPEK. He served as minister without portfolio in the A. Papagos government and member of the Government Coordination Council.



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He was awarded the Grand Cross of the Royal Order of George I with swords (1941). He authored several studies and books, including: *Το Κρητικόν Πολίτευμα του 1896 [The Cretan State of 1896]* (1903), *Η αποζημίωσις των ανταλλαξιμων [Compensation of exchangeable populations]* (1927), *La Banque de Grèce* (Paris, 1928), etc. He passed away in February 1956 in Italy.

CONTENT

The Archive contains records relating to the negotiations for the establishment and management of the Bank of Greece, economic and monetary issues, war debt, the Refugee Settlement Commission, Greek public debt, the International Financial Control, correspondence of E. Tsouderos with institutions, entities and individuals in Greece and abroad, memoranda to the government, the activities of the Greek government-in-exile during the Occupation, and newspaper clippings.

The Archive includes handwritten and typed documents and notes, memoranda, newspaper clippings, photographs, as well as handwritten letters from El. Venizelos to E. Tsouderos.

ARRANGEMENT

The original order of the Archive has been maintained and restored where disrupted. The material has been arranged into one series, A3S1: Banking and economic issues and two subseries, A3S1Y1: Records on the history of the Bank of Greece and A3S1Y2: Files of economic

affairs. The files have been arranged in thematic and chronological order. All records have been retained with the exception of duplicate copies of typed documents which have been destroyed.

CONDITIONS FOR ACCESS AND USE

The Archive is freely accessible, subject to the applicable legislation and the Terms of Use of the Historical Archives Section of the Bank of Greece (IATE).

The Bank of Greece is responsible for safeguarding its copyright in the Archive. The reproduction of the material is permitted subject to the Terms of Use of the IATE.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ▶ The Archive's finding aids are available in electronic format on the website of the Bank of Greece. At the IATE's reading room, researchers have access to an electronic inventory based on the second edition of the general International Standard Archival Description (ISAD[G]v2), complete with a subject and person name thesaurus.
- ▶ The entire archive has been digitised.
- ▶ The following publications of the Bank of Greece include extensive references to the Archive: Margarita Dritsas, *Εμμανουήλ Τσουδερός 1882-1956: Κεντρικός Τραπεζίτης και Πολιτικός [Emmanuel Tsouderos 1882-1956: Central Banker and Politician]*, Athens 2012 (in Greek); Andreas Kakridis,

Κυριάκος Βαρβαρέσος: Η βιογραφία ως οικονομική ιστορία [Kyriakos Varvaresos: Biography as economic history], Athens 2017 (in Greek).

- ▶ The Archive has been split by the creator among the Historical Museum of Crete, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, the Academy of Athens and the General State Archives of Greece, while another part of the Archive belonging to his daughter, Virginia Tsouderou, edited by herself and published as *Emmanuel I. Tsouderos, Historical Archive, 1941-1944*, Athens 1990, is now in the possession of the Library of the Hellenic Parliament.

Sources: The material in the Archive; Xenophon Zolotas, *Οι πρώτοι Διοικηταί της Τραπεζής της Ελλάδος 1928-1954: Διομήδης, Τσουδερός, Βαρβαρέσος, Μαντζαβίνος [The first Governors of the Bank of Greece 1928-1954: Diomidis, Tsouderos, Varvaresos, Mantzavinis]*, Athens 1957 (in Greek); and Margarita Dritsas, *Εμμανουήλ Τσουδερός 1882-1956: Κεντρικός Τραπεζίτης και Πολιτικός [Emmanuel Tsouderos 1882-1956: Central banker and politician]*, Athens 2012 (in Greek).