



Spyros Kouvelis holds a BSc in Economics from the University of Athens and an MSc in Agricultural/Environmental Economics from the University of Reading in the UK. In 2007, he was appointed Political Representative of the Socialist Party on Environment, Energy and Planning issues. From 2009 to 2011, he served as Minister Foreign Economic, Cultural, and Environmental Affairs. Today, he runs his consulting firm on international business development, investment, new technologies, innovation, data management, environmental and energy projects, food, cosmetics, quality products, with client companies from Japan and the Gulf countries to USA and India. He worked as a senior advisor to and the Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme as Senior Expert on Sustainable Development and on SCP, and as Senior Advisor to the Government of Lebanon in collaboration with GFA Group (Germany). Since 2014 he is President of the Greek Eurasian Business Council working on business development between Greece and the Eurasian Union countries. From May 2007 he works with the Mediterranean Action Plan of the UNEP, as Officer in charge of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development and the implementation of the Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development. From 2001 to 2007 he held the position of MedWet Coordinator, directing the Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative Unit in Athens. In 1997, he was appointed Advisor to the Deputy Minister of Environment, Planning and Public Works of Greece, where he worked until 2001. He has worked extensively with the WWF since 1991 where he was the Conservation Director from 1995 to 1997 and member of the Management Team directing the organization. He is member of the agriculture and European policy teams of WWF International, and chair of the WWF Mediterranean Team. He also worked as a Consultant to the WWF European Policy Office.