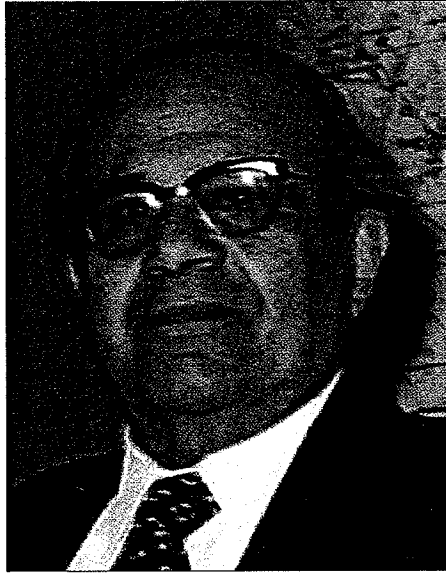


OBITUARIES

Theodore Kouyoumzelis 1906 – 2001

Theodore Kouyoumzelis passed away on 4 October 2001, aged 95. A tireless promoter of nuclear and particle physics in Greece, he graduated with a PhD from Athens University in 1932. Soon after, he moved to Munich where he worked as a postdoc under Arnold Sommerfeld and Walther Gerlach.

Professor Kouyoumzelis's long association with CERN predates the organization itself. He first represented Greece at the second meeting of the Council of the Interim Organization in June 1952. On that occasion, he was standing in for the original Greek delegate, Professor Hondros, from whom he formally took over two years later. He served as vice-president of the Council from 1972 until 1975, and attended his last CERN Council meeting in 1982 as its longest standing delegate. Thanks in large part to his efforts, Greece cast its vote in favour of all major machines at CERN during his mandate – the SC, the PS, the ISR, the SPS and LEP. In wishing Kouyoumzelis a fruitful retirement, director-general Herwig Schopper drew attention to the



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decisive contribution a small member state can make to an international organization such as CERN.

From 1945 until 1972, Kouyoumzelis taught physics at the University of Athens. He became a professor there in 1958, and held professorships at the army, navy and air force schools from 1940 until 1964. He was dean of the School of Chemical Engineers at the National Technical University of Athens from 1961 until 1970. At the University of Patras, he served on election committees from 1966 until 1967.

Kouyoumzelis was instrumental in the creation of Greece's national scientific research centre – Demokritos – and generations of Greek students in nuclear and particle physics have studied using his classic textbooks. From 1954 until 1960, he was general secretary of the Greek Atomic Energy Agency, and from 1968 until 1971 he was president of the country's Atomic Energy Committee.

Without a doubt, Theodore Kouyoumzelis has been the most influential person in nuclear and particle physics in Greece in the last 50 years. His legacy will continue to be felt by future generations of Greek physicists.
Emmanuel Floratos.