

Spyros KONIDARIS

Graduated the University of Athens (B.Sc. in Physics) and received his Master of Technology and Doctor of Philosophy Degrees in Microelectronics and Optoelectronics in Brunel University, London, UK.

He did post-doctoral work in the Institute of Telecoms Sciences (USA Boulder) and at the Optical Sciences Centre (Arizona) on Fiber Optics.

He worked as a researcher in the Research Department of the Greek Telecoms Organization and held positions as a Ministerial advisor in Telecommunications Policy and Technology.

In 1985 he joined the European Commission in the launching of the European Union Telecommunications R&D Programmes (RACE, ACTS). He was responsible for the technical co-ordination of the whole Programme, directed research in Optical communications, networks, UMTS, etc. and held the position of the Acting Director of the ACTS Programme in its final phase.

With the launching of the Information Society Programme (IST) he was appointed Acting Director responsible for the Research Networks, Future and emerging Technologies, Trans-European Networks, Programme Strategy, International relations, as well as the Programme administration. During that period he had the privilege to launch major activities such as the GEANT Network, and GRIDs, seeing Europe to take Global leadership and international recognition.

Between Sept 2001 and may 2002 he was in the USA as a "Visiting European Union Fellow" based in the Graduate School for Political and International Affairs and the Centre of West European Studies- University of Pittsburgh.

Currently he is the Advisor to the Deputy Director General in the DG Information Society and Media, European Commission.