



Dimitri Kitsikis | Class of 1960

Dimitri Kitsikis was a philosopher, poet and professor of International Relations and Geopolitics at the University of Ottawa and is considered to be one of the leading geopolitical thinkers of the twentieth century. He was a visionary of Greek-Turkish reconciliation, working towards the creation of a Confederation between the two countries by influencing both Greek and Turkish Prime Ministers and Presidents. His works met success as well as fierce resistance in both countries as they challenged official narratives of hostility between the two countries.



© Dimitri Kitsikis Foundation Athens, General State Archives Heraklion.

Kitsikis, a Maoist and Sinologist, had strong ties to China like his parents. He was part of the first Greek delegation to visit China in 1974 and had friendly relationships with Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping.



© Dimitri Kitsikis Foundation Athens, General State Archives Heraklion.

Kitsikis dreamed of reuniting Greece and Türkiye in a confederation and worked closely with their leaders to achieve this. Here, Kitsikis (standing in the car on the right) is with Turkish President Turgut Özal, a staunch supporter of his, in 1990.



© Dimitri Kitsikis Foundation Athens, General State Archives Heraklion.

Kitsikis' concept of the "Intermediate Region" refers to the geopolitical space between Western Europe and East Asia. His scholarly achievements earned him recognition, including entry into the Royal Society of Canada in 1999, where he was welcomed by its President Jean-Pierre Wallot (right).

