



Archive of Georgios Mantzavinos

ARCHIVE

Reference code:

GR IATE A5

Dates:

1868-1957 (mostly 1906-1955)

Extent:

4.50 linear metres
396 document files
58 photographs

Source of acquisition:

Donated by Antonios Mantzavinos, son of Georgios Mantzavinos and advisor to the Bank of Greece.

CREATOR

Georgios Mantzavinos (1888-1955)

Biographical note:

Georgios Mantzavinos was born in Amphissa, Central Greece, in 1888. He studied Law at the University of Athens, graduating as a Doctor of Law. In 1906 he took up employment at the State General Accounting Office, where he climbed the hierarchy ladder to the very top, becoming Director General in 1928. From that position, which he held until 1936, he pushed through several reforms in the area of Government Accounting. For many years, he represented Greece on the Financial Committee of the League of Nations and at international conferences. From 1929 to 1939, he was a regular member of the League of Nations Tax Committee, having been elected by the League's Council. In 1935, he was appointed Minister of Finance in the K. Demertzis government, but after the Metaxas dictatorship was established on 4 August 1936, he resigned and returned to his former post as Director General of the State General Accounting Office. By the Royal Decree of 26 September 1936 and following a decision of the Bank's shareholders, he was appointed Deputy Governor of the Bank of Greece. In 1941 he joined Governor K. Varvaressos in following the Greek government to exile first in Crete, then in Cairo and, finally, in London, where he stayed until the end of World War II, serving his country as Deputy Governor in the London-based administration of the Bank in exile and, from May 1943 to May 1944, as Deputy Minister of Finance in the government of Emmanuel Tsouderos. After the Liberation, he continued as Deputy Governor of the Bank of Greece until his appointment as Governor by the Royal Decree of 11 February 1946. Between April and October 1945, he served as Minister of Finance in the government of Petros Voulgaris. In 1950 (January-March), he served as Min-

ister of Coordination and Finance in the Ioannis Theotokis government. By the Royal Decree of 1 November 1950, he was reappointed Governor of the Bank of Greece. In February 1955 he stepped down as Governor, and died in July of the same year. In 1952, the King awarded him the Grand Cross of the Order of the Phoenix in recognition of his services to the country.

CONTENT

The Archive contains records relating to economic and monetary issues, Greece's public debt, the Bank of Greece, the country's economic reconstruction, the Refugee Settlement Commission, the period of Occupation, and the Greek governments in exile, as well as Mantzavinos's correspondence with institutions, entities and individuals in Greece and abroad. Included are handwritten and typed documents, notes, memoranda, reports, studies, press clippings and photographs.

ARRANGEMENT

The original order of the Archive has been maintained or restored where disrupted. The material has been arranged into three series, namely: A5S1: Economic and monetary issues; A5S2: Studies and reports; and A5S3: Miscellaneous. 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.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ▶ The Archive's finding aids are available in electronic format on the Bank of Greece website. 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 publication of the Centre for Culture, Research and Documentation of the Bank of Greece entitled *Κυριάκος Βαρβαρέσος: Η βιογραφία ως οικονομική ιστορία [Kyriakos Varvaressos: Biography as economic history]* (Athens 2017, in Greek) by Andreas Kakridis makes extensive use of material from the Archive.

Sources: The material in the Archive; and 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: Diomedes, Tsouderos, Varvaressos, Mantzavinos]*, Athens, 1957 (in Greek).